

Merrill Area Public Schools

MAPS Mission Statement: Merrill Area Public Schools, in partnership with the Merrill Community and our families, will empower students to be lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and productive community members.

Facilities Committee Meeting Wednesday - November 1, 2023

3:30 PM

Central Office Board Room
(1111 N Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin)

Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call – Nubs Ashbeck, Dale Bergman, Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Ron Liberty, Shannon Murray and Dr. Kelley Strike

Ron Liberty called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Dale Bergman, Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Ron Liberty, Dr Kelley Strike

Absent: Nubs Ashbeck, Shannon Murray

Guests: Linda Yingling is filling in for Nubs Ashbeck

- II. Public Comments to the Committee / General Subject Matter Discussion

NOTE: The Committee shall schedule five minutes at the beginning of each regular meeting for members of the public to speak. Speakers will be allotted two minutes to address the Board. If you have a large group, please designate one representative to speak. Committee members may ask clarifying questions during the comment section, but will usually postpone further discussion and/or action until further public input.

There were no comments.

- III. Approval of [September 6, 2023 Facilities Committee Minutes](#)

Kevin and Darryl should abstain from the approval of these minutes.

Motion by Kevin Blake, second by Linda Yingling to approve the September 6, 2023 Facilities Committee Minutes. Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Linda Yingling abstained.
Motion carried.

IV. Adoption of the 2023-2024 Transportation Handbook

Please see the attached [draft 2023-2024 Transportation Handbook](#).

I recommend a motion to forward to the full Board the approval of the 2023-2024 Transportation Handbook.

The only updates within the Transportation Handbook are updated links. The transportation handbook explains the guidelines for the bus, such as riders and drivers.

Ron Liberty asked why don't we go over this earlier, before the school year starts? Dale Bergman stated that we should do it in the last meeting before summer. This is the second year we had a handbook for transportation so figuring out a good process. Ron Liberty mentioned that maybe it should be approved in a different meeting if it cannot be approved in the last May meeting?

Motion by Kevin Blake, second by Linda Yingling to approve the Draft 2023-2024 Transportation Handbook to be forwarded to the full Board. Motion carried.

V. Facility Assessment Progress

This is on the agenda at the request of a Board member and will be a standing item for updates.

Discussion only

The Facilities Survey has gone out to all Merrill Residents. Dale Bergman said they met with the facilities teams and talked about the survey and timelines for the public information meeting. Flyers went out to local businesses. Tuesday, November 7, 2023 is the listening session at Jefferson School.

Ron Liberty is hoping to get people asking questions if they don't understand.

Dale Bergman stated there is a 38 slide PowerPoint explaining what we want to do. We are hoping it brings open discussion about ideas and concepts.

Linda Yingling has had many questions about the Survey that has been mailed out. She is telling people that have questions or comments to come to the listening session at Jefferson School on November 7.

Dale Bergman said the facility assessment process is technically over, that this item can be taken off the agenda. This will turn into a referendum at this point through the finance department. This is shifting to a different committee.

Kevin Blake stated that this topic has run its course, completed what we needed to. Stated that we possibly follow up later on depending on the results.

Dr. Kelley Strike stated that after survey results are in, this will prompt us to possibly have a special board meeting or may be in the regular board meeting.

VI. Standing Agenda Item - Safety Sub-Committee Minutes

A. [October 30, 2023 Safety Sub-Committee Minutes](#)

Chief Josh Klug and Tyler Verhasselt from Lincoln County visited and gave updates.

Von Saunders is working on crisis teams with Trisha Kubichek and completing the Threat to Others. Right now, the High School counselors are working on the process.

Ron Liberty asked if the fire drills were not done yet? Dale Bergman stated that the fire drills (supervised) need to be done but all normal fire drills are completed. Once we get this information back, we can submit it to the DOJ.

Linda Yingling stated possibly changing the time of the Facilities Committee Meetings so board members can join as she had a few board members asking about this. Dale Bergman said that in the past they didn't give it consideration as it was more driven towards physical safety. If the board member wants information, they can come to this meeting as it is on the Agenda. Kevin Blake stated that being in the actual meeting and hearing how it actually goes is different than reading the meeting minutes.

VII. Items for Next Meeting and Next Meeting Date

A. January 3, 2024

1. Direction from the survey.
2. Update on Jefferson School and all of the buildings.
 - a) Length of time to implement?
3. Summer projects list.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Linda Yingling, second by Kevin Blake to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.