

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
October 11, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Stacey Soeldner at 6:01 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel, Mr. Matthew Phipps, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Matthew Spaulding, Mr. Kery Trask, Mr. Tony Vlastelica, and Ms. Kathy Willis, attending virtually. Also present were Interim Superintendent James Feil, Directors, and Board Secretary Laurie Braun.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Network connection and access to BoardBook were confirmed.

Public Input began at 6:02 p.m. The Board received three (3) requests from the public to speak. The Board heard input regarding the cost of SFA and the feasibility to continue specials and electives. Another public member thanked the Board for their good work and the need to concentrate on the constitution, respect and accountability for students. The final public input speaker thanked the Board for trying to move the District in the right direction noting education is key. Public input concluded at 6:14 p.m.

The Consent Agenda was next presented. On motion from Board member Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Tony Vlastelica, the Board unanimously approved (7-0), the Consent Agenda consisting of minutes from the September 13, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, the September 20, 2022 Special Closed Session Board Meeting, the September 20, 2022 Curriculum Committee Meeting, the September 21, 2022 Finance & Budget Committee Meeting, the September 22, 2022 Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting, the September 27, 2022 Special Board Meeting, the October 5, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting, and the October 10, 2022 Personnel Committee Meeting.

Director of Business Services, Angela Erdmann presented the payment of vouchers for the month ending September 30, 2022. A motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Matthew Spaulding, and carried (6-1), to approve Bill List 9-1-22 through 9-30-22 with Kerry Trask opposing. The Bill List presented reflects district operating expenses and district payroll for a total operating expense of \$7,739,517.79. The district Financial Report for the month of September 2022 was also provided and accepted as presented.

The Personnel Report was presented to the Board. The Personnel Report consisted of five (5) resignations, the hiring of four (4) support staff, one (1) level movement effective for the 2022-23 school year, and several extra-curricular stipends. On motion from Collin Braunel, seconded by Kerry Trask, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the Personnel Report as presented.

Director of Teaching Learning & Assessment Jason Bull introduced Summer School Leaders Lindsey Balzan and Sara Disch and provided the 2022 Summer School Update. Mr. Bull shared a presentation of our Summer School Program; Wellness, Enrichment, Academies/Bridges, Transition,

Athletic Clinics, and Music & School Forest. 1,457 students participated in the 42 days of Summer School Programs. Mr. Bull, Ms. Balzan, and Ms. Disch all thanked the teachers and paraprofessionals who supported our students throughout the summer. Surveys were conducted where students, parents, and staff provided feedback on what was liked about the 2022 Sumner School programs and what they would possibly like to see in the future. Summer School planning for 2023 has already started and the feedback received will also be taken into consideration for next year. Our goals are to engage as many students as possible, create more opportunities to learn, improve online registration, and build community relationships.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann provided the Third Friday Enrollment Count. The count represents services we are providing for 4,924 students for the 2022-2023 School Year this far. This number also reflects the 120 students open enrolled in our district and the 348 students open enrolled out of the district. Ms. Erdmann shared a comparison to previous years and stated we continue to look at the possibilities of our virtual school option and look at taking an energetic approach to marketing our district moving forward. Board members expressed interest in finding out why students are selecting to open enroll out of the district and how we can rectify this. Director Erdmann will look at the numbers from the surveys conducted two years ago and will share that information with the committee.

The Annual Food Service Report was presented. Ms. Erdmann shared we have a new Food Service Director for our district, David Gaup. We will introduce David and give him a tour of the schools and the food service area in each of our buildings. Ms. Erdmann also confirmed that all of our students still have access to free meals this year through the Direct Certification being over 40%. This is funded through the National School Lunch Program. Ms. Erdmann clarified that although free meals are eligible for all, we are only charged for the meals students eat. Ms. Erdmann confirmed that we do have a surplus in Fund 50, however, these funds can only be used for Fund 50 items. The district is considering renovations and upgrades within our food service program.

Interim Superintendent James Feil provided a Pilot Schools Update including the importance to get the facts and the information out to our staff. Mr. Feil acknowledged that the Federal Government is pushing for an evidence-based system and we are looking to use these funds to get our students caught up. Mr. Feil stated there is a cost involved with SFA and a lot of training but expressed it has proven results. A lengthy discussion took place surrounding concern with the need for more information about SFA, concern for the percentage of teacher buy-in, and the option to consider other programs and curricula to compare to. Mr. Feil reminded the Board that we have a short window of time to utilize the ESSER funds although recognizes the need for understanding and suggested inviting an SFA Representative and a practicing SFA school to the October 25th meeting so the Board and the public can hear the information directly from the experts. Ms. Soeldner clarified that the SFA Program has not yet been approved by the Board and will not be purchased or initiated until we are confident that it is the best fit for our district.

Interim Superintendent James Feil shared a district activity update including the LHS marching band performed at Jackson Elementary and what a wonderful way to recruit our next musicians. We salute our principals during National Principals Week and the community celebrated a crossing

guard who was recognized for 35 years of service. Congratulations and good luck to three of our Girl's Varsity Tennis players who will be competing at the State Tennis Tournament.

Brett Norrell with Healthcare Solutions provided a Strategic Plan update where he shared the final results from the community survey stating 470 responses were received. He also provided a summary of the combined responses and a better look at the key focus areas. The survey results showed how satisfied the community is with the district in areas of student planning for the future, maintenance of buildings, safety, and attracting, retaining and recognizing staff. The survey also provided feedback as to what the community felt MPSD's key focus areas should be. Mr. Norell next presented the five pillars of the Strategic Plan; Student Success, Student Culture, Workforce Engagement, Infrastructure & Funding, and Stakeholder Relationships. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments surrounding the data presented. The next steps are scheduling listening sessions with the Superintendent, Directors, Administrators, Teachers, and all other Staff. The timeline is to draft the action plan and present at the December meeting, finalize the plan and present the final plan in January. The Strategic Plan Survey information is available for the public to view on our district website.

Interim Superintendent James Feil initiated a discussion regarding the Facilities Plan Vendor update. A continuing conversation from the last Board meeting, the district recognized the contract terms with Nexus wasn't necessarily in the best interest of the district so the contract was referred to our district's attorney. After review, district legal counsel recommended that the Board be more specific of what they actually want surrounding the parameters of the contract with Nexus. At this time Interim Superintendent Feil suggested we press pause on the contract with Nexus until we have a complete plan put together. The Board was in agreement that the overall survey is an important piece of the plan and the district has a definite need to get the big scope of what is needed, however, we don't want to approve an open-ended contract with any vendor. After significant discussion, a motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Kathy Willis to move this to the Buildings & Grounds Committee for further deliberation. The motion unanimously passed (7-0).

Remarks from the Board President included Ms. Soeldner recognizing Lincoln High School will be conducting Parent Teacher Conferences.

Future Meeting Dates include the Buildings & Grounds Committee on October 12th, the Curriculum Committee on October 18th, a Joint Meeting of the MPSD Executive Committee, and the MPSD Foundation Executive Committee on October 19th. Finance & Budget Committee on October 19th, the Ad-Hoc Student Behavior Advisory Committee on October 24th, and the Personnel Committee will be meeting on the second Monday of each month. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th at 6:00 p.m. The Board will also follow up with a look into the open meeting laws when additional Board members attend and speak at Committee meetings. The Board agreed to have meetings held on the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday of each month starting in November.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Kathy Willis, and unanimously carried (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "SE Soeldner", written in black ink.

Board President, Stacey E. Soeldner