

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Monday, December 18, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 18, 2023 at the Waterville Building. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Michael at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Michael, Jon Bakken, Brenda Heuss, Troy Tolzman, June Rezac, and Jay Schneider attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent John Regan Principals Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Bobbi Jo Bastian, and Business Manager Margaret Jewison.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Heuss to approve the agenda. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Board Member June Rezac was honored with the Minnesota School Board Association's (MSBA) Director's Award for attending 100 or more hours of MSBA meetings during the past four years.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Michael to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 27, 2023. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approve the November Financial Report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$583,038.85 and deposits were \$770,463.16. Comments on the report included this being a short month for bills and a payment for workman's comp. Also pointed out were numerous county tax and state aid payments made to the school district.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

PRESENTATIONS

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the 2022-2023 Financial Audit. See attachment.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Margaret Jewison presented the Truth-in-Taxation information and the board reviewed the 2023-2024 budget. Public comment was allowed and there was none. See attachment.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Heuss to certify the Pay 2024 Levy - see attachment.

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

Bastian and Wilson gave a presentation on the World's Best Workforce - see attachment.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the consent agenda which included the following items:

Approve the 2023-2024 Seniority Lists - see attachments.

Approve the request for family medical leave of absence for Kelsey Schiefelbein beginning on or around February, 29, 2024 through May 30, 2024.

Approve the following termination:

Aimee Quiram, Food Service Cook Assistant, effective December 11, 2023.

Approve the following retirement:

Jacqueline Molitor, Elementary teacher, effective at the end of 2023-2024 school year.

Approve revised School Age Care Coordinator contract pay rate effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 - see attachment.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

RECOGNITION

Motion by Tolzman and seconded by Michael to approve the following monetary donation:

A donation of \$25 from American Legion Auxiliary #149 to Media Center.

A donation of \$75 by Partners in Education to the Elementary School.

A donation of \$250 from Partners in Education to the PBIS Program
Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

REPORTS

WEM Principal Bobbie Jo Bastian and WEM Principal Dr. Jennifer Wilson presented the following report:

All District

The district staff is celebrating the 12 Days of Christmas with holiday dress-up themes.

District calendar is scheduled for half a day on December 22. Students will participate in activities such as Frosty Bingo, Reindeer Games, etc. across the district.

Winter break will begin at 12:05 p.m. on Friday, December 22 and extend through Monday, January 1, 2024 for all. We look forward to seeing everyone back on January 2, 2024.

PreK-6

We had an excellent turnout for our 5th and 6th grade band and choir concerts. The band shared their talents on Dec. 4 and the choir wowed us on Dec. 11. Bravo to Mr. Larson and Mr. Thomforde.

The 3rd and 4th grade students will be sharing their musical talents on Dec. 18 with their Holiday Concert. Mrs. Kratzer and students have worked hard to put on a show that will be entertaining for all. Thank you Mrs. Kratzer.

K-6th grade students will play the traditional Frosty Bingo game on Friday, Dec. 22. This is a much loved and looked forward to event. Thank you to the many community members who have donated outstanding and much appreciated prizes.

Big thank you to the Morristown legion for once again hosting the Brunch fundraiser for the 5th Grader Eagle Bluff Trip. We are so thankful to those that purchased tickets to this fun event. Our third trip to Eagle Bluff is quickly approaching. This brunch fundraiser is a big source of funding and we are thankful for their partnership.

7-12

The junior class reviewed their ASVAB score results from testing in November. Students met with WEM's National Guard Recruiter Miranda Grewe for the review on November 14.

Eleven high school students attended the SALT Conference hosted by MSHSL. The conference was held at the ExCEL Energy Center on December 6 and attended along with Dr. Wilson and Mr. Stier. Topics covered in breakfast sessions included leadership, inclusion, anti-bullying, diversity, and positivity.

WEM hosted their annual MN Honor Society Induction Dec. 13. 10 students were inducted this year. The event is hosted at 7:45 a.m. in the high school auditorium. Congratulations to all our inductees, they joined nine previous members.

The music department hosted their winter/holiday concerts during December. The band concert was held Dec. 4 and the choir concert was held on Dec. 11. Congratulations to our band and choir students along with our music department staff Mr. Larson and Mr. Thomforde for nights of stellar performances.

WEM Board Member Reports

There were no reports.

WEM Board Committee Reports

There was brief discussion on negotiations - with a tentative settlement having been reached.

WEM Superintendent John Regan presented the following:

- Superintendent Regan said he enjoyed working with negotiations, was impressed with the concerts, and reported the Morristown Fire Department donated \$15,000 to the district for new round tables in the lunchroom in Morristown.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

The board had the first readings of the following policies (See attachments):

509 Enrollment of Nonresident Students

604 Instructional Curriculum

618 Assessment of Student Achievement

Credit for Learning

ACTION

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Tolzman to approve a three-year contract for Superintendent John Regan. See contract attachment.

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

Motion by Michael and seconded by Heuss to approved the following policies (See attachments):

534 School Meals Policy

602 Organization of School Calendar and School Day

617 School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards

621 Literacy and The Ready Act

624 Online Instruction

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Heuss to approve the Teamworks Proposal.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Gary Michael, Attest

Jay Schneider, Attest