

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
August 16, 2023 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:30 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Jacqueline Gremler, Ron Liberty, Kendra Osness, Paul Proulx, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Nubs Ashbeck, Chad Krueger and Brett Woller. Others Present: Shannon M. Murray, Superintendent; Amber Haluska, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education; Dr. Kelley Strike, Director of Business Services; Amanada Patterson, Director of C&I; Ryan Martinovici, Director of Head Start/Early Education/4K; Megan Kautzer, Elementary Principal; Christopher Hahn, Activities Director; one person from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: 2011 Wisconsin Act 125 Seclusion and Restraint Reporting; Business Services; Buildings & Grounds/ Transportation Update; and, the Superintendent's Report.

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

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the Health Service Agreement between Lincoln County Health Department and Pine River School for Young Learners for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Osness to approve the Lincoln County Health Department School Health Services Agreement for the 2023-2024 School Year Grades 4K-12 and NAC, a recurring cost that is annually built into the district budget. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the new SEL coach positions as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve the renewal of the 2024-2026 WIAA Boys Ice Hockey co-op between Merrill, Wausau East, and Wausau Newman Catholic. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Gremler to approve Policy 5410 Promotion, Placement and Retention as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Osness to approve the updated Activities Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Proulx to approve the event workers' pay compensation plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to approve the updated Fall Play/Spring Musical Coach and Advisor pay. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the FY24 preliminary budget to bring forward to the annual meeting in September as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the resolution authorizing temporary borrowing in an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000; issuance of taxable tax and revenue anticipation promissory notes; and participation in the PMA Levy and Aid Anticipation Notes (PLANN) Program and approving Dr. Kelley Strike as the acting fiscal agent for MAPS regarding signatures required on the day of the offering and other documentation relating to this borrowing. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Osness, second by Gremler to approve the adjustments to the teacher compensation plan for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty for the approval to let administration sell a portion of the 6th gen iPads as proposed to MAPS staff and buyback company. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Proulx to accept the proposal from School Perceptions to begin work on developing a survey to be administered to the community regarding the MAPS facilities study and the potential of an upcoming operations referendum. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the donation of funds from Habitat for Humanity valued at \$5,000 for continued growth and projects of the Raise Your Voice Club. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the donation of funds from Bob and Janet Grunenwald valued at \$3,000 for the MAPS baseball field. Motion carried unanimously.

Neola's Volume 32, Number 2 technical corrections were shared with the Board.

Technical corrections made throughout the policy manual to change the District Compliance Officer from Karen Baker to Amber Haluska were shared with the Board.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the attached [personnel report](#), contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MOTION by Osness, second by Gremler to approve consent agenda items a through c, which included minutes of the July 19, 2023, meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$2,393,508.30; and, donations totaling \$141.01. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the July 19, 2023 minutes.

There were no additional items for future meetings.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station

Future Meetings

- Safety Committee Meeting: Monday, August 28, 2023 @ 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- BVA Governance Board Meeting: Thursday, August 31, 2023 @ 12:45 p.m. virtually
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing: Monday, September 18, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m. in the MHS Auditorium
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 @ 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 a public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation, artifacts and goals for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:07 p.m. - 8 minute break to get organized.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Kendra Osness
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder