

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

A special 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. Stacey Soeldner, and Mr. Kerry Trask. Board members Meredith Sauer and Kathy Willis were 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 Kerry Trask, seconded by Lisa Johnston, and unanimously carried (5-0), to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting, and the March 16, 2022, Special Board Meeting.

Board member Meredith Sauer arrived at 12:02 p.m.

Personnel Committee Chairperson Kerry Trask shared a report of the March 4, 2022 meeting. Mr. Trask shared the committee discussed the school calendar for the 2022-23 School Year. This item will be brought forward to the Board for approval. Mr. Trask shared that an agreement has been made with an outside vendor to conduct our exit interviews. School Perceptions will conduct and process our exit interviews for the district at a cost of approximately \$2,000 per year. An aggregate report will be shared with the Board in September. The committee also discussed in great length the dual licenses for Middle School Teachers. Some communication has been received by a few staff members who are not in favor of obtaining the dual license. Superintendent Holzman will be meeting with staff this week at both middle schools to listen to any staff concerns, exchange ideas, and clarify any misconceptions surrounding the dual license for those teachers. Mr. Holzman and Joyce Greenwood-Aerts will report back to the Personnel Committee after the meetings. On motion from Meredith Sauer, seconded by Lisa Johnston, the Board unanimously accepted (6-0) the minutes as presented.

On motion from Meredith Sauer, seconded by Lisa Johnston, and unanimously carried (6-0), the Board approved the minutes from the March 4, 2022, Joint Personnel and Finance & Budget Committees meeting.

Committee member Lisa Johnston provided a summary of the March 4, 2022, and March 18, 2022 Finance and Budget Committee Meetings referencing the minutes provided. Ms. Johnston shared two items will be brought forward to the full Board for approval; the Student Accident Insurance and the Acceptance of the Winter Miracle Splash Donation. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Meredith Sauer, the minutes from the March 4, 2022, and March 18, 2022 meetings were approved (6-0) as presented.

Curriculum Committee Chairperson Meredith Sauer provided an overview of the March 17, 2022 meeting. Ms. Sauer shared the committee reviewed an out-of-state travel request that will be brought forward to the full Board for approval. The committee also received a secondary math update regarding compacted math in grades 6 and 7, and Algebra as an 8th-grade math course. The committee also had the opportunity for questions and answers regarding the Student and Parent Engagement Surveys. No questions were presented surrounding the Student and Parent Engagement Surveys. A motion was made by Lisa Johnston, seconded by Stacey Soeldner, and unanimously carried (6-0) to accept the minutes from the March 17, 2022 meeting.

Director of Human Resources, Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report and Addendum. The Personnel Report consisted of four (4) resignations, eight (8) retirements, hiring three (3) support staff, extra-curricular stipends, and one level movement effective the start of the 2022-2023 school year. On motion by Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Kerry Trask, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented.

Superintendent Holzman provided an update of what we are currently working on and what we are planning to do in the future surrounding student culture and behavior. Mr. Holzman shared March 11th was an in-service day for staff and approximately 100 paraprofessionals participated in training focusing on compassion, resilience, and how to maximize adult supports for students. We continue to provide opportunities for our staff to participate and revisit the strategies used as part of the verbal intervention training. Staff continues to engage in training scenarios at their respective buildings on how to apply the de-escalation strategies at all levels. Mr. Holzman also shared that about 20 of our staff participated in an presentation from Safe & Civil Schools. Safe & Civil Schools is a process that would provide the framework for a universal support system for behaviors. This system would be implemented in grades K-12 using common language and common terms throughout the district, with our overall goal to improve student outcomes. We will continue to review and get feedback from the Safe & Civil Schools program, and make a decision by May if the district would like to move forward with this program or look at other options.

On motions brought forward from the March 4, 2022, Personnel Committee meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the 2022-2023 School Calendar as presented. Superintendent Holzman communicated that because we will be starting 2022-2023 school year before September 1st, we will again need to request a waiver from DPI. This will be done in the coming weeks.

On motions brought forward from the March 17, 2022, Curriculum Committee meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Cross Country Out-of-State Travel to Gurnee, IL, September 17, 2022.

On motions brought forward from the March 18, 2022 Finance and Budget Committee meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Student Accident Insurance for the 2022-2023 School

Year. The Board also unanimously accepted (6-0) the Winter Miracle Splash Donation for the Special Education Department.

A motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Lisa Johnston, and unanimously carried to approve the Student and Staff Travel to Washington DC, April 23-26, 2022 to attend the National Honor Society "Trailblazing Leadership" Weekend. Lincoln High School senior Lia Haile and a staff member will attend.


Ad-Hoc Student Behavior Advisory Committee member Dave Nickels provided and shared an update from their March 17, 2022 meeting. Information presented to the Board included what the committee identified as behaviors that need to be addressed, concerns surrounding those behaviors, along with some ideas for a plan and how to implement that plan to address these behaviors. Mr. Nickels reiterated this is a Ad-Hoc Committe and they have no authority to implement their ideas. They are only able to provide information and suggestions to the Board and the Superintendent. Discussion surrounding the district's cell-phone policy took place with a suggestion to move Policy 5518 - Cell Phones, Electronic Communication Devices, and Portable Media Players be moved to the committee level for review and a possible update.

Future Meeting Dates include the next Board meeting is scheduled April 12, 2022 and a possible Buildings and Grounds Committeee Meeting within the next week or so.

A motion to adjourn was made b Collin Branel, seconded by Lisa Johnston, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Braun, Secretary

  
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Dave Nickels, Board President

  
vice-president