

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 22, 2020, 6 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, June 22, 2020 at the Waterville Building in the Board Room. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Pam Baker at 6:10 p.m.

Present were Board Members Jay Schneider and Travis Bowman. Board members Pam Baker, Jeff Stangler, Dan Houlihan, Gary Michael, and Jon Velishek participated in the meeting via teleconference. Also present were Superintendent Joel Whitehurst, Principals Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Bobbi Jo Bastian. Activities Director Jeff Boran and Business Manager Margaret Jewison participated in the meeting via teleconference,

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Houlihan to approve the agenda. Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Baker to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2020. Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Baker and seconded by Michael to approve the June Finance report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$1,474,231.93, deposits were \$2,427,134.41, and transfers were \$1,000,000. Comments included a payment of \$32,364 to CDW Government, Inc. from 150 Chromebooks, a payment of \$96,061 to ISD #829 Waseca for the second half of a special education contract, a payment of \$10,501.22 to Le Sueur County Auditor for property tax on street work, and five county and state tax payments in the amount of \$228,600.88, \$228,600.87, \$1,110,355.81, \$345,889.74, and \$20,021.36.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

PRESENTATION

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Houlihan to approve the STEM Club Trip to Orlando, Florida in mid-March.

Rachael Wetzel and Mike Richards presented the trip via teleconference. The trip includes stops at Epcot Center, Future World, World Florida Conservation, Wonderworks, Kennedy Space Center, Disney Springs, Disney's Magic Kingdom, and Animal Kingdom. See attachment.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion

declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Schneider to approve the 2020-21 Preliminary budget. Business Manager Margaret Jewison presented the preliminary budget and other information via teleconference. See attachments.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Houlihan to approve the 10-year facility maintenance plan. Business Manager Margaret Jewison presented the 10-year revenue projection 10-year expenditure projection, revenue statement of assurances, 10-year revenue projection full file, and the 10-year expenditure projection full file. See attachments.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no comments.

RECOGNITION

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Baker to approve the following monetary donations:

- * A donation of \$1,000 from NuChekPrep for a scholarship.
- * A donation of \$300 from Elysian Auto for a scholarship.
- * A donation of \$1,000 from Gerald Miller to the Clay Target Team.
- * A donation of \$500 from Waterville Sportsmens Club to the

Clay Target Team.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Congratulations to the Morristown School for being one of 67 schools in the state recognized for their Excellence in Positive School Climates and Students Supports.

REPORTS

WEM Principal Bobbi Jo Bastian (PreK-6th Grade) presented the following report:
Hires

* Sarah Gorski had a great interview. She is a U of W Eau Claire graduate with an emphasis in general music and percussion. She is a 2019 graduate and recently had a long-term position in the metro area. Sarah is energetic and has great ideas on how to get our youngest population engaged in music. We are confident in her ability to plan and deliver student performances and large programs.

* Hannah Kuhnley has accepted our offer to join our team as

our early learning coordinator and preschool teacher. She graduated from the University of St. Mary in North Dakota with a degree in elementary and early childhood education and a minor in special education. She comes to us with three years of elementary teaching experience. She has great ideas for our school program and is eager to get going.

* Austin Nagel has accepted an offer to increase his Physical Education teaching assignment to 1.0 FTE. Austin was hired last summer as a .5 Physical Education teacher. He taught elementary and high school Physical Education classes for the 2019-20 school year

Information

* Summer school planning has been in full swing. Summer school begins July 6 and runs Monday thru Thursdays. We will conclude on July 30. We are planning for approximately 40 students to attend. We will be utilizing a blended approach with students attending two days in person and two days distant learning. We are following MDE guidelines to provide a safe learning environment for our students.

* Construction continues in the elementary. New walls are up and painting is beginning. The addition is beginning to take shape. Lots of exciting changes each day.

* Eight district staff members representing all three campuses attended the Multi-tiered Systems of Support" Summer Institute June 15-17. The focus of the summer institute was to "Walk the Talk." This team was engaged in conversations around multi-tiered systems of support. Analyzing where we are and where we want to be. They will be instrumental in implementing a multi-tiered system of support with fidelity. The keys to a multi-tiered system of support is providing high quality instruction for all students across Pre-K-12 landscapes. It utilizes our RTI and PBIS systems. MTSS will enhance systems already in place.

WEM Principal Dr. Jennifer Wilson presented the following report:
Hires

* Blake Boran has accepted an offer to teacher PE/Health and AVID. He comes to WEM from having taught in the upper elementary level as well as being an activities director for the last year. Blake is not new to WEM as he was a graduate. Blake will join the WEM staff with high regards and compliments from those on the interview team. He has coaching experience as well and quite possibly could be coaching at WEM as well.

* Mary White has accepted an offer to increase her Family and Consumer Science teaching assignment to 1.0 FTE. Mary has taught Family and Consumer Science and a second of AVID for the past two ears as a .50 in Morristown. She will increase her time to include

the high school Family and Consumer Science position. Mary is an excellent instructor and has natural ability to connect and work with students and places emphasis on developing relationships.

Information

* As mentioned in the PreK-6 report, staff members attended the virtual MTSS conference. Those attending from 7-12 include Stacy Gustafson, Aaron Brown, Michelle Roethler, and Ruth Ann Olson. The information pairs nicely with PBIS in some respects. To continue increasing the fidelity of MTSS student achievement and behavior data will continue to be collected and reviewed.

* Graduation was completed and carried out with great success. A large thanks to our local leaders: Brad Potter, Adam Uittenbogaard, Lorri Kopischke, Don Kelley, Teresa Hill, Chief Meskan, Officer Petrasek, Chief Manning, Ryan Landrum, Deputy Greenig, Sheriff Dunn, and Sheriff Mason for working with the district to accomplish a well routed and safe parade. We received many thanks and notes of applause, which was shared out by Margo Kulseth as well as received in the mail. Thank you to KRUE Radio for the airtime, sponsors of the airtime, and many others that offered up support and planning time.

