

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, August 31, 2017**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center - Community Room.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Lucy Payne

2. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Mike Chevalier; Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw, Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout and Superintendent Mark Larson, ex officio.

Also present: Sara Dusek, Equity and Mahtomedi Compensation Program (MCP) Coordinator; Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services; Julie Osterbauer, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; Dave Rey, Anderson Johnson Associates, Inc.; Paul Spakousky and Jeff Jones, Center for Efficient School Operations (CESO).

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Payne moved to amend the agenda by adding Item G. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Resolutions. Donovan seconded. Carried 6-0. Chevalier moved, McGraw seconded, approval of agenda. Carried 6-0.

4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Equity Update

Sara Dusek, Equity and Mahtomedi Compensation Program (MCP) Coordinator, updated school board members on the 2017-2018 Mahtomedi Equity Program. The district's goals include: an inclusive community, equity access and opportunity and increased cultural/racial understanding. Dusek explained each school building will have an Equity & Access Team and will incorporate the materials/ideas from training/workshops she and other district administrators have attended such as: Addressing Disparities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education: Peer Alliance for Gender Equity (PAGE) District Leadership Program, Courageous Conversation Training, Beyond Diversity Training and the Increased Engagement Through Absent Narratives Workshop. A spring Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) Summit is being planned for all interested staff to attend.

B. Facilities and Abatement Bond Phase II

Julie Osterbauer, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, Dave Rey, Anderson Johnson Associates, Inc., Paul Spakousky and Jeff Jones, Center for Efficient School Operations (CESO), updated the school board on the Phase II Facilities and Abatement Bond project which included the Mahtomedi Middle School parking lot, curbs, sidewalks, lighting and a new entrance and traffic routes for both the high school and middle school. In partnership with Washington County a new stoplight at the entrance and an extended turn lane on Stillwater Road was installed to improve student safety. Osterbauer reported on the construction costs and timeline, which included some unforeseen setbacks. The School Board and Superintendent Larson thanked all involved for all their work to complete the project.

C. Transportation Update

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, updated school board members on the staffing changes and organization improvements made by Minnesota Central Bus Company to improve the transportation of Mahtomedi students for the 2017-2018 school year. The school district is in the second year of a four year contract with MN Central.

D. School Start Times

Superintendent Mark Larson and school board members discussed the benefits and challenges of changing school start times for the 2018 or 2019 school year. Research supports earlier start times for elementary students and later start times for secondary students improves a student's health, safety and academic performance. Larson reviewed what other school districts are doing regarding school start times, the busing options/cost and the impact on students, families and staff. Also discussed was the impact on Mahtomedi Adventure Club before and after school care program and middle school and high school athletics/activities. Superintendent Larson plans to hold listening sessions at all school buildings and a parent information meeting. School board members requested information on start times of 8:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. at the secondary level and how adding additional buses would impact the change.

E. Superintendent Goals

Superintendent Mark Larson and school board members discussed various ideas for the 2017-2018 superintendent goals which included: school start times, levy recommendations, innovation work with media center renovations and personal goals of communication and organization. Larson is working with the Teamworks International Cohort on personalized learning, innovative leadership practices and building leadership capacity.

F. School Board Goals

Lucy Payne, School Board Chair, discussed with school board members various ideas for the 2017-2018 school board goals which included: reviewing/revising last year's goals of an equity plan, community engagement/communication and developing collaborative relationships across stake holder groups. Additional ideas included innovation and school start times. Payne asked each board member to send her their suggestions and she will compile the data for the board to review.

G. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Resolutions

Lucy Payne, School Board Chair, discussed with school board members and the administration several legislative resolution ideas which included transgender rights, school district consolidation and data request fees. The resolutions are due to MSBA by September 29, 2017. The school board also discussed proposed presentation ideas from each of the schools for the MSBA Annual Leadership Conference in January.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Donovan moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK