

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
May 18, 2022 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:31 PM in the MAPS Board Room.

Board members present: Jacqueline Gremler, Chad Krueger, Ron Liberty, Kendra Osness, Paul Proulx, Maria Volpe and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Linda Yingling and Brett Woller. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Karen Baker, Director of Pupil Services/SPED; Trisha Detert, Director of 4K/Head Start/Early Childhood; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Megan Kautzer, Associate High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Student Board Representatives Amelia Skoviera and Isaiah Rell; approximately 12 people from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

The following were recognized: Students for their exemplary efforts in organizing the MHS Spring Job Fair with over 40 businesses and community partners displayed and over 800 students in attendance: Brody Benedict, Megan Cordova, Haylea Drabek, True Fairfield, Lacey Frisch, Katy Glaze, Cory Gigl, Xavier Gronholm, Jack Hooock, Marissa Hoffman, Emma Rautiola, Bradyn Pieper, Elizabeth Schmidt, Grace Schultz, and James Watts. Also recognized were their teachers: Olivia Dachel and Alisha Resch. Our departing student board representative, Amelia Skoviera; and, returning board representative, Isaiah Rell, were recognized and thanked for their year of service.

Brooke Rudie was announced and introduced as the new student school board representative for the 2022-2023 school year.

Student BOE Representatives, Isaiah Rell and Amelia Skoviera, updated the Board on high school activities including the end-of-year senior awards night on May 25; graduation on May 27; the first round of interviews for a new high school principal position on May 26; finals next week; and, spring sports coming to a close.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including PRSYL Monthly Data; Human Growth and Development; Business Services Update; Food Participation Update; Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Update; and, the Superintendent's Report.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the appointments made by the Superintendent for committee membership for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee reports were shared with the Board including from the Facilities, Finance/HR and Curriculum/ Technology/Pupil Services Committees.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the PMA contract [as presented](#); the Quarles & Brady scope of engagement [as presented](#); and the [Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds, the Establishment of an Escrow Account With Respect to and The Defeasance of the](#)

[Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2019, Dated October 24, 2019](#). Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Osness to approve the 2022-2023 MADA Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the 8th grade Washington DC, New York City Trip for June of 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the 242 new students open enrolling to MAPS, deny the 5 applications that do not meet open enrollment district criteria, and also approve the 590 open enrolled students continuing at MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to approve the 38 new students indicating open enrollment out of MAPS and also approve the 148 open enrolled students continuing to open enroll out of MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the repairs to the 1st and 3rd floor boys bathroom at Prairie River Middle School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the increase to the lifeguard wage structure, effective May 19, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the summer maintenance projects for 2022-2023 as funding is available. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the 2022-2023 Teacher and Support Staff Handbooks as a second reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the purchase of both a Wazer desktop waterjet for \$11,500 and a X16 UV Flatbed Printer for \$31,500. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the updated 10-year capital improvement plan as funding allows. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Gremler to approve the renewal of the health insurance with Aspirus Health Plan as presented for FY23 and no changes to the contribution percentage rates. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the renewal of the dental insurance at 0% with Delta Dental as the third party administrator as presented for FY23 and no changes to the contribution percentage rates. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the renewal of both Delta Dental's vision plan and the Guardian's various offerings as voluntary benefits for FY23 as presented. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the renewal of insurance coverages from CIC, Church Mutual, and F&D as presented by Marsh & McLennan as well as the additional identity recovery protection for FY23. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Osness, second by Gremler to approve the 2022-2023 Head Start Federal COLA Supplement and Quality Improvement Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the 2022-2023 application for State Head Start Supplemental Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to purchase both two mills and two lathes for metals classes out of the FY22 budget for approximately \$58,000. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Krueger to table (Board of Education 2022-2023 Code of Ethics) until the June meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

There were technical corrections made to Policy 5111.03.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to approve the donation of funds from an anonymous donor valued at \$4,000 to sponsor a MHS student for the Columbia University Summer Program. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the donation of funds from Jon and Michelle Smith valued at \$4,000 for the Merrill High School Bluejay Nest. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the attached [personnel report](#), contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried with Krueger abstaining from the portion of Kendall Krueger's hire; and, Blake abstaining from the portion of Casandra Blake's hire.

President Blake asked if anyone wanted anything pulled from the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve consent agenda items a through c, which includes minutes of the April 19, 2022, April 25, 2022, April 27, 2022, and May 4, 2022, meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,990,036.52; and, donations totaling \$1,055. Motion carried with Proulx abstaining from the April 19, 2022 minutes; and, Volpe abstaining from a portion of the April 19, 2022 minutes.

For "Items for Future Meetings and Possible Action to Approve the Future Discussions Thereof," Kevin Blake will be looking into and sharing discussion in regards to a Board member abstaining and best practices in regards to discussion and deliberation; what the process is for when someone calls the vote; and, the Adopt-A-Board membership.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station

Future Meetings

- School Forest Advisory: May 23, 2022 @ 4:00 p.m. at the School Forest
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Special Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room

- BVA Governance Board Meeting: Thursday, June 2, 2022 @ 12:45 p.m. virtually
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room

President Blake called for a MOTION to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. The purpose of the closed session is to consider and act upon parental requests for student opt out of state assessments, including the potential for a closed session(s) to review the specifics applicable to the affected student(s) if the discussion of such in open session would be likely to have an adverse effect upon the reputation of such student(s) pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats. Any such closed session(s) shall be immediately followed by reconvening in open session for further consideration and, ultimately, action upon the parental requests. Additionally to review specific administrator contracts in regards to administrators leaving the district under the terms of their contract and signing or not signing retirement/resignation agreements. MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

6:24 p.m. - 3 minute break to get organized.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to reconvene into open session for the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to approve the parental request for Student A to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Gremler to adjourn at 6:48 p.m.

Kendra Osness
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder