

Minutes of Manawa Board of Education Meeting December 21, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Manawa School District Board Room by President Kreklow. Present from the Board: Kreklow, Artz, Zielke, Flynn, Strebe, Sturm and Karski.

President Kreklow noted that Items 6-C-1 and 6-D-1 will be moved up in the Board Agenda to accommodate guest presenters.

Move by Karski/Strebe to approve the Consent Agenda items, which includes: Minutes of 11/21/11 Policy & Personnel Committee meeting, Minutes of 11/21/11 Regular Board Meeting, Minutes of 11/30/11 Negotiations Committee, Minutes of 11/30/11 Transition Committee Meeting; Payments of \$367,665.26 and Receipts of \$238,198.07; Resignations: James Davies, Bus Driver; Sue Wingert, MES Aide; Holly Bauer, Nurse; Bus Driver Appointment of Vernon Shover, Sr. Motion carried.

Board heard a presentation from Dan Tinscher, a special consultant hired to assess the School District of Manawa's curriculum. After meeting with the administration, more than 22 members of the teaching staff, reviewing textbooks and resource materials, class schedules and other observations, his findings included: 1) Standardization of curriculum format, 2) Review of curriculum offers, with attention to music and arts, science and social studies and other technical skills, as 46% of graduates are opting for Technical Colleges, 3) Continuation of STAR testing to assess student achievement and to stay on top of the DPI's state testing, 4) provided a sample textbook rotation model to ensure that new textbooks are provided on a regular basis.

Travis Liptow from CESA #6 presented his findings from his recent Technology Review of the Manawa School District. 1) Network infrastructure currently is at 10/100MB speed. He recommends a minimum of a Gigabyte. This will be necessary if district moves to a VoIP anytime in the future. He mentioned that as more machines are added, current configuration will not be able to handle. He commended the District with regard to leasing the router and firewall, emphasizing the easier maintenance. Another recommendation would be to move to a Google Apps (or similar) environment. The District's Wireless Environment is not adequate for the addition of more machines. Current access points are limited. Policy Committee should review Student Agreement with regard to device usage and internet access within and outside of the building. He recommends looking/planning for the VoIP portion yet this school year (2nd Semester).

Public Requests to Address the Board:

Shell Kaczorowski expressed her support for a new football field in Manawa. She has secured commitments of \$54K thus far.

Leslie Wilz spoke on behalf of her brother Luke, who recently played in the Metro Dome at a youth all-star game, asking the Board to approve the new field.

Troy Wiesener shared his support for a new football field and would like approval to set up an account so they can ask businesses to donate funds.

Mary Griffin spoke with regard to importance to technology vs the football field. She referenced the poor quality of our current football field (Lindsay Field) and feedback she has received from other communities.

Correspondence: Holiday cards were shared with the Board, a letter of support for the Athletic Complex was received from Floyd Gerl noting he would support with minimal tax support, Ken Groholski supplied a letter of support for giving approval to move forward with the football complex, DPI acknowledgement of compliance with all non-compliance issues noted during the 2010-2011 Procedural Compliance Self-Assessment.

Auditor's Report was supplied to the Board for review.

Move by Sturm/Artz to approve the revised Waupaca County Charter School Agreement for 2012-2013. Motion carried.

Move by Flynn/Karski to approve an adjustment to the 2012-2013 in which a \$280,000 surplus is reported. Motion carried. This will not affect tax levy, but must be spent in the current budget year.

District Administrator Dombrowski recommends that the current administration alignment as assignments be continued for 2012-2013.

Move by Sturm/Zielke to approve District Pupil Non-Discrimination Report. Motion carried.

Information was shared with regard to the process and model for teacher evaluations as well as administrative evaluations. Emphasis is placed on a collaborative model rather than adversarial. This was informational only and not scheduled for action.

Building and Grounds Committee report from December 14, 2011 shared by Committee Chairperson Carl Artz. Committee recommends supporting redevelopment of the practice field behind the LWHS with community support for funding the project. Discussion followed.

Move by Sturm/Strebe to table Facilities i1 until later in the meeting. Motion carried.

Move by Sturm/Flynn to sell the 34 acres of district-owned property on Butternut Road. Motion carried 4-2. Voting nay: Strebe and Karski. Abstained: Zielke.

Activity Committee Fundraising Report indicates \$54,850 in commitments toward a football field project over the next five years.

Move by Strebe/Sturm to Adopt the Vacant Building Proposal, amending it to include Phase I) Turn off heat and electricity and drain water from pipes and boiler and Phase II) Ready contents of building for auction and move forward with auctioning contents. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds Committee recommends that the District move forward with the free Focus on Energy Audit offered by Trane.

