

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
April 12, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board Vice-President Lisa Johnston at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Kerry Trask, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Board member Meredith joined the meeting virtually. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman, Directors, and Board Secretary Laurie Braun.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and access to BoardBook was confirmed.

A motion was made by Kerry Trask and seconded by Stacey Soeldner, to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2022, Special Board Meeting as presented. (6-0).

Board Vice-President Lisa Johnston acknowledged there were no communications to share with the Board.

Public Input began at 7:02 p.m. The Board received five (5) requests to provide public input. Individuals were allowed 5 minutes to speak and to respectively keep input relevant to agenda topics of discussion. The Board heard input from the public thanking the current Board members and the Superintendent for their service to the district, and comments from one individual regarding concern for the decline in student achievement and test scores. Public Input concluded at 7:16 p.m.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairperson Lisa Johnston reported the committee met on March 29, 2022, at Jefferson Elementary School and discussed the Jefferson playground project. The committee report was made available for Board members to review in BoardBook. Board member Braunel questioned the cost status for the tiling and fieldwork at Jefferson. Buildings and Grounds Director Chris Dupre shared this project has been put out for public bids however, we have not yet received the final number from bidders. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Meredith Sauer and unanimously carried (6-0) to accept the minutes from the 3-29-22 Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting.

Director of Business Service Angela Erdmann presented the payment of vouchers for the month ending March 31, 2022. A motion was made by Kathy Willis, seconded by Collin Braunel, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 3-1-22 through 3-31-22. The Bill List presented reflects district operating expenses and district payroll for a total operating expense of \$8,190,888.99. Director Erdman addressed and provided clarification to questions from Board members Collin Braunel and Stacey Soeldner regarding the Bill List. Director Erdmann also presented the monthly financial report for March 2022. The March 2022 financial report was accepted as presented.

Board member Dave Nickels joined the meeting virtually at 7:26 p.m.

The Personnel Report, Addendum #1, and Addendum #2 were presented by the Director of Human Resources, Joyce Greenwood-Aerts. The Personnel Report consisted of eleven (11) resignations, two (2) retirements, the hiring of four professional staff personnel, and extra-curricular stipend positions. Ms. Greenwood-Aerts provided clarification regarding the background check process for new-hire employees. A motion was made by Meredith Sauer, and seconded by Kathy Willis to vote on the Personnel Report, Addendum #1, and Addendum #2 together. The motion was opened for discussion. Board member Stacey Soeldner made a motion to table Addendum #1 and have the newly seated Board address Addendum #1, Collin Braunel seconded the motion, the motion failed by a (2-5) vote with Kerry Trask, Kathy Willis, Lisa Johnston, Dave Nickels, and Meredith Sauer opposing. A motion was made by Kerry Trask seconded by Kathy Willis, to vote on the Personnel Report and Addendum #2, the motion unanimously passed (7-0). A motion was made to approve Addendum #1 by Meredith Sauer and seconded by Kerry Trask, the motion passed (5-2), with Stacey Soeldner and Collin Braunel opposing.

The Superintendent and Directors Report was presented to the Board. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. Director of Pupil Services Joanne Metzen provided clarification to a question posed by Stacey Soeldner surrounding Speech and Language Pathologist services for several students within the district. Ms. Metzen reported the district has completed the necessary requirements mandated by the state for those students and families as we continue to look for a qualified candidate to fill this vacancy.

Superintendent Holzman shared a District Activity Update where he acknowledged and congratulated 6 of our district employees for being selected for an Eastern Wisconsin Excellence in Education Award. These 6 individuals are Lisa Delsman, Dean of Students at Washington Middle School, Deb Miller, Instructional Aide at Jackson Elementary, Kristin Sorenson, Special Education Program Support, Luanne Baryenbruch, Head Custodian Washington Middle School, Ashley Waniger, School to Work Coordinator at Lincoln High School and Michele Foss, Family & Consumer Science Teacher at Lincoln High School. Mr. Holzman also shared that three MPSD individuals were recipients of awards from The Herb Kohl Foundation. Lincoln High School Business Education Teacher Melanie Shimek has received the Herb Kohl Teacher Fellowship Award, and Lincoln High School students Lia Haile and Madeline have been awarded the Student Excellence Scholarship. We are proud of the dedication and successes of our staff and students.

The following items were brought forward from the March 4, 2022, Joint Personnel and Finance & Budget Committees. On motion from Kerry Trask, seconded by Meredith Sauer, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) to approve the 3% Base Salary Increase for Teachers. On motion from Collin Braunel, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the 3% Base Salary/Wage Increase for Admin, Non-Rep Certified/Non-Certified, Custodial and Clerical Staff. On motion from Kerry Trask, seconded by Meredith Sauer, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the Paraprofessional Market Increase.

A motion was made by Meredith Sauer, seconded by Kathy Willis, to approve the Resolution to Begin the 2022-2023 School Year prior to September 1, 2022. The motion passed (6-1), with Collin Braunel opposing. The proposed start date is August 29, 2022.


Director of Building and Grounds Chris Dupre provided an overview of the Lincoln High School Pool Ventilation Project. The bid process is complete with bids coming in \$137,000 under the expected budget amount. On motion from Kathy Willis, seconded by Collin Braunel, the Board unanimously accepted the bid (7-0) for the Lincoln School Pool Ventilation Project.

Superintendent Holzman shared the process for the Organizational Meeting. A motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Stacey Soeldner to move the 4th Tuesday meeting to an evening meeting. Discussion took place surrounding the motion. The Board voted to schedule the Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., with the Board meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m. or immediately following the conclusion of the Organizational Meeting. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Collin Braunel and unanimously carried (7-0) to authorize Director of Human Resources Joyce Greenwood-Aerts and Superintendent Holzman to contact consultants for the district's Superintendent Search. This information will be shared with the Board at the April 26, 2022 meeting.

Board member Kathy Willis provided a report from the April 7, 2022, Ad-Hoc Student Behavior Advisory Committee Meeting. Ms. Willis shared the committee continues to meet weekly having great discussions surrounding behavior and how we can be an advocate for students in a universal manner moving forward. Superintendent Holzman shared that tomorrow, District Administrators will have the opportunity to continue conversations with the Safe and Civil Schools Program. We hope to have a recommendation for the Board within the next few weeks.

A motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Johnston, seconded by Meredith Sauer, and unanimously carried (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary


Board President, Stacey E. Soeldner