

Minutes of School District of Manawa Board of Education Meeting March 25, 2013

Meeting was called to Order by President Kreklow at 6:00 p.m. in the MES Board Room, 800 Beech St., Manawa. Present from the Board: Kreklow, Artz, Sturm, Zielke, Flynn and Strebe.

Clerk Zielke verified Publication of Meeting notice.

Filling Board Vacancy: President Kreklow provided all meeting attendees with the Board Policy for filling a Board Vacancy. One interested party was in attendance, Ms. Helene Pohl for the vacancy in St. Lawrence/Ogdensburg – Zone 4. Ms. Pohl stated she is a long-term (37 years) resident of the Ogdensburg area. She's been active in education her entire life, home schooling, teaching social studies, history, French and Spanish and serving as a school Librarian. She feels the biggest challenge facing Manawa School District is the challenges small districts face with decreased funding and declining enrollment. She cited open enrollment as a possible cause for this. She expressed her desire to be collaborative with teachers, parents and Board Members. Upon voting, it was a unanimous decision 6-0 to appoint Ms. Helene Pohl as Board Member for Zone 4. Oath of Office was administered by Clerk Zielke and Ms. Pohl joined the Board for the meeting.

Move by Zielke/Flynn to approve Consent Agenda Items as follows:

- a. Approve Minutes of the February 18 and 25, 2013 Board Meetings
 - b. Treasurer's Report: Total expenditures of \$536,370.56 and Cash Receipts of \$1,255,638.96 for February 2013.
 - c. Donations: Waupaca County 4H Program \$100, Manawa Elementary PTO \$519 for Think Pink Fundraiser to be donated to American Cancer Society.
 - d. Retirement from Mrs. JoAnn Hollman, Elementary Teacher, effective 5/31/13.
- Motion carried.

Mr. Sturm thanked Mrs. Hollman for her years with the district and shared a personal memory of Mrs. Hollman from the days he was a student at MES.

Public Comments:

Matthew Wepner, Cty Rd N, Manawa shared his feelings regarding the non-renewal of contract recently issued to Mrs. Tracy Eklund, expressing his desire to keep Mrs. Eklund on staff as band director.

Debbie Thorne, Spring Creek Rd., Manawa. She supported Mrs. Eklund and shared that Mrs. Eklund has taught both of her children to play instruments. She shared her view about the band program being affected by the economy as well as other reasons.

Lisa Lee, Park View Drive, New London. Mrs. Lee spoke on behalf of Mrs. Tracy Eklund, as her daughter learned to play the flute at Mrs. Eklund's direction. She also shared that 80% of her 6th grade students last year were participating in band.

Chris Roenz, Ridgeway Heights, Manawa. Mrs. Roenz read for public record a letter that she mailed to all current Board Members, citing the past experiences she and Mrs. Eklund have shared. She also shared history of the band program reorganizations through the years. She urged the Board to reissue a contract to Mrs. Eklund.

Adam Langman, Fuhs Road, Manawa. A current band student shared his support for Mrs. Eklund and expressed how much he enjoys her class and how she is one of his best friends. He's been in her class from the 5th grade.

Roseanne Sanderfoot, Obertin Rd, New London. To support Mrs. Eklund, she shared her experiences with Mrs. Eklund's three sons and also spoke about the district's procedure for Performance Improvement Plans. She stated that she heard that the teachers she was referencing had not been afforded the opportunity to see

said improvement plans. She stated she felt that the current PIP process was done as a paper trail to get rid of someone.

Bill Ropke, Bridge Street, Manawa spoke in support of Tracy Eklund, referencing her 23 year tenure with the District in response to a letter he received referencing Mrs. Eklund's receipt of a non-renewal notice. He shared that he's not clear on the reason for the issuance of this notice and wants the community and Board to step up and let Mrs. Eklund know what they are wanting from her.

Dave Lindsay, North Water Drive, Manawa, a former Board Member for Manawa, talked about his past experiences in Manawa's band program, as well as his experiences at the University Band level. He expressed his support for Mrs. Eklund and the band program as a whole. Mr. Lindsay also shared that, on occasion, Mrs. Eklund has participated in the Neenah City Band program that he also plays with. He also questioned the procedure for issuing a non-renewal letter to a teacher.

Harold Clumpner, Washington St., Ogdensburg has played with Mrs. Eklund in the past and shared that he feels the school has a good program in place. He stated she is a hard worker and stated that band is something you can have fun with and do for the rest of your life. He would like to see Mrs. Eklund stay with the district if at all possible.