Move by Sturm/Karski to un-table Facilities i1 from earlier in the meeting. Motion carried.

Move by Sturm/Kreklow to 1) Charter the formation of the Manawa Activity fundraising committee to be chaired by Shell Kaczorowski, the purpose of which is to solicit donations for the construction of the Manawa Activity Complex. Approve Board support to the activity complex plan. 2) The Board of Education pledges an Amount Equal to the Proceeds from the of the district-owned land on Butternut Road as well as proceeds from the auction of the contents of the Old Elementary School building to the construction of the Manawa Activity Complex 3) When fundraising committee has raised an amount equal to 66% of the total cost to develop the project, the complex will be constructed. Motion failed 3-4 by Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Kreklow, Sturm, Flynn. Voting No: Strebe, Karski, Artz, Zielke.

Move by Sturm/Artz: 1) Charter the formation of the Manawa Activity fundraising committee to be chaired by Shell Kaczorowski, the purpose of which is to solicit donations for the construction of the Manawa Activity Complex. Approve Board support to the activity complex plan. 2) When fundraising committee has raised an amount equal to 66% of the total cost to develop the project, the complex will be constructed. Motion carried 4-3 by Roll Call Vote. Voting Yes: Artz, Kreklow, Sturm, Flynn. Voting No: Strebe, Karski, Zielke.

Move by Sturm/Karski by approve the 2nd reading of Regular Meetings Policy 171. Motion carried.

Move by Zielke/Flynn to approve the 2nd reading Agenda Format Policy 171.2-Exhibit . Motion carried.

Move by Karski/Zielke to approve the 2nd reading of Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy 185. Motion carried.

Move by Strebe/Artz to approve 2nd reading of Grievance Policy 527. Motion carried.

Move by Flynn/Sturm to approve 2nd reading of Permission to Obtain & Release Information Policy 347-Exhibit. Motion carried.

The Board received the proposed update to the Wellness Policy 458 for possible approval at the January Board meeting.

Move by Sturm/Strebe to approve the Employee Handbook Update. Motion carried.

Transition Committee Reports: Mr. Patri noted concerns with regard to language in the Employee Policy Manual as to method and notification of changes to the Policy Manual. Another item related to PTO, sick time, bereavement for staff. The last item the committee would like to reopen for discussion is the availability of early retirement benefits. Mr. Quinn spoke on behalf of the Support Staff and presented concerns with regard to the ability to open the handbook for discussion if necessary, the ability to have a colleague present when discussing sensitive situations with supervisors or Board members and to have the requirement to give only 2 weeks (14 days) of notice before leaving a position without monetary penalty.

Administrators Reports:

Elementary School, Mrs. Yeska: 2nd round of STAR testing has been completed. Holiday festivities are underway and Mr. and Mrs. Clause have made their appearance. Two half-time Aids will be hired to replace a full time aide who has recently retired. Mrs. Mursau is reviewing leveled readers looking to find more emphasis on science and social studies. Bullying continues to be a regular discussion topic with the children.

Mr. Dombrowski: And BOE will be attending State Convention in January. He also reviewed some of the findings from Mr. Tinscher's curriculum review. Finance team is currently discussing raises and salaries and working on proposals to bring to the Finance Committee. Some ideas shared were stipends and merit pay.

Mr. Braun reported that he is working on scheduling issues at LWHS and is considering moving to block scheduling. By vote of 17-7, the staff is in support of continuing to look into a block scheduling model for the next school year (2012-2013).

Board input:

Mrs. Flynn shared her views with regard to the vacant elementary building and presented some options that she had drafted for Board review. She acknowledged that this meeting's discussions took some first steps in that direction.

Mr. Sturm shared some points from a recent report that was published by Harvard Educational Study with regard to Charter Schools and how they operate. He felt this article and the points shared tied in well with the findings of our curriculum assessment and the importance communicating expectations and measuring results.

Next meeting Dates:

January 4, 2012, Curriculum/Technology Committee Meeting – 6:00 p.m.– ES Board Room
January 11, 2012 Finance Committee Meeting – 5:00 p.m.– Board Room
January 11, 2012, Transition Committee Meeting – 6:00 p.m.– Board Room
January 16, 2012, Regular Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m.– Board Room

Move by Karski/Zielke at 10:21 p.m. to adjourn and reconvene in Closed Session Pursuant to the Provisions of Sections of 19.85(1)(c) and (f) Wis. Stats., for the purposes of: Discussing the Employment Status of Employees Over Which the Board has Jurisdiction or Exercises the Responsibility (Administrator Evaluations). Motion carried by roll call vote.

Move by Karski/Flynn to reconvene in open session at 11:25 p.m. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Move by Sturm/Strebe to adjourn at 11:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Corinne Zielke, Board Clerk