

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
March 27, 2024 – Minutes**

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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, Chad Krueger, Ron Liberty, Nubs Ashbeck, Kendra Osness, Paul Proulx, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. Others Present: Shannon M. Murray, Superintendent; Amber Haluska, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education; Amanda Patterson, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Nick Wszalek, Director of Buildings & Grounds/Transportation; Ryan Martinovici, Director of Head Start/Early Education/4K; Heather Soberg, Elementary Principal; Megan Kautzer, Elementary Principal; Chris Hahn, Director of Activities; Laura Krause-Zastrow, Director of Food Service; Andrew Caylor, IT Systems Administrator; Max Black and Brooke Rudie, Student Board Representatives; approximately 15 people from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

For recognition, the following were recognized: High School Girls Bowling Team for becoming Division 2 State Champions! Team members were: Marley Krueger, Bella Kottke, Avery Frisch, Peyton Smith, Izzy Scheffler and Jayden Dellinger.

Student BOE Representatives Max Black and Brooke Rudie, updated the Board on high school activities including: NHS is selling Easter-themed cookies made from the kitchen staff as a fundraiser; Spring Break; spring sports have started practice; students partook in ACT; May 7-14 is the window to register for AP tests; the theater is getting ready for the musical, *Matilda*, on April 24-27, with middle school student, Caleb Stuting, as a lead; boys and girls track team has been training, with the first Meet tomorrow in Merrill; Advanced Culinary is doing a food truck wars; and Prom planning has just begun with a starry night theme, being held on May 11.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: School Administrators Institute for Transformational Leadership update; Behavior Threat Assessment and Management Training; BenQ Boards; E-rate 2024; Securly Home; and CESA 9 Tech Directors Meeting; Pine River School for Young Learners; Food Service; Business Services; and, the Superintendent's Report.

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

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Gremler to approve the 2024-2025 Federal Head Start Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the 2024-2025 MAPS Head Start Five-Year Strategic Goals. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the Head Start Cost Allocation Plan for 2024-2025. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Krueger to approve the Head Start 2024-2025 T/TA plan. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ashbeck to approve the 2024-2025 Merrill Adult Diploma Academy Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Osness to approve the facility projects [as presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Osness to approve the additional expense added to the previously approved 2023-24 Food Service Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve a one-year contract with Wendorf Bus Service for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the Heartland quote to replace our current phone system with the Webex and Informacast systems. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Krueger to approve the 2024-25 support staff compensation schedule and wage placement for 2024-25. Motion carried with Osness abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to approve New Policy 6611 District-Supported /Sponsored Student Activity Accounts as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to approve the donation of touchpads, starter cable, hard case for infinity starter, lane wrenches and deck cable for touchpads and push buttons (from the Merrill Aqua Jays Swim Team) valued at \$3,874 for use at the MAPS Pool. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Proulx to approve the attached [personnel report](#), contingent upon release of contract for hirings and 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 to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve consent agenda items a through e, which includes minutes of the February 21, 2024, February 26, 2024, March 13, 2024, and March 14, 2024, meetings; second readings and approval of: Bylaw 0100 Definitions; Bylaw 0122 Board Powers; Bylaw 0144.3 Conflict of Interest; Bylaw 0171.3 Clerk; Policy 5350 Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention for Death by Suicide; Policy 5517 Student Anti-Harassment; Policy 6325 Procurement Federal Grants/Funds; Policy 6610 Nondistrict-Supported Student Activity Accounts; Policy 7440 Facility Security; Policy 7540 Technology; Policy 7544 Use of Social Media; Policy 8310 Public Records; Policy 8330 Student Records; Policy 8700 Lactating Employees; Policy 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions, or Complaints; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,182,695.02; recognition of donations received for the Great Speaker Committee totaling \$1,375.00; and, donations totaling \$5,600. Motion carried with Yingling abstaining from the February 26, 2024 and March 14, 2024 minutes; and, Osness and Gremler abstaining from the March 14, 2024 minute approval.

There were no additions for Items for Future Meetings.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station

#### Future Meetings

- Head Start Policy Council: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 @ 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)(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; and, 118.125 for the purpose of considering student Early College Credit and Start Now applications that may involve discussions of confidential student records, and to discuss other matters involving student records and personal histories that, if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse effect on the reputations of the persons discussed. The purpose of the closed session is for the purpose of considering, and taking action as appropriate, related to personal histories and preliminary consideration of possible policy violations by one or more Board members, which, if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of such persons; the consideration of (and possible action regarding) applications for participation in the Early College Credit and Start College Now programs; and, consideration of (and possible action regarding) 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. MOTION by Proulx, second by Osness to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:13 p.m. - 2 minute break to get organized.

Krueger left the closed session at 7:01 p.m.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the parental requests for Student A and Student B to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve the 12 Early College Credit courses and the 12 Start College Now courses as presented in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Woller, second by Ashbeck to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kendra Osness", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kendra Osness  
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller  
Recorder

**MAPS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET**

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** HR/Finance Committee: March 13, 2024  
Regular Board Meeting: March 27, 2024

**TOPIC:** Facilities Projects

**BACKGROUND:** After a thorough review of the summer projects list and our 23-24 budget tracker list for remaining ESSER funds and new revenue and estimated remaining budget for building repairs and projects, the following projects were identified to be completed.

**BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:** This sheet outlines the quotes, costs, and recommendations for each project.

**POLICY IMPACT:** 6320 - Board approval of purchases exceeding \$10,000  
6325 - Procurement - Federal Funds as applicable

**AGENDA CATEGORY:**  Policy Issues  
 Monitoring Data  
 Action Item  
 Information

**RATIONALE:** Purchases are being brought to the board for approval based on the amount per policy 6320. Various leadership team members and maintenance staff provided input on these needs and selections.

**REPORT PREPARATION:** Kelley Strike & Tracey Folz

**POSSIBLE MOTION:** **BE IT RESOLVED: I recommend a motion to approve the facilities projects as presented.**

Projects	Cost of Recommended Quote
#1 Kate Security Fencing	\$15,459.00
#2 Controls for Heating - HS Math Department	\$64,445.00
#3 LGI Furniture	\$129,809.60
#4 LGI Carpet	\$25,145.00
#5 Washington Furniture	\$10,997.00
#6 MS Furniture	\$90,841.67
#7 HS Classroom Furniture	\$234,858.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$571,555.87</b>



**MAPS Monthly Personnel Report: Who, When, Where, & Why**

**Hiring**

Position	Location	Prior Employee	Internal or External Employee	New Hire	Salary / Wage	Start Date
SPED Aide	KATE	Robin Leipart	External	Hailey Fawley	\$15.68/hr	3/25/2024
Director Transportation, Building & Grounds	District	Dale Bergman	External	Nicholas Wszalek	\$94,092	3/25/2024

**Internal Transfers**

Employee	Employee Type	Previous Position	New Position	Effective Date	Authorizer(s)

**Resignations/Retirements**

Leaving Employee	Location	Leave Type	Last Date Employed	Years of Service	Position
Nicholas Peters	PRMS	Resignation	2/26/2024	0.5	Band Teacher
Nancy Beyersdorf	School Forest	Retirement	5/30/2024	10	School Forest
Kelly Wallace	NAC	Retirement	6/1/2024	13	Teacher
Karen Buntrock	WASH	Retirement	6/1/2024	34	Teacher
Makyla Stockowitz	PRMS	Resignation	3/15/2024	7 months	Regular Aide
Makayla Golish	KATE	Resignation	5/23/2024	2	SPED aide
Susan Jaeger	PRMS	Resignation	6/1/2024	30 total yrs	6th Grade Teacher

**Current Postings - Informational Only**

Position	Location	Prior Employee	Current Status
PT AV Tech	District	Tim Verdoom	Posted
Instructional Coach for 24-25	WASH	CESA Contract	Posted
Instructional Coach for 24-25	KATE	Sandra Rusch	Posted
SLP for 24-25	TBD	CESA Contract	Posted
Director of Business Services for 24-25	CO	Kelley Strike	Posted
Cross Categorical Special Ed Teacher 24-25	NAC	Kelly Wallace	Posted
Special Ed - ID 24-25	MHS	New Based on Student Need	Posted
4th Grade Teacher- 24-25	Washington	Karen Buntrock	Posted
Girls Varsity Head Dance Coach	MHS	Cassandra Lezotte	Posted
General Music/Band Teacher 24-25	PRMS	Nicholas Peters	Posted

**Head Athletic Coaches - Informational Only**

Position	Location	Season/Type	Supervisor	Note:
Head Dance Coach	MHS	Winter Activities	Chris Hahn	Resigned Cassandra Lezotte
Head Girls Soccer Coach	PRMS	Spring	Chris Hahn	Hired Anthony Roche

**Clarifications**

Definitions:	Reported to the BOE?	Responsibility
<u>Transfer</u> : Same type of position AND same task (could be different grade level too), but a different building	Yes	Principals
<u>Scheduling</u> : Same building AND same task, but a different grade level	No	Principal
<u>Hiring Process</u> : The task is new to an individual and/or the individual was not asked by an administrator to "move."	Yes	HR
<u>Substitutes</u> : Individuals hired to do work when a regularly scheduled employee is absent	No	Mixed
<u>Student Workers</u> : Students hired at minimum wage for a variety of tasks (after school programs, clerical, lifeguard, etc.)	No	Mixed

When the Board hires a coach and there is a shuffle that needs to happen due to an empty position or someone does not sign the "dotted line" after board approval, etc., Administration has taken the liberty of moving approved coaches from one position to another without re-approval at this time. The same will happen when a position gets "split" between two individuals as a result of time constraints.

Updated AFTER committee meeting but BEFORE the posting for the regular or special board meeting

Updated AFTER the regular or special board meeting was posted, but BEFORE the actual board meeting

\*\*All summer school positions will be filled based on enrollment\*\*

\*\*All co-curricular pay rates are subject to any future changes made to the compensation plan established by the Board\*\*