

MANITOWOC PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
December 22, 2022

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Stacey Soeldner at 5:12 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel (joined virtually at 7:12 p.m.), Mr. Matthew Phipps, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Matthew Spaulding, Mr. Kerry Trask, Mr. Tony Vlastelica, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Superintendent James Feil, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Jame McCall, Directors, and Board Secretary Laurie Braun were also present.

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

Superintendent Feil provided a SFA and Literacy Curriculum update including his recommendation to the Board to postpone the curriculum selection until February. Superintendent Feil reminded the Board that the SFA model is a whole school reform and not just a new literacy curriculum. Mr. Feil also suggested that we may be increasing the recommendation to more than the originally discussed two pilot schools within our district. We will be sending an additional 18 staff members for site visits to either Steubenville, OH or Pittsburg, KS to observe schools using the SFA model in January. The Arizona site discussed at a previous meeting is only using SFA in their preschool program and not at the elementary or middle school levels, so a site visit to Arizona is no longer an option. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Jame McCall shared that having building representation from each site will provide trusted staff reporting back their respective buildings and answer any questions their colleagues may have. On motion from Kerry Trask, seconded by Kathy Willis the Board unanimously approved (7-0) moving the recommendation of SFA or Literacy Curriculum to February 2023. This will allow more time to review in more detail both the SFA model and the literacy curriculum presented.

On motions brought forward from the 12-21-22 Personnel Committee, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the title change of Secretary to the Superintendent & Board of Education to Executive Assistant. The Board also unanimously approved (7-0) the proposed new Clerical position reporting to the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning. Mike Nault shared an overview of the proposed title change and the new clerical position. This position will also provide as a back up to the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Board of Education. Also brought forward from the 12-21-22 Personnel Committee Meeting, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the proposed new contract terms for the Interim Director of Human Resources.

Out-of-State Travel Requests brought forward from the 12-22-22 Curriculum Committee included the LHS Robotics Team to Duluth, MN, March 1-5, 2023 was unanimously approved (7-0) by the Board. The January 2023 SFA Site Visits to Steubenville, OH and Pittsburg, KS for 18-20 MPSD Staff members was also unanimously approved (7-0) by the Board. Superintendent Feil shared one of the components for this round of SFA site visits is to take an in depth look at the Special Education component to ensure we are meeting the necessary requirements for our Special Education students, students with IEP's, and our ELL students. Mr. Feil will follow up as to why the Arizona site is no longer using SFA and report back to the Board.

Remarks from Board President Stacey Soeldner included thank everyone for coming together this year and this evening for the special meeting. Thanking the district leaders and wishes for some well-deserved time off.

Future meeting dates include a Finance & Budget Committee Meeting January 4, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., an Executive Committee Meeting January 4th at 6:00 p.m., and the next Board of Education January 10th, at 6:00 p.m. Board Vice-President Braunel reminded the Board that important Referendum discussions will take place at the January 4, 2023 Finance & Budget Committee Meeting and encouraged all to attend if possible.

A motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Tony Vlastelica, and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Braun, Secretary

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Board President, Stacey E. Soeldner