

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
Manitowoc Board of Education  
June 8, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board Vice-President Lisa Johnston 7:02 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Mr. Kerry Trask and Ms. Kathy Willis. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman and Board Secretary Laurie Braun. Board member Nickels was absent/excused.

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 Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (6-0), to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2021 Special Board meeting.

Board Vice-President Lisa Johnston acknowledged the thank you cards the board received from Lincoln High School Scholarship recipients.

The Board received six (6) Requests to Provide Public Input. Ms. Marilyn Weyer spoke regarding her concerns about equity curriculum taught in our schools. Ms. Sonia Vasquez, President of Lakeshore United Visionaries (LUV) expressed her appreciation for the District's acceptance of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in our community. Ms. Emma Willis shared her concerns of disruptive behaviors in the middle schools and how they are being addressed. Mr. Gene Weyer read a letter on behalf of Sulynn Moore. Ms. Moore's letter shared concerns surrounding equity and Critical Race Theory teachings in the schools.

Lincoln High School was this month's featured school showcase. Principal Lee Thennes stated this has been a year of some challenges and a lot of celebrations. Staff is celebrating core values that are working in our learning community. By redefining the culture of collaboration in their PLC's, staff is able to share what is best practice to ensure student learning by using four targeted guidelines. These guidelines help staff and students stay focused on growth in learning. Three LHS staff provided testimonials how team collaboration has helped especially during the past year of in-person and virtual learning. Associate Principal Kyle Korinek shared academic data with a 3-year growth in ACT scores. The Data Team will work with the Teacher Leadership team members and the Navigation team to compile the data and implement systems that promote improved outcomes, measured by both classroom and state assessments for all students. Activities & Athletic Director Dave Steavpack shared a summary of Student Engagement of clubs and athletics. Participation in both athletics and club activities was strong despite having revised, alternate schedules. The more students are engaged and involved has shown a positive relation to higher grades in the classroom. Students participated in athletics, clubs, band and choir and many participated in the musical in spring. LHS Dean of Students Lainey Longmeyer provided a Character Education summary including attendance, grades, a truancy buy-back program, the many community connections our students are participating in, and the future in our Code of Excellence program. In closing, Associate Principal Katie Eichmann shared an overview of some of the outstanding students at Lincoln High School and their amazing academic and athletic accomplishments during the past school year.

Congratulations to these students and all of the students at Lincoln who have persevered through an unprecedented school year. Principal Thennes also communicated \$625,340 in scholarships were awarded to LHS students at this year's Scholarship Night. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

Finance and Budget Committee Chairperson Kathy Willis provided a report from the June 2, 2021 meeting. Ms. Willis shared the District is partnering with Cenergistics, an energy saving program that is estimated to save the District \$900,000 over a 5-year time frame. This program will require the District to hire a part-time energy manager and also recommends implementation of a Conservation of Natural and Material Resources Policy. The committee also discussed the budget adjustments for the 2020-21 fiscal year due to the unforeseen revenues and expenditures from COVID-19. The budget adjustment amounts will be finalized and brought forward at the final Board meeting in June. Ms. Willis next shared an update was provided on the District CARES dollars with the ESSER I and GEERS I monies will be claimed by the end of the 2020-21 fiscal year. The ESSER II and ESSER III funds will be used in future fiscal years. Upcoming district projects were discussed and the cost involved of having a third party conduct the district's exit surveys. A Business Office update was also shared with the committee, including a website update to the Business Services section. A motion was made by Kerry Trask, seconded by Meredith Sauer, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2021 Finance & Budget Committee Meeting.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann presented the payment of vouchers for month ending May 31, 2021. A motion was made by Meredith Sauer, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 5-1-21 through 5-31-21. The presented Bill List reflects district operating expenses and district payroll for a total operating expense of \$6,531,665.01. Ms. Erdmann also presented the financial report for month ending May 31, 2021. The financial report for the month of May 2021 was accepted as presented.

Director of Human Resources Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report consisting of three (3) retirements, three (3) resignations, hiring ten (10) replacement professional staff, one (1) support staff, and two (2) extra-curricular positions for the 2021-2022 school year. On a motion by Kathy Willis, seconded by Meredith Sauer, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report as presented.

The Superintendent and Director's Report was acknowledged and Board members had the opportunity to review, provide comments and ask questions. Board members were reminded they can reach out to Superintendent Holzman at any time with questions.

A District Activity Update was share by Superintendent Holzman stating this is a joyful and busy week for our schools, staff and students as the end of this school year approaches. Staff and students are participating in end of the year celebrations such as kickball, balloon races and other outdoor activities providing an energetic close to the school year. The Buildings and Grounds team continue to do the necessary cleaning and maintenance inside and outside of our district's buildings. The last day of school is this Thursday, our historic graduation is Friday and the first session of Summer School starts Monday. Summer school is a welcomed opportunity for the kids in our district that offers sports camps, an enrichment section and an

academic section. Generally, we have 1500-2000 students participate in our summer school programs.

On motions brought forward from the June 2, 2021 Finance & Budget Committee Meeting, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the first read of new Policy 7460-Conservation of Natural and Material Resources. Superintendent Holzman provided clarification to any questions Board members had surround the policy and the Cenergistics Energy Savings Program.

Future Meeting Dates are as follows: The Board agreed to schedule the Special Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. Discussion took place regarding the frequency and start times of the Special Board Meetings. A Curriculum Committee Meeting scheduled Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. and Finance and Budget Committee scheduled Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

On motion by Collin Braunel, seconded by Kerry Trask, the Board unanimously agreed (6-0) to move into closed session by a roll call vote at 8:52 p.m.

On motion by Kathy Willis, seconded by Collin Braunel and unanimously carried (6-0), the Board voted to reconvene in open session.

On motion by Kathy Willis, seconded by Stacey Soeldner, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Braun, Secretary



Dave Nickels, Board President

Lisa Johnston, Board Vice-President/Clerk