

Minutes of a November 15, 2021 School District of Manawa Regular Board of Education Meeting

Call to Order – President Johnson – 7:02 p.m. – MES Boardroom, 800 Beech Street

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call - Griffin, Jepson, J. Johnson, and Hollman were present. R. Johnson, Pethke, Reiersen absent.

Verify Publication of Meeting - Dr. Oppor verified.

Motion by Griffin/Jepson to move the board recognition to first on the agenda. Motion carried.

R. Johnson, Pethke, Reiersen absent.

Board Recognition: Manawa FFA Chapter 3-Star Gold Award; Sandy Cordes/Leadership Classes - Wolf Walk planning, preparations, and implementation. Andrea Whitman, Corrie Ziemer and the MES Student Council for sponsoring and organizing the Red Ribbon Week dress up days, signage, announcements, skit, and promoting positive messages to remind youth to stay drug free. Jen Krueger for organizing and hosting the staff book club and creating “Tech Tuesdays” professional development for staff. Jill Seka for leading the planning and implementation of Child Development Days; Ann Romberg and Janet Abbey for meeting with children and their parents. The Manawa Lion's Club, Lion Dr. Melanie Oppor, and Krystal Draeger for performing vision screening at Child Development Days. All-Conference Award Recipients - Football, Grant Bristol - Honorable Mention All-Conference Linebacker , Alex Meidl - Honorable Mention All-Conference Offensive Line, Isaac Westphal - Honorable Mention All-Conference Defensive Line, and Tanner Nienhaus - Honorable Mention All-Conference Defensive Back, Volleyball - Mikenna Wegener - 1st Team All-Conference Middle Hitter, Jaden Jaeger - 2nd Team All-Conference Libero, Cassie Arndt - 2nd Team All-Conference Middle Hitter, Margaret Westphal - Honorable Mention All-Conference Outside Hitter, and Ella Buchholz - Honorable Mention All-Conference Setter, and Cross Country- Jolie Jaeger - 2nd Team All-Conference, and Makenzie Jo Krueger - Honorable Mention All-Conference

Presentations: Key Performance Indicator Student Engagement & Satisfaction IV. B -Attendance Overview - Principals; and SDM Technology Standards & Skills - Mrs. Krueger, Library Media Specialist

Announcements: Contributions to the District - First State Bank \$540 donation from their \$20 Local School Donation Challenge - Classroom needs and special projects, and Joseph and Amy Starr \$200 donation to the LWHS/MMS Drama Club

Other Contributions: None

Approval by Consent: Approve Minutes of October 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, October 25, 2021 Annual District Meeting, and October 25, 2021 Special Board Meeting, Treasurer’s Report: Approve Expenditures \$363,737.30 & Receipts \$79,189.65; Donations: First State Bank \$540 donation from their \$20 Local School Donation Challenge - Classroom needs and special

projects, and Joseph and Amy Starr \$200 donation to the LWHS/MMS Drama Club, and Approve FY22 Fab Lab Grant Application Process

Any Item Removed from Consent Agenda - No item was removed.

Public Comments: Carrie Gruman-Trinkner, City of Manawa, spoke in support of the new Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) Club at LWHS that is being acted on at this meeting. She had been approached by a student last year about starting a GSA club.

Grace Tohm, Town of Little Wolf, proposed the new GSA Club is to work together for a safe and accepting club as it promotes inclusivity.

Nina Much, Town of Little Wolf, asked the board not to vote on the GSA Club this evening, and to further research this request. The board should be a true representation of this community. Boundaries have been crossed in her opinion.

Sarah Bortle, Town of Little Wolf, is in support of all students at SDM and supports the GSA Club.

Nicole Rineck, Village of Ogdensburg, spoke against the GSA Club. She states they already have the FOR Club.

Stacey Trinrud, Township of Little Wolf, noted the school board needs to look into the school's policies. Their choices need to be beneficial for all students.

Ed O'Brien, Appleton - He is an alumnus of LWHS, raised his children in the district, and has grandchildren currently in the district. Parents were not notified that this club was being proposed. He asked the board to slow the process down. Send a letter to all the parents, and to give the proposed GSA Club more time.

Jack O'Brien, City of Manawa, is supportive of the GSA Club. He shared that schools with GSA Clubs have shown that suicide rates have gone down.

Kara Tohm, Township of Little Wolf, wanted to congratulate her daughter for coming forward in order to create the GSA Club. The club will be voluntary.

Theodore Emmert, Town of Union, asked to table the request for the renaming of the Wolfpack Brigade. He also asked the board to endorse the GSA Club. He sees homophobic behavior everyday at school.

Correspondence: Thank You from the Family of Mark Suehs

District Administrator's Report: Student Council Representative - Olivia Santos The Student Council is currently working on a food drive. There is a competition aspect as far as the winning grade will receive a prize. The Student Council is working on details for the Annual Secret Santa Project as well as planning Hollapalooza which will have Christmas card making, cookie decorating, holiday movies, games, etc. State Report Card Release - The report card release has been embargoed and will be presented at the December meeting. They are quite pleased with the results. District Safety Committee Update - Their second meeting will be an all-day site tour. Waupaca County Emergency Management will assist in evaluating all three buildings: MES, LWHS/MMS, and Paving the Way downtown. The committee will follow up with rewriting the entire safety plan. Legislative Update, Monthly Enrollment Update, Curriculum Update - The teacher's Cesa 6 Spring into Success will be online on President's Day. Spring 2022 Election Update, COVID-19 Update, 2021-2022 Annual Board Development Tool Survey, and State of the District Address.

