

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
November 10, 2020

A virtual regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Dave Nickels at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Mr. Richard Nitsch, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Ms. Elizabeth Williams, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman and Board Secretary Laurie Braun. Board Member Catherine Shallue was absent.

Board member Meredith Sauer joined the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

A motion was made by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Elizabeth Williams, and unanimously carried (6-0), to approve the minutes from the October 27 Public Hearing and the October 27, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

Board President Dave Nickels acknowledged communications received by Board members and reiterated that when replying to any communications, board members are doing so as an individual, not as representing the Board as a whole. Mr. Nickels revisited the topic of Public Input at the Regular Board meetings that is scheduled the second Tuesday of each month. After some discussion it was agreed upon by the Board to further investigate the possibilities available to allow Public Input at Board meetings in a virtual setting while following our district policy. Superintendent Holzman will contact our IT department to assist with making this happen. The goal is to have a virtual public input session scheduled by the December 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred presented the payment of vouchers for month ending October 31, 2020. A motion was made by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Meredith Sauer and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 10-1-20 through 10-31-20. The presented Bill List reflects district operating expenses and district payroll for a total operating expense of \$6,716,145.17. The financial report for month ending October 31, 2020 was accepted as presented noting a correction to the balance sheet which will be shared with the board at the next meeting.

Director of Human Resources Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented a memo providing an explanation of the virtual Co-curricular stipends and the Personnel Report consisting of one (1) resignation and numerous co-curricular title stipends for 1st quarter and club stipends for Lincoln High School. On a motion by Kathy Willis, seconded by Lisa Johnston, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report as presented.

A Return to School Update was the next agenda item of discussion. Mr. Holzman shared we are in our fourth week of the virtual learning model. We know that staff continues to work hard to engage students, however we also know some students are having struggles in this virtual learning model. We know that our community's health status continues to go in the wrong direction, with our current burden rate in the 1200 range. Superintendent Holzman stated like

us, all schools in our conference are in a 100% virtual setting as well, however we are looking at working towards a model that will possibly allow us to bring some of those students who are struggling or in need of extra supports back into the buildings in some aspect. Mr. Holzman asked Board members to engage in conversations how we may be able to do this using a measure of success criteria rather than a time line. The Board agreed to explore the details of what it would look like to return to school in phases, with phase 1 being those students who are struggling the most with the virtual learning, noting phase 1 will not replace the virtual learning but will be in addition to virtual learning. The difficulty will be establishing the criteria that identifies the students having the most need to come back in the first phase. We will also need to continue monitoring the health status of our community and use that data when making the move between these phases. Superintendent Holzman again stated our goal is to be back to school in a face to face learning model, however, we need to do this in the safest manner possible for our staff and students. Mr. Holzman will bring additional information to the Board at the November 24, 2020 meeting.

The Superintendent and Director's Report was acknowledged and Board members had the opportunity to review and ask questions.

Superintendent Holzman provided a district activity update that acknowledged American Education Week is next week. Mr. Holzman shared that the district appreciates the great work that so many of our staff are doing above and beyond the norm. Superintendent Holzman also acknowledged Veteran's Day is tomorrow and thanked all of our Veterans for their service.

On motions brought forward from the October 9, 2020 Personnel Committee Meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the second read and final read of Policy 8210-School Calendar.

Board President Dave Nickels acknowledged there will be an Equity Advisory Committee meeting next Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

Board President Dave Nickels reminded Board members of the Wisconsin State Education Convention that will be held virtually, January 20-22, 2021. If interested in attending, please let the Board Secretary know so she is able to get your registered.

Board members discussed the process for the upcoming Superintendent Evaluation and setting up the criteria for this evaluation. Board members agreed to discuss this in further detail at the November 24, 2020 meeting.

Board President Dave Nickels spoke of the Spring Election and any incumbent Board members who wish to complete Declaration of Candidacy paperwork can do so and submit beginning December 1, 2020 through January 5, 2020 by 5 p.m. Any incumbent Board members who do not wish to declare candidacy for their next term need to submit the Notification of Non-Candidacy by December 28, 2020. Any members of the public who qualify may also submit declaration of candidacy papers, December 1, 2020 through January 5, 2020 by 5 p.m.

Future meeting dates included; Curriculum Committee meeting scheduled November 19, 2020, a potential Finance and Budget Committee meeting, and the Special Board meeting scheduled November 24, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

On motion by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Elizabeth Williams, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary



Dave Nickels
Board President