Correspondence: Thank you received from the family of Diane Polsin (sister of Deb Draeger) for a memorial provided by the district at her passing. Thank you also received from the family of Alice Sanderfoot (Mother-in-Law of Roseanne Sanderfoot) for a plant sent to her memorial on behalf of the district. nIc Foundation Inc., notice of Stopping Crime & Violence Awareness Event planned for 4 to 6:30pm on April 25, 2013 at the Family of Christ Church, 600 S. Main Street, Clintonville.

Administrative Reports

a. ES Principal: STAR Testing Update was shared with the Board, including Q3 testing results. Mrs. Yeska shared that we continue to make progress. There are concerns in 4th grade reading and 5th grade math. Both demonstrated growth, but not to the proficiency levels we would like to see. Mrs. Yeska also shared an update on her collaboration with Mike Breen regarding District's RtI initiative and the framework of teams that will be driving the process forward. At February's all-school meeting, the MES students celebrated Dr. Seuss. March's meeting will be focus on "spring-cleaning" of the school and cleaning the grounds.

b. HS Principal: Mr. Morrin shared that the STAR testing from Q2 at the Junior/Senior High showed significant growth from the scores from Q1, although a report with those details was not provided to the Board. The next round of testing at that building will be done at the end of April. WKCE test results are in and will be coming home with report cards. The WKCE results being mailed will include a notice for parents of how the cut scores are being evaluated. Prom will be held at the Manawa Masonic Center on April 20 with the Post-Prom at LWHS afterward. Mr. Morrin is attending a 2-day training session at CESA6 in Oshkosh for implementation of AIMSweb, a new student progress tracking system for RtI.

Board Comments: Mrs. Zielke thanked Mrs. Wilson, MES Art Teacher for a job well done at the Art Show recently held at MES.

Committee Reports:

a. Buildings & Grounds: On 3/12/13 the committee met to discuss the HVAC units at the Junior/Senior High School. Proposals for 15 HVAC units were reviewed from Knope Roofing & Furnace Co from Shawano (\$603,361.26 total bid) and August Winter & Sons, Inc. from Appleton (\$590,000 with A/C). Concerns over existing duct work still need to be addressed; therefore the committee is not recommending action on this item pending more information. Mr. Adesso is also working on a financing plan when a recommendation is brought forward.

Unfinished Business

Move by Strebe/Flynn to approve 2nd Reading Parent Involvement Policy 342.4. Motion carried 7-0.

Move by. Flynn/Sturm approve 2nd Reading Open Enrollment Policies 423 and 423-Rule.

Move by Sturm/Artz to amend the motion to table the motion. Motion carried 7-0.
Move by Sturm/Strebe to approve 2nd Reading Administrative Benefits Policy 222. Motion carried 4-3. Voting nay: Artz, Zielke, Pohl.

New Business:

Move by Flynn/Artz to Approve Agreement 2013-2014 with N.E.W. Rehab for Occupational Therapy (OT) Services. Motion carried 7-0.

Move by Strebe/Flynn to Approve Booster Club Fundraiser Schedule. Motion carried 7-0.

Next Meeting Dates:

March 27, 2013 – Transition Team Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Board Room @ MES

April 3, 2013 –Canvass Election Returns – 3:45 pm – District Office @ MES

April 22, 2013 –Board Reorganization & Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Board Room @ MES

Move by Zielke/Sturm at 7:25 pm to Adjourn and Reconvene in Closed Session Pursuant to the Provisions of Sections 19.85(1)(c)(f) and 118.22, Wis. Stats., for the Purposes of: Discussing the Employment Status of Employees Over Which the Board Has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility 1) Private Conference with Teacher 2) Final Notice of Teacher Non-Renewal 3) Teacher Resignation 4) Administrator Agreement. Motion carried 7-0.

Move by Strebe/Artz at 10:52 pm to move out of closed session to open session. Motion carried 7-0.

Move by Sturm/Flynn to reconvene in open session at 10:52 pm. Motion carried by roll call vote 7-0.

No action taken on agenda item to Approve Final Notice of Teacher Non-Renewal

No action taken on agenda item to Accept Resignation of Employee

No action taken on agenda item to Approve Administrator Agreement

Move by Flynn/Pohl to Adjourn at 10:53pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Corinne Zielke, Board Clerk