

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
February 22, 2022

A special virtual meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Dave Nickels at 12:00 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Mr. Kerry Trask, and Ms. Kathy Willis. 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. Board member Soeldner joined the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

A motion was made by Kathy Willis, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (7-0), to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2022, Board Meeting.

Curriculum Committee Chairperson Meredith Sauer provided an overview of the February 18, 2022 meeting. Ms. Sauer shared the committee received a K-12 Literacy update including where the biggest gaps were found and what our staff believes are the important literacy resources. The committee also received a mid-year Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Report for Franklin and Jefferson Elementary Schools. Franklin has been monitoring the progress of all students, particularly those students who performed below proficiency at the beginning of the school year. The Franklin staff continues to work on strategies to incorporate academic vocabulary into lessons. Jefferson staff has been monitoring student progress on individual math standards and literacy benchmarks. Staff from both schools continue to review the student progress data and plan for instruction and intervention strategies. The committee also received an overview of the Student and Parent Engagement Surveys. The committee members will have time to review the survey data and will discuss it at the next Curriculum Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried to accept the minutes from the February 18, 2022 meeting.

Director of Human Resources, Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report and Addendum. The Personnel Report consisted of four (4) resignations, three (3) retirements, hiring one (1) support staff, and extra-curricular stipends. On motion by Meredith Sauer, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the Personnel Report. An Addendum to the Personnel Report was also presented. On motion by Meredith Sauer, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board approved (6-1) the Addendum, with Collin Braunel opposing.

The Board received an overview of our current year and beyond MPSD Budget/Staffing situation. Mr. Holzman shared the District is in the first year of the biennium budget which includes no new money for public schools. Because of this, we will need to find other resources to compensate our employees as a means to retain and attract quality staff in our District. Our goals would be to provide a market wage adjustment to all paraprofessionals, a pay increase for all employees, utilize ESSER III funding, avoid using fund balance, and manage salary increases on future budgets. Three potential cost scenarios were provided and the impacts each would have on our budget. The

Board will review the budget staffing options and discuss them again at a joint meeting of the Personnel and Finance & Budget Committee meeting to be scheduled in the near future. The goal is to have a recommendation by the second meeting in March so we can present it to the MEA.

A District Demographics presentation was next shared with the Board. Mr. Holzman provided data on how Manitowoc compares to other districts similar to MPSD in the state. The data included student enrollment, percentage of Economically Disadvantaged students (ED), percentage of Children With Disabilities (CWD), percentage of children who are English Language Learners (ELL), per pupil spending, and the percentage of Between District Mobility. Additional data showed how we rank with school funding based on average household income and expenditures for public schools per pupil. Based on the 421 districts in Wisconsin, MPSD ranks 347, spending \$12,011 per pupil, with an average household income of \$50,914. Superintendent Holzman and the Board discussed identifying 4 to 5 key indicators of what would determine success for our district. These key indicators would serve as a roadmap for us to follow. It was suggested to create a strategic plan and have a team of district stakeholders, possibly the Executive Committee, to identify these specifics to help move our district forward. This will be brought back to the Board for further discussion.

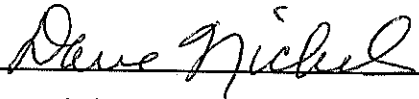
Superintendent Holzman introduced and presented the MPSD Foundation Donation. This donation is from funds raised for the Rubick Field Renovation in 2018. The initial costs were funded by the District and this donation is repayment of those funds. On motion from Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Kathy Willis, the donation from the MPSD Foundation was unanimously accepted (7-0).

Board President Nickels next addressed the District's Public Input Policies/Procedures. Mr. Nickels stated over recent months, public input has created disruption and some safety concerns at our meetings, and it has become more difficult to conduct Board Business. Mr. Nickels made a motion to suspend the rules and to postpone public input until we can provide a safe venue, Meredith Sauer seconded the motion. Lengthy discussion took place and many suggestions were made including having meetings conducted virtually or having security present at in-person meetings. Other suggestions shared were to continue with in-person meetings and conduct the public input in a different manner and possible options of how to do this, or to continue holding the meeting in person with in-person public input. Board members agreed that public input is important however it needs to be conducted in a format that allows Board Business to take place and in a civil and safe manner. The Board voted on the motion presented with a vote of (4-3) which did not carry a two-thirds majority to pass the motion to suspend the rules to postpone public input until it can be provided in a safe venue.

Future Meeting Dates include the Personnel Committee meeting on March 4, 2022, a possible Joint Meeting of the Personnel Committee and Finance & Budget Committees, the Ad-Hoc Student Behavior Advisory Committee meeting on February 24th, and the next scheduled Board Meeting is Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

A motion to adjourn was made by Collin Braunei, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (7-0), the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary



Dave Nickels, Board President