

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
March 11, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Linda Gratz at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Ms. Karen Rohrer, Mr. Lee Braunel, Ms. Catherine Shallue, Mr. Dave Longmeyer, Mr. Dave Nickels, Mr. Keith Shaw, and Ms. Linda Gratz. Also present were Superintendent Marcia Flaherty and Board secretary Rebecca McLafferty.

The meeting began with roll call and the pledge of allegiance.

Motion was made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Keith Shaw, and carried, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2014, regular meeting, and the February 25, 2014, special meeting.

Jackson Elementary School teacher Jody Henseler, School Forest Coordinator Kelly Vorrone, and students discussed the 6th grade BioBlitz. Now in its first full year of implementation, the project integrated the 1960s documentation project of current Board Member Lee Braunel (who was an elementary teacher at that time). Former School Forest Coordinator Patty Maher was commended for her work on the project.

Dave Nickels, chairperson of the Policy/Personnel Committee, reported on the February 19, 2014, meeting. Committee members clarified that health plan changes would continue to be made by the District Medical Insurance Committee, with the Board receiving copies of DMIC minutes. Large impact items with significant costs attached will continue to be brought to the Board for approval. The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing policies.

Karen Rohrer, chairperson of the Finance and Budget Committee, spoke on behalf of the joint Finance and Budget Committee/Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting, held on March 4, 2014. Director of Buildings and Grounds Jeff Schulz reported over \$9 million in capital projects with 15-30 year life cycles. Director of Business Services Ken Mischler discussed the 2014-15 budget. Projects needing completion within the next three years total over \$3 million. Discussion involved borrowing up to \$5 million for that purpose. Motion was made by Finance Committee member Keith Shaw, seconded by Lee Braunel, and carried, to recommend that the Board borrow up to \$5 million for capital projects.

Keith Shaw, chairperson of the Curriculum Committee, reported on the March 11, 2014, meeting. After discussion, the committee approved the summer academy 2014 course, "Google for the Classroom: Teaching and Learning", to be taught by Gwen Fiecko. The committee also introduced adoption of an elementary math textbook, "Math Expressions" by Houghton Mifflin. The textbook will be available for review for the next month and will be voted on for approval at the April Board meeting. On motion brought from committee, the Board unanimously approved the academy class, "Google for the Classroom: Teaching and Learning", as presented.

The payment of vouchers was presented by Director of Business Services Ken Mischler. A motion was made by Keith Shaw, seconded by Lee Braunel, and unanimously carried to approve voucher #438 totaling \$2,580,743.08, and voucher #441 totaling \$2,480,335.72, for a total of \$5,061,078.80. A financial statement was presented for the month ending February 28, 2014.

Motion was made by Keith Shaw, seconded by Catherine Shallue, and unanimously carried, to accept the Monroe School PTA donation of \$6,317, to be used for the purchase of new student notebook computers.

Motion was made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Catherine Shallue, and unanimously carried, to accept the Jackson Elementary School PTO donation of \$6,604.87, to be used for the purchase of new student notebook computers.

Superintendent Flaherty's district activity update:

- Promoted and complimented the Youth Art Month display at the Rahr West Museum;
- Acknowledged "Music in Our Schools Month", including the annual solo/ensemble contest.
- Work experience teacher and transitional coordinator Rick Conrad received one of four Top Tech Awards sponsored by LTC.
- Board members contributed the following attributes about the District:
 - Pride, options (available), teamwork; incredible "frontier day" experience;
 - the Board's mission to maintain quality, build morale, keep innovation, individualized education, specialty programs; enthusiastic (grade 2) Readers Theater workshop at Monroe;
 - recognized hard working staff including aides, secretaries, custodians, maintenance, and teachers, who expend extra effort because they believe in high quality education for MPSD; the MPSD community supports (financially and otherwise) the district and is responsible for its success;
 - teaching staff and principals contribute to an optimistic atmosphere in schools;
 - Successful Youth Apprenticeship program was acknowledged;
 - the upcoming community survey will enable the public to provide beneficial feedback to the district; and
 - Board members were commended for their care and involvement of district activities.

Following a joint meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and Finance and Budget Committee, and after considerable discussion, including the fact that there are some \$12 million in overall projects, motion was made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Lee Braunel, and unanimously carried by roll call vote (7-0), to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Borrowing of Not to Exceed \$5,000,000; and Providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Promissory Notes Therefor.

The Board noted the first read of the following policies: 0167.6 Board Email – Public Records; 0167.7 Use of Personal Communication Devices; 1422/3122/4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity; 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity; 6320 Purchasing; 7510 Use of District Facilities; 7530.01V2 Board Owned Personal Communication Devices; 7530.02 Staff Use of Personal Communication Devices; 7542 Access to District Technology Resources from Personally Owned Communication Devices; 2131.01 Reading Instructional Goals and Kindergarten Assessment; 2270 Religion in the Curriculum; 3362/4362/5517 Employee and Student Anti-Harassment; 5111.01 Homeless Students; 5730 Equal Access for Nondistrict-Sponsored, Student Clubs and Activities; 8330 Student Records; 8390 Animals on District Property; 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions, or Complaints; 9150 School Visitors; 9160 Public Attendance at School Events; 8800 Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observations. Director of Human Resources Andrea Holschbach answered inquiries and stated that the second read of the policies, for approval, would occur at the April board meeting.

On motion by Dave Longmeyer, seconded by Karen Rohrer, and carried, the Board approved the Bigger World Foundation – Camp Couture Trip Proposal, for Beverly Deem and 3 students to go to San Mateo, CA from June 22-28, 2014.

Motion was made by Lee Braunel, seconded by Catherine Shallue, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca McLafferty, Secretary

Linda Gratz
Board President