

# MANITOWOC PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of Education Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2024

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Stacey Soeldner. Members present were: Mr. Chris Able, Mr. Biff Hansen, Mr. Matthew Phipps, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Matthew Spaulding, Mr. Kerry Trask, and Mr. Tony Vlastelica. Also present were Superintendent James Feil, Assistant Superintendent Jame McCall, Directors, and Executive Assistant Laurie Braun. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Network connection and access to BoardBook were confirmed.

The Consent Agenda was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Matthew Phipps, and unanimously carried (7-0), to approve the 2-13-24 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the Personnel Report, the out-of-state travels requests for the FRC Robotics Competition and the Work Institute Leadership Conference, and the second read of Policies 2131-Educational Outcome Goals and Expectations, 2131-Educational Process Goals, 2230-Course Guides, 2250-Innovative Programs, 2271.01-Start College Now Program, and 2330-Homework as presented in the Consent Agenda.

At the request of the Board President, the Facilities Assessment/Plan and CESA 10 Owner's Representative Agreement were discussed next. CESA 10 Project Managers Nate Curell and John Berget shared they have been working on a facility assessment plan since October 2023. The full assessment will be presented to the Board at the March 21st Special Board Meeting and will share the extensive list of projects and "FIMS" Facility Improvement Measures that are needed throughout the district. Mr. Curell and Mr. Berget explained that the Owner's Representative Agreement includes contract flexibility, cost control, and project support while allowing the district to select which projects are implemented, when, and to what extent. CESA 10 will also be able to assist with advertising for bids when necessary in a way that allows local contractors and contractors outside of the area to bid. They will also aid in researching possible grants available for certain projects. A list of projects was shared with the Board (Appendix A in Board Packet). These projects have a completion target time between March 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025. The budget for these projects is estimated at \$1.5 million with a \$300,000 cap to CESA 10 for its services. A motion was made by Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (7-0) to accept the CESA 10 Owner's Representative Agreement.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann introduced Matt Jaskowiak from the Enterprise Fleet Management Division and shared a vehicle fleet update for the district. The vehicle fleet report noted the majority of our district's vehicles are 10-plus years old and have an annual average maintenance and service cost of \$40,000-\$50,000. Ms. Erdmann shared with the District's aging fleet, we will need to make major capital investments to continue to operate our current fleet of vehicles. The goal of the district is to implement a plan to ensure we have reliable vehicles in sound working order for our staff and student travel. Mr. Jaskowiak shared that Enterprise partners with many large school districts and municipalities in Wisconsin. They would assist the district with management and a rotating vehicle replacement plan every 2-3 years. The leased vehicles would include a maintenance plan and Enterprise would also assist the district in leveraging the best use of our taxpayer dollars, as well as, reinvesting earned equity back into future purchases. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Kerry Trask, and carried (6-0-1) with Board member Phipps abstaining, to approve the engagement agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management.

Assistant Superintendent Jame McCall provided an online registration update, thanking Jodi Popp and Jessica Deprey for the incredible work they have done to make online registration happen for our district. Ms. McCall also shared that we can support families with online registration at the district office if they do not have access at home to register online. Online registration opened on Monday.

Human Resources Director Mike Nault presented the 2024-2025 Calendar amendments acknowledging January 20, 2025 will become a no staff/no student day in recognition of MLK Day, January 23, 2025 will be the end of the second quarter, January 24, 2025 becomes a teacher records day, January 27, 2025 becomes a staff development day, March 27, 2025 becomes a regular instructional day for staff and students, and March 28, 2025 will be the end of the third quarter. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Biff Hansen, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar amendments as presented.

Director Mike Nault provided the options for the inclement weather days. Board member Kerry Trask made a motion to make up the first inclement weather day as planned on April 26, 2024, and not make up the second inclement weather day as presented, Matthew Spaulding seconded the motion. The motion passed (6-1) with Board member Able opposing.

The District Priority Goals were discussed next starting with a staff overview from the SFA Experienced Sites Conference in Nashville. Jefferson Principal Lisa Delsman and Solutions Coordinator Tifani Schley shared they were able to get clarity on how the solutions and interventions teams are run at the elementary level and how to utilize the systems that are already in place based on the needs of each school. Ms. Delsman shared that we are further ahead in year one compared to some other districts that are in years two and three. Franklin Elementary SFA Facilitator Angela Schardt welcomed the Board to visit the school and watch the learning that is happening. Ms. Schardt also shared she took part in the greater coaching model and the best practices staff use within SFA. Wilson Principal Anna Beatty and SFA Facilitator Sandy Tulachka shared that they attended seventeen different mini-sessions including *Coaching Collaborative Learning*, *Using Comprehensive Strategies*, and *Working with Students Who Are Resistant to Cooperative Learning*, to name a few. Washington Solutions Coordinator See ViXai Thao shared he was able to learn different ways to roll out the cooperative culture aspect, whether it was regarding reading, math, or an elective class, and was able to collaborate with staff on a professional development day on the best way to roll this out at the middle school level. All of the staff presenting thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference and bring valuable information back to their buildings. Assistant Superintendent McCall reiterated that because of our hardworking staff, it is our push for SFA to keep up with us.

