

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
November 9, 2021

A 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. Collin Braunel, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Kerry Trask, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Board Member Meredith Sauer was absent. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman, Board Secretary Laurie Braun, and Directors.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members logged into BoardBook and the virtual meeting connection was confirmed.

A motion was made by Kathy Willis, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (6-0), to approve the minutes from October 26, 2021 Board Meeting.

Board President Nickels acknowledged there were no communications to share with the Board.

Public Input began at 7:01 p.m. The Board received requests from sixteen (16) individuals to provide public input; fourteen (14) individuals were present to speak, two (2) individuals were not present. Due to the number of requests, the Board allowed Public Input to exceed the 30-minute allotted amount of time and each speaker was given three (3) minutes to speak. The Board heard comments that included being in favor of and against masking, the parental choice for a child, racial inequity, curriculum, Covid protocols, academic performance, support for public schools and the school board, critical thinking skills, student discipline and behaviors, and the need to put the focus back on the students in our district. Public Input concluded at 7:50 p.m.

Personnel Committee Chairperson Kerry Trask provided a report of the November 3, 2021 meeting. Mr. Trask shared the topics of discussion included dual licenses for middle school teachers. The next item discussed involved the possibility of utilizing an outside vendor to conduct the exit surveys for teachers and the potential cost involved. The last topic of discussion provided clarification to the Superintendent Evaluation procedure and the deadlines for this evaluation process. Significant discussion took place surrounding the possibility of requiring dual licenses for teachers. Mr. Holzman stated this plan is being recommended due to declining enrollment. The district will do everything possible to accommodate employees and provide financial options for staff who have dual licenses. Superintendent Holzman also clarified this plan is not going into effect for the 2022-2023 school year. Board President Dave Nickels suggested this topic be included on the next Personnel Committee agenda. Discussion regarding the exit surveys next took place. Board members Collin Braunel and Kathy Willis expressed support of having a third party conduct the exit surveys noting outgoing staff may be more likely to fully disclose information. It was acknowledged by the committee that the current survey process is working, however may be subject to some revisions in order to make it better. On a motion from Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Collin Braunel, the minutes from November 3, 2021, meeting were unanimously (6-0) approved.

Curriculum Committee member Stacey Soeldner provided the report from the November 4, 2021 Meeting. The future of the IB Program was discussed. Due to declining enrollment numbers in the IB Program, more student engagement in AP classes, and the Rising Phoenix Program, the committee was in full agreement to dissolve the IB Program. This will be brought forward to the full Board under New Business. The committee also received a K-12 Math update and had a good discussion surrounding how to capture all levels of math for our students. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Collin Braunel, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2021 meeting.

Director of Business Service Angela Erdmann presented the payment of vouchers for the month ending October 31, 2021. A motion was made by Kathy Willis, seconded by Collin Braunel, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 10-1-21 through 10-31-21. The presented Bill List reflects district operating expenses and district payroll for a total operating expense of \$7,716,426.86. The monthly financial report for October 2021 was also provided and accepted as presented.

In the absence of the Director of Human Resources, Superintendent Holzman presented the Personnel Report and Addendum. The Personnel Report consisted of three (3) resignations, one (1) retirement, hiring one (1) professional staff, two (2) support staff positions, and four (4) extra-curricular stipends. A motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Kerry Trask, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented.

Directors Jason Bull and Pam Lensmire provided an informational summary of the Report Card At-a-Glance. Mr. Bull explained this is a learning tool to help us understand how the data and numbers are calculated. The state report cards will be made available in the next few weeks. A full report of the district's report card data will be shared at the November 23rd Board meeting. The longitudinal report card information and building goals will be presented at the December 14th Board meeting. Board discussion took place, questions were addressed, and clarification surrounding the Report Card At-A-Glance information sheet was provided.

The Superintendent and Directors Report was presented to the Board. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. Board member Braunel asked if there is an update from the state regarding the disproportionality plan. Director of Pupil Services Joanne Metzen stated part one of the district's plan has been submitted and approved and we are waiting for DPI to open part two of the plan. Director Metzen will share any updates with the Board as they become available.

A District Activity Update was shared by Superintendent Holzman where he stated next week is American Education Week. Mr. Holzman thanked the staff for their hard work and dedication to our students. Mr. Holzman also acknowledged 52 students from Lincoln High School have been recognized for National Honor Society and their leadership. The District now has an on-site covid testing clinic located at the McKinley Building that is available for staff, students, and family members of students within our district. The Parent Engagement Surveys went out October 26th, and Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held this Thursday for our Elementary Schools. The district has a student-athlete representing Lincoln High School at the Girl's State Swim Meet this weekend, winter sports have started and auditions for the musical will be underway in the next few weeks.

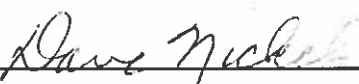
On motions brought forward from the 11-4-21 Curriculum Committee Meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) dissolving of the LHS International Baccalaureate Program.

Board President Dave Nickels provided a report from the November 1, 2021, COVID Protocols Ad-hoc Advisory Committee. The topics of discussion surrounded facial coverings, quarantining, and modification to our Covid Plan. Mr. Nickels also shared the committee has added three citizens to the ad-hoc committee. The committee will meet again after the Thanksgiving holiday. Board member Braunel asked if there has been any change or improvements to virtual learning for students who are in quarantine. Mr. Holzman stated unfortunately there isn't an easy answer to this, with each individual learning situation being different and dual teaching not a feasible option at this time. Mr. Holzman reiterated that the new protocols put in place should reduce the number of students who will be required to quarantine and learn virtually due to Covid.

Future scheduled meeting dates include the Curriculum Committee Meeting, November 18, 2021, and the next Board Meeting is November 23, 2021. Board member Nickels also suggested not having a 4th Tuesday Board Meeting in December due to the Christmas holiday.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kathy Wills, seconded by Stacey Soeldner, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary



Dave Nickels, Board President