

Minutes of Study Session

The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

A **Study Session** of the Board of Education of Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, September 12, 2019**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center - Community Room.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lucy Payne.

2. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Mike Chevalier (departed 8:00 p.m.); Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout and Superintendent Barbara Duffrin, ex-officio. Not Present: Kevin Donovan.

Also present: Laura Eliason, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Brian Keenan, IPS Solar; Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services; Kathe Nickleby, Mahtomedi High School Principal; Julie Osterbauer, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; Alice Seuffert, Communications Specialist; and Lynne Viker, Assistant Superintendent of Learning.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Schwartz moved, McGraw seconded, approval of the agenda. Carried 5-0.

4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Solar Power Project

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, introduced Brian Keenan with Innovative Power Solutions (IPS) Solar. Keenan presented on IPS Solar, which is a full service solar developer from financing to installation and operation, for individuals, business, government, nonprofits and schools. Keenan recommended a community solar garden subscription for Mahtomedi Public Schools, to be more environmentally conscious and save on energy costs. There are no up-front costs, no maintenance and guaranteed savings of \$26,000 to \$28,000 annually for 25 years, with bill credits from Excel Energy. Keenan explained IPS Solar provides a professionally developed elementary through high school solar energy curriculum and educator training workshops through its Sunrise Program. Julie Osterbauer, Director of Buildings and Grounds, spoke with other school districts in MN with

solar energy subscriptions, including Red Wing and Columbia Heights, both provided positive recommendations. The Community Solar Garden Subscription and Subscription for Solar Rewards Community Project with New Energy Equity, LLC will be brought for approval at the September 26 school board meeting.

B. Preliminary 2019 Payable 2020 Levy Certification

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, reviewed with school board members the preliminary 2019 pay 2020 levy comparison (with an increase of .78%) and the levy timeline and budget process. The preliminary 2019 pay 2020 levy certification will be brought for board approval at the September 26 school board meeting, the 2018-2019 fiscal audit at the November 14 school board meeting and the Truth in Taxation presentation will be at the December 12 school board meeting.

C. E-Learning

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin discussed E-Learning Days with school board members which included: working with teachers to develop an E-Learning Day plan; notifying families of the plan at the start of the school year; submitting the E-Learning Day Plan (5 days per year) to the MN Department of Education (MDE); how attendance will be taken; when and how teachers will be available and communicate with students; accommodations for students without sufficient access; varying grade level requirements/expectations and the benefits of E-Learning for students.

Mahtomedi High School Principal Kathe Nickleby discussed having an ACT Testing Day on March 24 for Grade 11 students only, with no school for all other students at the high school.

D. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Legislative Resolutions

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin discussed with school board members the district's proposed MSBA Legislative Resolution to fully fund minimum standards for school safety, especially the construction of secure entrances for all MN school districts. Stout moved, Schwartz seconded, approval of the School Safety Funding Resolution. Carried 4-0. The resolution will be submitted to MSBA to be considered at the December MSBA Delegate Assembly.

E. Calendar for Board Representation

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin reviewed the new shared district and community events calendar with school board members. School board member will be able to access a yearlong calendar and can sign up when board representation is requested.

5. ADJOURNMENT

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Schwartz moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK