

Minutes of the February 17, 2014 Board of Education Meeting

Meeting was called to Order by President Kreklow at 6:30 pm in the MES Board Room.

Present from the Board: Kreklow, Artz, Sturm, Pohl, Strebe, Hollman and Flynn

Clerk Flynn verified publication of the meeting.

Board Picture for Yearbook

Presentations: Mrs. Sanderfoot's Class: Writing Project – The presentation was canceled due to the weather.

Move by Sturm/Pohl to approve Consent Agenda Items as follows:

- Approve Minutes from January 20, 2014 Board Meeting with additions
- Treasurer's Report: Approve Expenditures of \$281,643.60 & Receipts of \$1,246,766.77

Strebe noted in the January 20, 2014 Board Meeting minutes, under Correspondence: Letter from Sarah Bortle that Pohl's inquiry regarding "whether or not all parties were satisfied" to be added. **Motion carried** with addition to the January 20, 2014 minutes.

Public Comments: Jackie Beyer, E7051 Little Creek Road, Town Clerk for Little Wolf. She thanked Mr. Kreklow and Mr. Dombrowski for their attendance to the Town of Little Wolf February meeting. She spoke of the importance for all Board members to be part of decisions that are made.

John Smith, 960 Depot Street, Mayor of Manawa addressed the Board to share various matters of concern. President Kreklow directed Mr. Smith's concerns to the Policy and Personnel Committee inviting Mr. Smith to attend, where the concerns brought forward can be further discussed.

Holly Gray, 351 Walnut Street, addressed the Board to share information concerning her son. President Kreklow thanked Mrs. Gray and noted the administration will continue to follow up with her.

Michael Gray, 351 Walnut Street, addressed the Board to share information concerning his son. President Kreklow thanked Mr. Gray and the administration will continue follow-up as stated with Mrs. Gray's statements.

Correspondence: Thank you card from Family of Leon Fietzer

Administrative Reports: HS Dean of Students, Jim Quinn: STAR Testing Results – He is very pleased to report the winter Star Testing results from grades 7-10 have come in showing growth across the board in Reading and Math among all the grades. They are as follows: 7th grade fall Reading 6.7 increased to 7.3; 7th grade fall Math 6.8 increased to 7.9; 8th grade fall Reading 7.3 increased 7.7; 8th grade fall Math 7.8 increased to 9.0; 9th grade fall Reading 8.5 increased to 9.1; 9th grade fall Math 9.5 increased to 11.9; and 10th grade fall Reading 9.3 increased to 9.4; 10th grade fall Math 12.5 increased to the highest score available of 12.9+. Jr. High Yearbook Advisor will be Mrs. Marquardt. Mrs. Barber's 1st grade class along with the help of Mrs. Cordes and her Food Science students worked on candy conversation hearts which incorporated writing samples, counting and graphing. It proved to be a nice collaboration among the MES students and HS students. Mr. Quinn shared an email sent to our AD from the Stevens Point Pacelli basketball coach complimenting the way the high school basketball players carried themselves on and off the court. The coach stated they needed to be commended and that it is also a sign of a good coach. President Kreklow shared this was one of his Board comments and wanted to congratulate them for setting such a great example. Last, the Jr/Sr High Physical Ed. classes have been staging Olympics activities and recently went snowshoeing.

MES Principal, Tammy Sjoberg: STAR Testing Results – The winter Star Testing shows all MES grade levels increased since the fall testing. Her report noted whether the grade was At/Above the Benchmark, On Watch, Intervention, and Urgent Intervention. The results for At/Above the Benchmark are as follows: 1st grade Math fall 58%, winter 87%; 1st grade Star Reading testing is not done until 2nd grade; 2nd grade Math fall 32%, winter 73%; 2nd grade Reading fall 19%, winter 44%; 3rd grade Math fall 64%, winter 74%; 3rd grade Reading fall 62%, winter 74%; 4th grade Math fall 78%, winter 83%; 4th grade Reading fall 60%, winter 63%; 5th grade Math fall 85%, winter 93%; 5th grade Reading fall 75%, winter 80%; and 6th grade Math fall 62%, winter 83%; 6th grade Reading fall 72%, winter 79%. The 2nd grade teachers have really embraced the new literacy program that will be implemented next year. She can see evidence in the classrooms of the new literacy program even being infused into the math. When

she sees changes of 40%, which is better than any other grade level. Now that she sees what they are doing, she is very excited for next year when the teachers implement the program and see bigger change. The goal is to see 80% or above in the At/Above Benchmark areas which are not all there yet, but the data shows all grades for both Math and Reading increased. That means 20 % of the kids may need intervention. There will be one more spring Star Test.

