

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Independent School District No. 820  
Sebeka, MN 56477  
Regular meeting Monday, November 14, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Nate Erickson, Kayla Frame, Charles Funk, Cheri Kangas, and JoAnn Olson. Absent: Rod Huttunen and Eric Nelson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Kerkvliet; Principal Amie Westberg; DOS/AD Jon Lillquist (arriving at 6:45 p.m.); staff member Jerome Meyer (arriving at 6:41 p.m.) and Review Messenger Reporter Tim Bloomquist.

Olson moved, Kangas seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Council Representative Brianna George reported that a costume contest was held for grades 7-12; will be having three Hat Days in November and proceeds will go to Vicki Lake; held Bingo during Advisory at the end of the quarter; recognizing student birthdays each month and will be meeting to make plans for activities in December.

Holly Paulson's Business Manager report included the following: third quarter payroll reports have been completed and submitted; actuarial census information has been sent to Hildi Inc. for completion of the required GASB 75 Valuation; District Revenue and Expenditures report have been completed and will need to be published in the paper; Winter contracts for sports and activities and wage statements for staff have been completed; and is working on budget revisions for the December board meeting.

DOS/AD Mr. Lillquist reported that he attended a PRC AD meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>; Girls Cross Country team placed 10<sup>th</sup> at the state meet; Football lost in the first round of sections to Verndale; and Volleyball lost in the semi-finals of the sub-section to Nevis; reviewed information regarding Hudl Focus for streaming games; reviewed information regarding a stipend for the Fishing Team Coach; Girls Basketball will begin practice on November 13<sup>th</sup>; Wrestling and Boys Basketball will begin practice on November 20<sup>th</sup>; recommended the hiring of Casey Strayer as 2/8 time for Junior High Boys Basketball and Luke Warmbold as Junior High Girls Basketball.

Principal Westberg reported that teachers had a two-hour training session by Holly Mathiew on ACES during teacher inservice; all non-tenured staff have had their first observation; attended the MESPA and MASSP law seminars and received more clarification on several new policies and statutes passed by legislation this year and noted that non-exclusionary interventions are going well; LCSC and Sourcewell have been sending out a lot of information and offering information sessions regarding the READ Act; and Elementary had 94% attendance at conferences held November 9<sup>th</sup> with high school having 34-38% attendance.

Superintendent Kerkvliet reported that he attended a Wadena County Family Services meeting and received information regarding statistics on tobacco, vaping and marijuana use by teens in our county compared to statewide; reviewed updates from MREA, MSBA, MASA and MDE; Custodial/Facilities Updates - softball field posts were installed and noted that the HVAC system requires a yearly software update at a cost of \$3425; reviewed MSBA policy updates of Graduation Requirements and Public Data Requests; noted that the Food Service department is running smoothly while being shorthanded; the Transportation department had their annual inspection and noted that all went well; received a letter from the Lower Sioux Indian Community that states they do not oppose our appeal to keep the Warrior mascot; attended the Title I Parent's meeting and noted that Mrs. Rasmussen and Mrs. Marissa Tumberg did a good job running the meeting and thanked Mrs. Westberg for her successful efforts to obtain the federal grant; sent a report to Senator Mary Kunesh as per her request on what we did at Sebeka School School to honor Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day; completed the required MDE Progress Report on the World's Best Workforce; noted that Mrs. Westberg completed a reimbursement program in the amount of \$4,604.50 for supplies to support the Metier program; the "Annual Continuing Disclosure Reporting" that is required for district issued bonds has been completed; and reviewed minutes from the Health and Safety meeting held on November 7<sup>th</sup> noting that there were no major issues or concerns.

Under Discussion Items, Superintendent Kerkvliet noted that the MREA Fall Conference was held Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Funk and Mr. Kerkvliet both reviewed sessions they attended on November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Kerkvliet also reviewed additional information from Ehlers regarding the Wadena County Tax Abatement Program noting that generally there is no direct benefit to the district for participating in an economic development tax abatement program and that it would spread a tax increase for all property owners in the district for the years that it is in effect and the district would not receive any additional revenue during that period of time and would not receive any less revenue for tax abatement as well. He also noted that Wadena County would not administer tax abatement payments and that it would fall on the school district.

Frame moved, Erickson seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes; Treasurer and Investment report for November; monthly bills at \$744,199.40; assignment of Whitney Jones as paraprofessional; and November enrollment at 477 students K-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Kangas seconded to approve the second reading of the FY2023 Audit report noting that it was clean audit with minimal findings of segregation of duties, preparation of financial statements and material journal entries and noted that these were findings are not uncommon for a district of our size but did have one finding that not all expenditures charged to the federal program of COVID19 Education Stabilization Fund Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act had evidence of approval and recommended that the district should establish a procedure for review of journal entries. Motion carried unanimously.

Frame moved, Olson seconded to approve the second reading of the EMS-ESP Seniority List for 2023-2024 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

It is noted that the Board took no action on the consideration on the Wadena County Economic Alliance Tax Abatement Program.

Frame moved, Olson seconded to approve the adoption of MSBA Policy 613 Graduation Requirements noting that we feel comfortable with our compliance and plans for future offerings and Policy 722 Public Data Requests (updated form and contact requests). Motion carried unanimously.

Frame moved, Kangas seconded to approve a stipend of \$650 for the Fishing Team Coach with funds from the Community Education Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Kangas moved, Erickson seconded to approve the upgrade for Hudl Focus sports streaming system at an additional cost of \$3,900 which will be funded through donations, sponsorships and/or advertising. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Frame seconded to approve the resolution accepting the following donations: \$100 from Wadena VFW for the Angel Fund and \$1,000 from Faye Mavis for the General Scholarship Fund. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Frame, Funk, Kangas, Olson; against: none; absent Huttunen and Nelson; therefore the resolution was duly adopted.

Erickson moved, Kangas seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson  
Clerk of Sebeka School District