School Operations Reports: ES Principal/Special Education Director, and MS / HS Principal: Highlights - Included in Board Packet

Business Related Reports: Highlights, and Kobussen Transportation Report - Included in Board Packet

Director's Reports: District Reading Specialist, and Technology Director: Highlights - Included in Board Packet

Board Comments: Hollman feels the sub pay is still too low. Subs need at least \$125 per day minimum. Mrs. O'Brien said she will do a comparative analysis for the January Finance Committee meeting, and will present what other districts are doing differently such as a stipend for so many days subs have worked.

Griffin stated the Athletic Booster Club has raised \$42,636 to date for the rubberized track. The goal is \$130,000. There are several groups that have committed but have not stated their contribution amount as of yet.

Committee Reports: Minutes of a Curriculum Committee, Policy & Human Resources Committee, and Ad Hoc Safety Committee - Included in the Board Packet

Unfinished Business: No Unfinished Business

New Business: Michelle Johnson cited the following: *The Equal Access Act of 1984*  
*'The Equal Access Act ("Act") provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any public secondary school which receives federal financial assistance and which has a limited open for them to deny*

*equal access or fair opportunity to, or discriminate against, any students who wish to conduct a meeting within that limited open forum on the basis of the religion political philosophical or other content of the speech at such meetings.”*

*U.S. courts have interpreted this to mean that if a school allows even one extracurricular student group to use school facilities, it must give equal access to all student groups, regardless of the focus or viewpoint of the group.*

*The Act ensures the rights of students to form a wide range of groups, including Gay-Straight Alliances, Bible study programs or other religiously focused clubs, political groups, and specific interest groups.’*

*20 U.S.C- 4071(c)*

*U.S. Dept. of Education*

*The Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. 4071-4073 (2010)*

*ACLU-American Civil Liberties of Washington*

*E.g. Bd. Of Edu. V Mergens, 496 U.S.226,236 (1990)*

Motion by Griffin / Jepson to Approve of RESOLUTION SY21/22 #10 AUTHORIZING A TAXABLE TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION PROMISSORY NOTE FOR CASH FLOW PURPOSES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$750,000. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Jepson / J. Johnson to Approve of New LWHS Gay/Straight Alliance Club as Presented. Griffin does not have enough information to take this to a vote yet. He recommends tabling the vote to gather information and to have a full board to vote. Jepson is concerned about the law. Hollman agrees with Griffin to table and have a full board in order to vote. Motion by Griffin and Hollman to Table the New LWHS Gay/Straight Alliance Club. Jepson, and J. Johnson nay. Motion failed. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent. Motion by Jepson / J. Johnson to Approve of New LWHS Gay/Straight Alliance Club as Presented. Griffin nay. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Hollman / Jepson to Approve of School District of Manawa 2022-23 Internal Schedule Change Proposal as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Hollman / Griffin to Approve to Add a New Articulated Wildlife/Ecology Agriculture Science Course with Fox Valley Technical College as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Jepson / Hollman to Approve of Fountas and Pinnell Interactive Read Aloud (IRA) Collection for 4K at a Cost of \$1,088 as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Griffin / Jepson to Approve of Reading Mini-lessons for Grades K-5 at a Cost of \$1,633.50 as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Jepson / Hollman to Approve of Cancelation of the Washington D.C. Spring Trip for Grades 7-9 as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Jepson / Griffin to Approve of High School Music Department Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip Request - National Festival of the States in South Dakota - March 5, 2022 to March 10, 2022 as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Hollman / Jepson to Table the Wolfpack Brigade - Marching and Pep Band Renaming Request. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Hollman / Jepson to Approve of LWHS and Manawa Middle School Moving from a 7-Period Day to an 8-Period Day as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Griffin / Hollman to Approve of Update to Robotics and Engineering Career and Technical Education Course Sequencing as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

First Reading of PO2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Education Opportunity as Presented.

First Reading of PO5517.01 - Bullying as Presented.

Motion by Hollman / Griffin to Approve of Providing SDM Security Cameras Direct Access to the Waupaca County Sheriff's Department Call Center as Unanimously Endorsed by the District Ad hoc Safety Committee. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Jepson / Griffin to Approve of AG5421A - Grading as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Griffin / Jepson to Approve of New Alternative Open Enrollment Applications for the 2021-2022 School Year as Presented. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Annual Appointment of WASB Delegate - J. Johnson appoints herself since she is going to the Wisconsin State Education Convention.

Next Meeting Dates:

Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting - TBD

November 22, 2021 Policy & Human Resources Committee Mtg 6:00 p.m., December 6, 2021

Township of St. Lawrence Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Town Hall Annex, December 7, 2021

Finance Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m., December 8, 2021 Curriculum Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m., December 13, 2021 Policy & Human Resources Committee Mtg - 6:00 p.m., December 20, 2021 City of Manawa Common Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Manawa City Hall, December 20, 2021 Regular Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m., January 3, 2022 Township of Union Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Union Town Hall, January 5, 2022 Ad Hoc Safety Committee - 5:30 p.m., January 17, 2022 Regular Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m., and January 19-21, 2022 Wisconsin State Education Convention - Milwaukee

Closed Session – the Board of Education Shall Move into Closed Session Pursuant to the Provisions of 19.85(1)(c) and (f), Wis. Statutes, for the Purposes of: Discussing the Employment Status of Employees Over Which the Board Has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility 1) Administrator Evaluation

Motion by Jepson / Hollman to move into closed session at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Board May Act on Items Discussed in Closed Session

Motion by Griffin / Hollman to resume open session at 10:36 p.m. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Motion by Hollman / Griffin to Adjourn at 10:40 p.m. Motion carried. R. Johnson, Pethke, and Reiersen absent.

Stephanie Flynn, Recorder

Joanne Johnson, Recorder