MES held an Olympics Opening Ceremony where all the students were involved as well as teachers incorporated projects. She is proud of staff working together and students really got involved and excited. Mrs. Suehs is planning a closing ceremony. President Kreklow attended the ceremony, as well as other Board members, noting it was an outstanding program. In closing, Mrs. Sjoberg commended Mrs. Mursau, Title 1 Specialist, for arranging author, Pam Flowers to visit and gave presentations to the MES students as well as the public on her adventures traveling with her dog sled team. Mrs. Flynn commented the evening presentation was very interesting and engaged people of all ages.

District Admin, Dombrowski: Thanked Mrs. Sjoberg, Mr. Quinn, Ms. Roenz and staff for an excellent job pertaining to all the items mentioned in the administrator reports and these are the things that they have to celebrate and continue promoting the positive things. 2013 Summer School Report - Mr. Keller, Summer School Coordinator reported last summer's programming was financially very successful and is in stages of planning this summer. He is working on incorporating common core and literacy initiatives as well as offering enrichment. 2012-2013 Seclusion/Restraint Report – was included in the board packet. (Informational) Open Enrollment for 2014-2015 – to date, there are eight new applications out and one new application in. Workshop with Local Municipalities /Spring Board Retreat with staff – Mr. Dombrowski noted these are all good for opening lines of communication and asked for the Board's input for conducting these types of retreats or workshops. All Board members were in agreement that they were in favor of them. Medication Administration – A policy has been put in place for glucagon, seizure, anaphylactic shock, and EpiPen training. Contact was made with parent in attendance from the January board meeting as well as her spouse. Spouse confirmed it was addressed. ELL Testing – A parent had petitioned the Board to allow his child to be admitted to 4K despite the child's age and to waive Board policy on age requirements. The child is also considered an ELL. The Board directed in January that the child be evaluated to determine readiness. ELL Coordinator from CESA 6 administered the Title 3 test in the child's native language. Mrs. Sjoberg reported the test concludes the child's skill set does not support the child's readiness for the 4K program at this time. The parents were given other resources they can pursue now. This will be an action item later in this meeting. Sub Nurse Trisha Taber is the current Nurse on staff in the absence of Nurse, Jamie Trzebiatowski.

Board Comments: Flynn: Staff Turnover Report - Spoke on her personal compilation of staff movement among six school districts over a 4-year period through studying public records.

Pohl: Congratulated the MES staff for their swift, calm response in a recent lock down situation. The recent MES Olympics Opening ceremony was a fine example of what interdisciplinary work looks like among the students and staff. The Personnel and Policy Committee will continue to discuss a more formal exit interview process to ensure improvements as a district.

Kreklow: He has followed up with the Manawa resident that spoke of concerns at the January board meeting. Student Grades Recognition –At the Jr/Sr High, there were 18 high honors, 103 honors, and 57 honorable mentions, totaling 178 students in grades 7-12 this semester. Congratulations to those students. He praised the HS basketball team and coach regarding the email that was received praising the good conduct and outstanding sportsmanship they have shown on and off the court.

Sturm: Chain of Command – Board member Mr. Sturm shared several individual thoughts and the need to establish and follow a chain of command in the District. In doing so, this ensures everyone, including Board members, administrators, teachers and parents all respect and benefit from it.

Committee Reports:

Policy Committee: 300 Series Review: 345.41 thru 383 – Pohl reported 345.61 to 383 have been revised. 345.41 to 347 are on hold until next month. The policies were reviewed and up for first reading include policies about graduation, graduation ceremony, student assessment program, student records, service learning, instructional and library materials selection, inter library loans, school counseling program, co-curricular activities and fund-raising, inter scholastic athletics and tournaments and animals in school.

AD Position – The committee recommended adopting a new arrangement for the Athletic Director (AD) which was found in the board packet. Kreklow explained since posting this position in November, there had been one candidate that expressed interest. Since the new arrangement had been revised, a second posting took place in which another applicant came forward. Interviews were held today.

BOE Meeting Dates: City Council Request – Policy 171

Employee Job Descriptions - Informational – Support staff was presented revised job descriptions. They will continue to be discussed at the ad hoc committee level as changes occur and to modify job descriptions.

Class Fees – The committee reviewed whether it was wise to have parents pay fees for courses at the Jr/Sr High. It is tabled until next month for further study so staff and the Business Manager can discuss the matter further.

