

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
April 3, 2014

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Linda Gratz at 5:54 p.m. at Wilson Jr. High. Members present were Ms. Karen Rohrer, Mr. Lee Braunel, Mr. Dave Longmeyer, Mr. Dave Nickels, Mr. Keith Shaw, and Ms. Linda Gratz. Also present were Superintendent Marcia Flaherty and Board secretary Rebecca McLafferty.
Member absent: Ms. Catherine Shallue

Linda Gratz asked Board members and administrators for input on the preceding community survey session.

Responses commended community input and the survey value. Information in the survey appeared overwhelming and could be trimmed down.

It was the consensus of the Board that the community would benefit from additional district information prior to receiving the survey. The following suggestions were provided: Herald Times Reporter press/columns, PTAs/PTOs, Friday folders, articles on teachers' salaries and cuts (better as information tidbit), address complicated/too wordy language, and social media.

Bill Foster said the survey's focal points should be "what the district has done" and "real needs", keeping in mind the theme of the survey – the District's "dire straits".

Multiple Board members agree on the importance of stressing the fact that, "If the MPSD was at the state average, we would have \$4 million more per year to run the district." Also important was, "If all three questions were supported, the tax rate would still be less than the state average."

Ways to condense or consolidate written information was discussed and suggestions offered. Many Board members felt the list of programs/goals was too extensive and would inhibit the return rate. Bill Foster offered suggestions for eliminating items.

The amended survey will be brought to the April 8 School Board meeting for approval. It was requested that administrators present would receive the preliminary survey draft that will be emailed to the School Board prior to the Board meeting.

On motion made by Dave Nickels, seconded by Karen Rohrer, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca McLafferty, Secretary

Linda Gratz
Board President