

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
September 8, 2020

A virtual regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Dave Nickels at 6:30 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Mr. Richard Nitsch, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Ms. Elizabeth Williams, and Ms. Kathy Willis. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman and Board Secretary Laurie Braun.

Board member absent: Ms. Catherine Shallue

Motion was made by Elizabeth Williams, seconded by Kathy Willis, and unanimously approved (6-0) by a roll call vote to move into closed session for the purpose of considering the employment, promotion, compensation, or evaluation data of any public employee over which the government has jurisdiction or exercised responsibility. This meeting is authorized pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education reconvened in open session at 7:17 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members logged into BoardBook and verification of virtual connection to the meeting was confirmed.

A motion was made by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Lisa Johnston, and unanimously carried (6-0), to approve the minutes from the August 25, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

Board President Dave Nickels acknowledged no communications were received by the Board.

Finance and Budget Committee Chairperson Richard Nitsch reported on the August 25, 2020 meeting. Mr. Nitsch shared information on the three grants awarded to MPSD. Franklin and Madison Elementary will each receive \$500 from the Wal-Mart Community Grant Program for water bottles. Jefferson Elementary will receive \$1500 from the Healthy Classrooms Foundation for COVID related needs. The Administrator TSA/Special Pay was also discussed reflecting the payment be made to align with how it is stated in the handbook. A 2020-2021 Budget update was also provided sharing the preliminary figures. Director Alfred will provide the committee with updates as we get closer to presenting the final budget in October. On motion from Elizabeth Williams, seconded by Lisa Johnston, the minutes from the August 25, 2020 Finance and Budget Committee were unanimously (6-0) approved.

The Report of the Superintendent followed with the Director of Business Services Shawn Alfred, presenting the payment of vouchers. A motion was made by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Kathy Willis, and unanimously carried (6-0) to approve Bill List 8-1-20 through 8-31-20. This Bill List reflects district operating expenses and district payroll, for a total operating expense of \$3,517,320.63. The financial reports for July through August, 2021 were also provided and accepted as presented.

Director of Human Resources Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report consisting of one (1) resignation, hiring two (2) professional staff, three (3) support staff and one (1) level movement. On a motion by Elizabeth Williams, seconded by Meredith Sauer, the Board unanimously approved (6-0) the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented.

The Superintendent and Director's Report was acknowledged. Board members had the opportunity to review and ask questions. Board member Kathy Willis asked how the district will be conducting the third Friday count this year. Superintendent Holzman replied the state has provided us with some guidelines for this year which include students who are attending either in our blended model or in the virtual model. If we are able to account for them in one of these models, we can count them in our third Friday count. Board member Meredith Sauer questioned how the district will manage the substitute teacher shortage. Director Joyce Greenwood-Aerts replied that we have currently placed one fulltime sub at each building, with some buildings having more than one assigned. The district also has a group of substitutes to select from, and if needed, some buildings have the capability to fulfill a short-term absence in house. The district will however continue to recruit and interview additional subs. Joanne Metzger provided a brief update on the disproportionality position that was fulfilled by Lynette Simonar, and the beginning works of how she will move forward in this new role within our district. Lynette is currently visiting buildings, getting acquainted with staff and informing them of the services she has to offer.

A district activity update was provided by Superintendent Holzman. Mr. Holzman shared we have completed three great days of the school year and have great hope for continued health for staff and students. There has been a lot of positive feedback regarding the processes we have put in place in order to make school happen. Transportation is going well and we appreciate the partnership with Brandt Buses to make this happen. Mr. Holzman also shared the district was notified that all of our students 18 and under are eligible for free meals until December 31st or until the funding is depleted. Some discussion regarding middle school electives took place. It was noted that keeping students in cohorts makes scheduling electives a little challenging, however, this is a temporary issue that will be eliminated when we can safely return to 100% face-to-face learning. Mr. Holzman also included that we continue to work on the student count, noting we are down 53 4K students from last year. It is our thought that this is most likely due to COVID, and we will continue to monitor registrations and enrollments.

The standing agenda item, Academic Achievement Gaps and Equity was again discussed. Superintendent Holzman stated that we expect confirmation from those individuals who will be part of the Ad Hoc Equity Advisory Committee. We hope to have more information to share at the September 22, 2020 meeting.

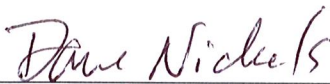
On motion from Richard Nitsch, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously (6-0) accepted the \$15,000 donation from the Meijer Stores. This donation was applied to PPE equipment and materials for staff and students in our district.

Board members were informed of the Wisconsin State Education Convention that will take place January 20-22, 2021 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. Any Board members interested in attending should notify the Board Secretary.

Future meeting dates included; Curriculum Committee meeting scheduled September 17, 2020 and Finance and Budget Committee meeting scheduled September 22, 2020.

On motion by Richard Nitsch, seconded by Elizabeth Williams, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary



Dave Nickels
Board President