Negotiations Committee – Sturm, Artz, Strebe, and Dombrowski met to discuss where they are at in the process and stated they need more from the wage model. The MEA was contacted to give updates. Sturm states they are hoping to get some action done this month on the wage model.

Finance Committee: Budget Preparation for 2014-2015 – A meeting was held prior to the February Board meeting where they discussed some of the early budget preparations that are underway. An Administration Finance meeting was held last week to compile a wish list, the costs and prioritizing is being reviewed. The budget process is in the beginning stages. The operating budget and capital projects were reviewed. Sturm pointed out administration is waiting for product/vendor contact on a HVAC system for the Jr/Sr High in which there is great interest in a particular product.

Support Staff Wage Model Discussion – Support Staff Committee has presented a fairly advanced draft of the Wage Model. Unfortunately, due to a committee member's recent family emergency they could not meet recently. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2014.

Set HS Course Fees for 2014-2015: The discussion of eliminating course fees was discussed. One main concern being students may not take a course where a fee is involved. Jr/Sr Art Instructor, Nancy Zabler attended the meeting. When asked for a history, even though Mrs. Zabler has been in the district 25 years, the fees predate her time in the district. One concern shared by Mrs. Zabler was if the fees were removed that the funds would have to be offset in their class budget by the district which the committee understood. The Business Manager and the District Administrator will meet with staff who charges course fees to discuss this further as well as budgetary impacts. Since the 2014-2015 Course Study Guide has been distributed to students with fees in the class description, it is known that it will be studied and can easily change to zero class fees if so desired by the Board. Recommend action item to be tabled.

Unfinished Business:

Move by Strebe/Hollman to Approve Policies: 342.11 thru 345.4 Rule. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Artz to Un-table Approval 4K Early Entrance Request for 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Pohl/Strebe to Approve 4K Early Entrance Request for 2013-2014. 2 ayes, 5 nays. After the voice vote, Pohl noted she understood the vote as Not to Approve a 4K Early Entrance Request. Pohl withdrew her motion. Strebe wanted to keep his motion on the table.

Move by Strebe to Approve 4K Early Entrance Request for 2013-2014. No second. Motion Failed.

Move by Hollman/Sturm to Approve Calendar for 2014-2015 Option 2. Motion Carried.

Sturm said he understands the process developing a calendar is difficult. The first time the Board saw the calendar options and offered input was at the January Board Meeting. At that meeting, he thought Mr. Kreklow had a valid concern regarding the 2nd shift workers and their inability to attend afternoon/evening conferences. Another concern of Sturm's was student continuity with an in-service nine days after school starts. As a follow-up with Mr. Dombrowski, he now realizes you can't go and change one thing. He will support Option 2 calendar but suggests for

next year, the Board lists goals in advance so the committee can incorporate them in the beginning of the process and develop it. In the past before he was on the Board, where action items came up, they voted and you didn't know how the decisions were reached. Sometimes democracy can be a little bit messy and a little bit unruly but that is an open board meetings and that is what they witnessed at last month's meeting. He thanked the committee for the hard work that was done on the calendar.

New Business:

Move by Artz/Sturm to Approve Contract and Non-Renewal for Michael R. Kelleher, Long-Term Substitute Chemistry/Science Teacher for 2013-2014. Motion Carried. Mr. Dombrowski noted Mr. Kelleher will also be teaching the 5th grade higher level math students.

Move by Pohl/Hollman to Approve Hire of Tammi Mitchell, ES Food Service Aide. Motion Carried.

Move by Strebe/Sturm to Approve Hire of LT Sub Special Education Aide, Valerie Johnson. Motion Carried.

Move by Flynn/Artz to Approve Spring Coaches for 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Pohl/Strebe to Approve Moving March Board Meeting Time to March 17, 2014 at 7pm, as a One-Time Non-precedent Setting Trial to accommodate City Council members attending a School Board meeting. Motion Carried.

1st Reading Policies 345.61 and 355 thru 383

Move by Hollman/Sturm to Approve Activities Director Contract to Nick Hericks – Remainder 2013-14 and School Year 2014-15. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Strebe to Table High School Course Fees for 2014-2015. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting Dates:

Employee Relations Committee: February 24, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – MES Board Room

Regular Board Meeting: March 17, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. – Board Room

Finance Committee Meeting: March 3, 2014 6:00 p.m.

Policy and Personnel Committee: March 11, 2014 6 p.m.

Move by Artz/Pohl to adjourn the February 17, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting at 8:24 pm. Motion Carried.

Stephanie Flynn, Clerk