

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 31, 2020, 6 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 31, 2020 at the Waterville Building in the Board Room. The meeting was called to order by Acting Board Chairman Jay Schneider at 6:03 p.m.

Present were Board Members Schneider, Jeff Stangler, Gary Michael (acting Board Clerk), and Travis Bowman. Board member Dan Houlihan participated in the meeting via teleconference. Also present were Superintendent Joel Whitehurst, Principals Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Bobbie Jo Bastian. Activities Director Jeff Boran and Business Manager Margaret Jewison participated in the meeting via teleconference,

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Michael to approve the agenda. Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Bowman to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 27. Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Schneider to approve the August Finance report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$3,024,198.96, deposits were \$686,658.05, and transfers were \$3,040,000. Comments included a payment of \$6,364 to Timeclock Plus LLC for time clock and time off tracking system, a payment of \$64,035 to North Central Blue Bird for a bus purchase (used federal COVID funds), a payment of \$2,298.50 to Rugged Protection, LLC for cases for devices, a payment of \$14,172.81 to Marco Inc. - Owatonna for laptops and 10 desktop computers, a payment of \$3,108.86 to West Central Sanitation for Waterville rash collection (will be checked for building fund), a payment of \$15,334.72 to South Central Service Cooperative for asbestos abatement, and a payment of \$602,670.00 to SVL Inc. for architect.

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

EDUCATION PRESENTATION

There was a presentation by Director of Special Education Heather Harms on the 2020-21 Special Education Collaborative Contracts which are carried by the Waseca School District.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Michael to approve the

following positions:

- * Autism and Third Party Billing Consultation (\$21,095), Occupational Therapist (\$21,662), Occupational Therapy Assistant (\$11,025), and Physical Therapist (\$12,750). See attachments.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were three letters read by Chairman Schneider. The first was from the WEM Education Association and in summary asked the board to follow the state guidelines. The second was also from the WEM Education Association and in summary it said teacher feedback was received and they support the governor's plan. The third letter was from Jennifer Holicky and in summary feels the safety of the children and the government has done their due diligence when looking at the different ways to send students back to school.

REPORTS

WEM Principal Bobbie Jo Bastian and WEM Principal Dr. Jennifer Wilson (PreK-12th Grade) presented the following report:

- * The two building principals reported they have been working on the 100 page Return to School Plan.

WEM Activities Director Jeff Boran's presented the following report:

ACTIVITIES

- * MSHSL approved fall sports season - Boys and girls cross country. Started practice August 17. First event will be this Thursday, Sept. 3 at Hayfield with USC. The first meet we host will be Sept. 10 at the Prairie Ridge Golf Course in Janesville. 2020 WEM cross country participants - 8 girls and 12 boys, JWP participants - 12 girls and 16 boys (48 total).

- * Co-op Sponsorships for 2020-21: Boys and girls soccer, hockey, and girls' gymnastics with Waseca and wrestling and boys and girls cross country with JWP.

- * MSHSL approved fall sports practice seasons: Official MSHSL season for football, volleyball, and cheerleading will be Sept. 14 through Oct. 3. Maximum of 12 practices.

- * MSHSL approved spring practice seasons - Official MSHSL season for baseball, softball, and boys and girls track will be Oct. 5 through Oct. 24. Maximum of 12 practices.

- * For practice season, students must register and pay a smaller fee. This fee will be taken off the registration fee at the start of the competitive season.

COMMUNITY ED ACTIVITIES

- * Kindergarten Connection (preschool) has 49 students registered.

- * School Age Childcare fall 2020 registration - 21 currently.
- * ECFE information regarding classes will be coming out soon.
- * Southern Star Softball 6-7 week season (4-6 games) here this call 12U and 14U teams.

- * After we see how the start of school goes we are looking at a Flag Football opportunity for elementary and junior high students.

WEM Superintendent Joel Whitehurst presented the following:

- * Whitehurst reported he met with the project manager, says they will be ready on Sept. 14 for students. Talked about the election and who filed. There are only two individuals who filed for three positions for a write-in will be elected unless they turn it down, then the board interviews interested candidates. Current COVID count of 18.58 cases per 10,000 in Le Sueur County.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. The board heard the first reading of Policy 522 - Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure, and Policy. See attachment

B. Additional resources to the School District

1. ESSR/GEERS (Federal) \$97,702, which is available through Sept. 2022.
2. Cares Act Funds in Education \$200,068, must be used prior to December 31, 2020. The district will spend on a bus, cleaning equipment, and for additional staff.

ACTION

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Stangler to approve the fall learning plan which would have all students return to school. Bowman read a prepared statement on his thoughts regarding all students returning to school.

Four members voted against - one voted for (Bowman) by roll call vote - motion declared failed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Houlihan to follow the suggested administration plan of K-6 returning to school full-time and grades 7-12 hybrid learning, with students attending in school twice a week and distance learning the other three days. See attachment.

Four members voted for - one voted against (Bowman) by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Michael to approve the staff development handbook. See attachment.

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

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Michael to approve the following letters of resignation:

1. Tenia Culbert, cook, effective immediately.
 2. Andrew Novack, custodian, effective August 7, 2020.
 3. Jon Jahnke, technology coordination, effective September 4, 2020.
- Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Schneider to approve Margo Kulseth, Communications Coordinator Contract for 2020-21 at a rate of \$20.63/hour. See attachment.

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

Motion by Michael and seconded by Stangler to approve the following land change requests:

1. Laura Sammon, MS to MS+10, effective September 15, 2020.
 2. Ashley Landru, MS to MS+10, effective September 15, 2020.
 3. Anna Skidmore, MS to MS+10, effective September 15, 2020.
 4. Jennifer Graham, MS to MS+10, effective September 15, 2020.
 5. Eric Gerst, MS to MS+10, effective September 15, 2020.
- Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Schneider to approve the following teaching contracts:

1. Daniel Forcelle, Industrial Technology, BS/Step 9, \$42,402.
 2. Angela Sammon, Special Education, MA/Step 12, \$55,915.
- Five members vote in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Stangler to approve the following hires:

1. Jon Jahnke on an as needed basis at \$28.25/hour.
 2. Sabine Bill, custodian, B22/Step 4, \$14.01/hour.
 3. Sarah Westad, 4th grade long term substitute teacher, \$39,014.
 4. Sam Garvin, Social Studies long term substitute teacher, BS/Step 2, \$33,744.
- Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Houlihan and seconded by Schneider to approve the following 2020-21 coaches:

Football

Head - Mike Richards, \$5,277.

1st Assistant - Doug Androli, \$3,761

2nd Assistant - Michael Sturdivant, \$3,004

2nd Assistant - Harold Neilsen, \$3,004.

Volleyball

Head - Crystal Lamont, \$5,277

1st Assistant - Ken Trnka, \$3,761

2nd Assistant - Danielle Wold, \$3,004.

Volunteer - Kelsey Bauer.

Boys Basketball

Head - Jeff Wagner, \$5,277

Girls Basketball

Head - Ty Kaus, \$5,277

Softball

Head - Crystal Lamont, \$5,277

1st Assistant - Kelsey Bauer, \$3,761

Baseball

Head - Josh Smith, \$5,277

1st Assistant - Ty Kaus, \$3,761

Track & Field

Head - Mike Richards, \$5,277

1st Assistant - Jon McDonough, \$3,761

1st Assistant - Allan Baker, \$3,761

2nd Assistant - Carrie Richards, \$3,004

Cheerleading

Head - Tiffany Schmidtke, \$3,049

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

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Houlihan to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Jay Schneider, Acting Board Chair

Gary Michael, Acting Board Clerk