

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
Manitowoc Board of Education  
July 14, 2020

A virtual regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Dave Nickels at 7:01 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Dave Nickels, Mr. Richard Nitsch, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Ms. Catherine Shallue, Ms. Elizabeth Williams, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman and Board Secretary Laurie Braun.

Member absent: Ms. Lisa Johnston

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members logged into BoardBook and verification of virtual connection to the meeting was confirmed.

Board President Dave Nickels received communications were thank you cards from student scholarship recipients.

The payment of vouchers was presented by Director of Business Services, Shawn Alfred. A motion was made by Catherine Shallue, seconded by Elizabeth Williams, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 6-1-20 through 6-30-20, the final month of the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the district. This Bill List reflects district operating expenses and district payroll, for a total operating expense of \$9,647,877.25. Mr. Alfred noted the payroll operating expense reflected a larger payment due to teacher balance of contract payout. Mr. Alfred also explained there is no financial report for June due to it being the end of the fiscal year for the district.

Director of Human Resources Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report consisting of one (1) resignation, and hiring five (5) support staff. On a motion by Kathy Willis, seconded by Richard Nitsch, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented.

Superintendent Holzman acknowledged the Superintendent and Director's Report. Board members had the opportunity to review and ask questions. Board Member Dave Nickels posed the question regarding graduation and if there is a rain date scheduled. Mr. Holzman stated the plan would be to utilize a rain delay and if necessary, the ceremony would be rescheduled to Sunday, July 19, 2020.

A Return to School update was provided by Superintendent Holzman. Mr. Holzman shared approximately 400 staff members and 1800 parents completed the return to school survey that was sent out. Last Thursday, July 9, 2020 two virtual staff feedback meetings were conducted that shared the staff survey results with MPSD staff. Monday, July 13, 2020, parents had the opportunity to participate in a virtual session to view the parent survey results. Approximately 280 staff and 160 families participated between the sessions that were offered to them. Staff and families had the opportunity to write in their comments and questions. All comments and

questions were noted and categorized to be evaluated. We continue to work on our timeline and use that data to help determine what how we will have school and what that model will look like. The team is using a Collective Commitments approach as guidelines which includes; People First, Equity for All, Focus on Learning, Data-Driven Decision Making and Collaboration. These focuses are aiding us to decide on the best model for returning to school. The goal is to share this with a group of staff and a general scope of parents to get their feedback early next week. The next component of the timeline would be to share with the Board, staff and families. The ultimate goal is to have a plan to present to the Board at the July 28, 2020 Board meeting.

On motion by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously approved (6-0), initial and additional student loans for 2020-2021 in the amount of \$2,000 each for initial loans (14 students) and \$130,000 for additional loans (65 students), with a current total of \$158,000, not to exceed \$300,000.

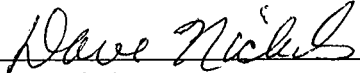
On motion by Meredith Sauer, seconded by Catherine Shallue, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) depositories for the District as presented, in accordance with Wisconsin Statute 34.05.

Board President Dave Nickels address the Academic Achievement Gaps and Equity agenda item. Mr. Nickels shared that the Federal Government has brought to our attention that our district's achievement gaps are too wide and it is mandated that we improve and close these gaps. Mr. Nickels also shared there is correlation with equity and these achievement gaps. As a district, we need to be accountable for meeting the needs of those under achievers and those not meeting the necessary expectations. The Board agreed it would be beneficial to possibly develop an equity policy and/or put equity in our mission statement to acknowledge accountability in our district. Superintendent Holzman also shared that we have an opportunity to help those whose voices are not being heard and how we as a district can help those individuals be the best version of themselves. The Board agreed that the topic of Achievement Gaps/Equity be a standing agenda item for continued discussion.

Future meeting dates discussed included the Curriculum Committee has a meeting scheduled July 21, 2020. The Personnel Committee Meeting will be scheduling the week of July 27<sup>th</sup>.

On motion by Elizabeth Williams, seconded by Meredith Sauer, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Braun, Secretary

  
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Dave Nickels  
Board President