* ACT was cancelled for June. This was a decision made mid-May by Governor Walz and MDE. I am working with Danielle Wold for a fall date and the next administration for it. With COVID-19 planning is continuing to evolve at the state level.

* Looking ahead to workshop week in August, Bobbie and I have confirmed a speaker. We will have Kevin Brennan from Top 20 speak to district staff. The message will be "Above the Line." Components and focus of Mr. Brennan's seminar will be on social-emotional learning. At this time we are dedicated to assuring our student's health, safety, and welfare and in our current dynamics we know that the resources and training will be 'take and use' for staff.

* Last week MDE started receiving survey responses for distance learning from parents/students/staff/etc. One of the last questions referred to the comfort level of having students return to schools in the fall. Following up from our work-session conversation we will continue to plan for a non-traditional or alternative start to the 2020-21 school year, but we will also be mindful that survey results could surely sway the start to the year and how the school year in its entirety plays out with student to teacher contact. Planning for the potential of a blended or e-start to the school year will take in account the feedback we received from our post-distance learning survey. From the most recent MDE announcement we will likely know more over the course of the next month.

WEM Activities Director Jeff Boran's presented the following report:
SPRING ACTIVITIES - Cancelled

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- * Softball (Southern Star League) WEM has dropped from the league for 2020

- * Baseball (SCYB) League play has been cancelled

- * T-Ball - Looking at late July/early August

- * AARP "55--Alive" drive improvement (in-class) sessions have been cancelled for the rest of 202, however there are a couple on-line options through MnDOT and AARP

- * Summer Camps - All camps TBD

- * Swimming lessons in Le Center scheduled for Monday - Friday, July 13-July 24 have been cancelled.

- * Driver's Education - 39 students currently registered this summer for Behind the Wheel Training. I suspect we will have more based on the number of blue cards done this month. 46 (42-2019) students completed the classroom training in sessions in March-June. There is currently another classroom session scheduled in early November 2020. Summer 2020 BTW Protocol

- * 2020 Summer School Age Care - 31 kids registered and attending (45 in 2019, 46 in 2018, 30 in 2017) * Weight room and gym use, we are looking at July 6 as being an open update. Currently coaches have been allowed to work with students however to this point very little in person has taken place. Social distancing and group sizes will be adhered to. Return to Play Protocol

- * Other pertinent information links:

- WEM Community Ed waiver form for summer participation

- COVID-19 participation presentation

- Linked form at the end of previous presentation

- Daily check in form for summer 2020 activities by Coaches/Advisors

Board Committee Report:

No reports

WEM Superintendent Joel Whitehurst presented the following:

- * Whitehurst reported the building project is ahead of schedule and Thursday he will be meeting with the Education Commissioner.

ACTION

- * Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bowman to approve Minnesota Valley Education District Contracted Services Agreement for 2020-21 for teacher of physically impaired/other disability at a rate of \$43.60/hour. See attachment.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion Bowman and seconded by Michael to approve Minnesota Valley Education District Contracted Services Agreement from 2020-21 for teacher of deaf/hard of hearing, at a rate of \$8,825. See attachment.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Houlihan to approve Waseca area Learning Center Cooperative agreement. See attachment.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Velishek and seconded by Stangler to approve Minnesota School Boards Association Dues, Board Book Subscription, and Policy Services renewal at a cost of \$5,255.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Personnel

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Baker to approve the letter of resignation from Troy Stehr, Physical Education/Health Teacher, effective immediately.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Stangler to approve the hiring of Hanna Kuhnley, Early Learning Coordinator/Lead Teacher, BS/Step 8, \$27.41/hour.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call voted - motion declared passed.

Motion by Houlihan and seconded by Michael to approve the hiring of Sarah Gorski, Elementary Music Teacher, BS/Step 3, \$34,291.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Schneider to approve the hiring of Blake Boran, 1.0 AVID/Physical Education, BS/Step 8, \$40,988.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to approve the following non-tenured teaching contracts:

* Rebecca Lang, Speech Language Pathologist Assistant, BS/Step 6, \$38,075.

* Jon McDonough, High School Science, BS/Step 7, \$39,524.

* Mary White, 1.0 Junior High/High School FACS Instructor, BS/Step 7, \$39,524.

* Austin Nagel, 1.0 Physical Education Instructor, BS/Step 3, \$34,291.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Houlihan to approve Madeline Michael, Summer School Age Care Assistant, \$10/hour.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - Michael abstains - motion declared passed.

Motion by Baker and seconded by Michael to approve non-renewal of Anne Jahnke, a probationary media specialist.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Stangler to approve Summer School Teachers (Monday-Thursday, July 6-30, 2020):

* Patty Whitehurst, Grades 4,5,6 - \$33.43/hour

* Susan Michael, Grades 1,2 3 -\$33.43/hour

* Kaitlin Vetsch, Kindergarten - \$33.43/hour

* Carrie Richards, Special Education - \$33.43/hour

* Sheryl Reed, ECSE/Distance Learning Supervision - \$33.43/hour

* Angela Dahlberg, Speech - \$33.43/hour

* Bobbie Bastian, Administrator - \$52.67/hour.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Baker to approve summer school paraprofessionals (Mondays-Thursdays, July 6-30, 2020)

* Amy Petry - \$15.28/hour

* Angela Groehler - \$13.28/hour

* Lois Masberg - \$15.51/hour

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - Motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Houlihan to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion

declared passed.

ATTEST:

Pam Baker, Board Chair

Jay Schneider, Board Clerk