

MANITOWOC PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2024

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Stacey Soeldner. Members present were: Mr. Chris Able, Mr. Biff Hansen, Mr. Matthew Phipps, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Matthew Spaulding, and Mr. Tony Vlastelica. Also present were Superintendent James Feil, Assistant Superintendent Jame McCall, Directors, and Executive Assistant Laurie Braun. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Network connection and access to BoardBook were confirmed.

The Consent Agenda was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (6-0) to accept the consent agenda items; second read of revised policies 2210-Curriculum Development, 2220-Adoption of Courses of Study, 2221-Special Observance Days, 2262-Child Care Programs, 2270-Religion in the Curriculum, 2340-District Sponsored Trips, 2370-Educational Options Provided by the District, and 2412-Homebound Instruction Program. Board member Kerry Trask arrived at 6:03 p.m.

Policies 2260-Non-Discrimination and Access to Equal Education Opportunity and Policy 2266-Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities tabled from the 11-28-23 Special Board Meeting were briefly addressed. Superintendent Feil stated he has contacted an attorney with WASB to schedule a meeting in March with the Board to review some of the concern within these two policies. Board member Chris Able made a motion to approve Policy 2260 and Policy 2266 as presented and to amend the policy if and when needed, Board member Hansen seconded the motion. The motion did not carry with a vote of (3-4), Board members Soeldner, Phipps, Spaulding and Vlastelica opposing. These policies will be tabled until we are able to discuss in more detail when legal counsel is available.

A Facilities Assessment update was provided by CESA 10 Project Managers John Berget and Nate Curell, and Associate Director Luke Schultz. Their summary included the assessment progress, project prioritization signifying the major safety concerns, priority and common projects, space utilization and the next steps in this process. The CESA team shared they have inspected all sites, captured hard copies of construction prints, and have collected energy use data and space data. A final detailed report will be shared with the Board in March. The purpose of this preliminary meeting is to provide some advance notice and introduce some of the concerns they have identified so far and to possibly get some of these projects scheduled this summer. The CESA team is able to sort all of the FIMS (Facility Improvement Measures) put together by site and by type of FIM. This will help develop a strong long-term facilities plan for the district. Some of the major safety concerns included HVAC issues, traffic concerns, some structural concerns with the swimming pools, the Washington Gymnasium, the towers at Wilson Middle School and Lincoln High School, and the old cold storage areas at the middle schools. Also shared were some district priority projects that need to be addressed before the assessment completion in March, including contracting with a Structural Engineer to evaluate in greater detail some of the district's major safety issues. The CESA 10 team noted that renovating buildings from the vintages we have in our district tend to be costly and the district will need to have important conversations to determine which direction they would like to go. CESA 10 provided a recommended schedule from the first steps through the completion of the facility audit, design, planning, community involvement, a possible referendum, bid projects and construction of any projects. The district will be provided with recommendations, along with considerations that will be ranked "red" 1-2 years, "yellow" 3-5 years, and "green" after 5 years. The CESA team acknowledged that the cost and what is available for funds will be

very significant in determining what projects are approved and when. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments throughout the presentation.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann provided a facilities budget update that explored different options and scenarios. Option 1 shared what short-term borrowing may look like for the district, Option 2 included utilizing our current revenue authority, and Option 3 shared how the district could utilize fund balance. All of the options included how each could affect the district. Ms. Erdmann also shared an overall budget update.

The JFK Track Proposal Recommendation was presented to the Board. A motion to approve the proposal from Kiefer U.S.A was made by Chris Able, seconded by Tony Vlastelica and unanimously carried (7-0). The track replacement project is scheduled to start in late April 2024 and will be completed by the end of May 2024.

The first read of seven (7) revised policies was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Matthew Spaulding. Board member Able made a friendly amendment to remove "and citizens", Matthew Spaulding seconded the motion for the amendment. The amended motion for the first read of Policy 2105-Mision of the District passed (6-1) with Matthew Phipps opposing and will move forward for the second read by a unanimous vote (7-0). A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Biff Hansen, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 2120-Management Restructuring and School Improvement as presented. A motion was made by Biff Hansen, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 2131.01-Reading Instructional Goals and Kindergarten Assessment as presented. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Biff Hansen, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 2440-Summer or Iterim Session School as presented. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Biff Hansen, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 2521-Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment as presented. A motion was made by Matthew Phipps, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 5111.02-Educational Opportunity for Military Children as presented. A motion was made by Biff Hansen, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 5112-Entrance Age as presented. These policies will move forward for the second read at the next Board meeting.

The following seven (7) policies with suggested revisions were introduced to the Board for review. Policy 2110-Statement of Philosophy (New), Policy 2131-Educational Outcome Goals and Expectations (New), Policy 2132-Educational Process Goals (New), Policy 2230-Course Guides (New), Policy 2250-Innovative Programs (New), Policy 2271.01-Start College Now (New), and Policy 2330-Homework (New). These policies will move forward for first read at the next Board meeting.

Remarks from the Board President Stacey Soeldner included Ms. Soeldner share information from the WASB Conference regarding enrollment. Ms. Soeldner has the slide presentation and would be happy to share it with the Board if interested. This information may be helpful with forecasting. The filing of the enrollment count is due tomorrow. This information will be shared with the Board at the February meeting. Board President Soeldner also shared some dates for the professional development that will be conducted by the WASB Attorney who will share some legal updates. The Board agreed for this to be held March 6, 2024 from 4-6 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates include the Regular Board of Education meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Matthew Spaulding, and unanimously carried (7-0) by a roll call vote to move into closed session at 8:08 p.m. for the purpose of considering the following matter(s): the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of a public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility pursuant to section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes - Superintendent evaluation, progress goals and objectives. A brief recess was taken to allow the public to exit the Board Room.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 10:49 p.m. and reconvened to open session. No action was taken on the item discussed in closed session.

On motion from Kerry Trask, seconded by Chris Able, the Board unanimously voted (7-0) to adjourn the January 25, 2024, Special Board of Education Meeting at 10:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Board Executive Assistant



Board President, Stacey E. Soeldner