Superintendent Feil shared the district priority goals and metrics that are being used to evaluate our growth and success. It was acknowledged that though we have a dashboard for the reading data, it would be helpful to have a dashboard for math and behavior. Mr. Feil also shared that quarterly goals are being set at each building. Discussion took place regarding the measures being put in place to assist students who have difficulty adjusting to a new instructor when moving to a new reading level and what is being done for our advanced readers. A question was asked to the relevance of the dashboard data if the information reported is only within the program and not compared to state standards or state testing. Assistant Superintendent McCall stated that we don't have that comparison data yet, however, is confident that we will see gains. Ms. McCall also stated that we are now using the nationally normed assessment Fastbridge, which will provide that information along with the data from the Forward exam. Board President Soeldner asked for a motion to reaffirm Board support for SFA and having SFA as a district priority goal. Matthew Phipps made the motion, Matthew Spaulding seconded the motion, the motion carried (4-2-1) with Board members Hansen and Trask opposing and Board Member Able abstaining.

The Spring Primary Election results were shared with the Board. Four candidates will move forward and have their names on the ballot for the April 2, 2024 Spring Election; Basil Buchko, Stacey Soeldner, Kerry Trask, and Keith Shaw.

Superintendent Feil shared some feedback from the staff listening sessions stating the staff is recognizing some of the negativity and differences in the Board, misinformation being gathered from social media sites, the political bantering taking place, and the distraction this is causing. Superintendent Feil also shared he will continue to work with the Board and provide them with the best information possible to help them make informed decisions.

The Board next discussed the Central Office Cost Benefit Analysis mainly regarding the justification for the \$35,000 and the \$20,000 benefit given to certain Administrators when married, teaching staff do not receive this same benefit. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits and how this is part of the contract negotiations that are conducted in closed session. Cost comparables were also shared from other districts for review. It was also noted that Administrators are allotted a TSA benefit as part of their Administrator package, teachers currently do not have this same benefit

McKinley Principal Stephanie Boncher and School Counselor Bobbi Jo Johnson provided a McKinley Visioning Session update sharing the group discussed what the program is now and what they would like it to be. The group reviewed surveys from staff, students, and community members that affirmed the need to have more alternative programs, better communication of those programs, and a defined curriculum and extracurriculars. Program principles, values, and needs were discussed. The principles included connection to the community, accountability, curiosity to discover new learning, growth and engagement, and achievement for all students. Values included voice and choice for student learning, purpose and relevance of curriculum, equity to recognize where students are at to keep learning at a high level and individual planning to get students where they need to be. Needs included credit recovery, having alternative options for 9th and 10th-grade students, and more hands-on learning. Ms. McCall shared that the decision to continue with the actual "Charter School" does not need to be made at this time due to the current contract that is in place. We will continue to define what our alternative program needs are and if we continue as a charter program or something else.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann shared a Budget Update including we will start working on the budget process at the building levels. The budget process we will use moving forward will show more detail and will engage both building leaders and staff to be more involved in this process. Ms. Erdmann also shared there has been discussion at the state level of decoupling of the vouchers from the revenue limit. There is a lot that needs to be evaluated with the voucher program before a decision is finalized. Ms. Erdmann also shared that the CPI rate of 4.12% has been released for July 1, 2024. The Board will discuss and consider our rate increase in March.

Policies 2260-Non-Discrimination and Access to Equal Education Opportunity and 2266-Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities, tabled from the 11-28-23 Board Meeting, and second read of Policy 2521-Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment, tabled from the 2-13-24 Board Meeting will be addressed after clarification from the March 6, 2024 Board Professional Development Meeting.

The first read of nine (9) policies were shared with the Board. A motion was made by Matthew Spaulding,

seconded by Matthew Phipps, to approve the first read of Policy 3120-Employment of Professional Staff as presented. Board member Able made a motion to amend the policy; page 2 "Any professional staff member's intentional misstatement shall be considered by the Board to constitute grounds for dismissal, Matthew Spaulding seconded the amended motion. The motion carried unanimously (7-0) to approve Policy 3120-Employment of Professional Staff as amended. A motion was made by Matthew Phipps, seconded by Matthew Spaulding, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 3120.01-Job Descriptions as presented. A motion was made by Tony Vlastelica, seconded by Matthew Phipps, and carried (6-1), with Chris Able abstaining, to approve the first read of Policy 3120.04-Employment of Substitutes. A motion was made by Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Chris Able, and carried (6-1), with Matthew Phipps opposing, to approve the first read of Policy 5330-Administration of Medication/Emergency Care as presented. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Matthew Phipps, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 5340-Student Accidents/Illness/Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest as presented. A motion was made by Biff Hansen, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 5341-Emergency Medical Authorization as presented. A motion was made by Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 6108-Authorization to make Electronic Fund Transfers as presented. A motion was made by Biff Hansen, seconded by Chris Able, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 6110-Federal Funds as presented. A motion was made by Chris Able, seconded by Matthew Phipps, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the first read of Policy 6116-Time and Effort Reporting. These nine (9) policies will be moved forward for second readings at the next meeting.

Five polices with suggested revisions were introduced to the Board; Policy 2431-Interscholastic Athletics, Policy 2462-Recording of IEP Team Meetings, Policy 5111.01-Homeless Students, Policy 5130-Withdrawal from School, and Policy 5420-Reporting Student Progress. These five (5) policies will move forward for first readings at the March 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Remarks from the Board President included some members will be attending the WASB Law Conference in Appleton this Thursday.

Future Meeting Dates include the scheduled March 6, 2024 Board of Education Professional Development Session and the standing second Tuesday of the month Regular Board of Education Meeting, scheduled March 12, 2024. Superintendent Feil has also suggested a Special Board of Education Meeting to be held on March 21, 2024, solely to discuss the CESA 10 Facilities Final Assessment.

On motion from Matthew Spaulding, seconded by Tony Vlastelica, the Board unanimously voted (7-0) to adjourn the February 27, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Braun, Board Executive Assistant



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Board President, Stacey E. Soeldner