

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

A **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Education of Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, April 22, 2021**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center-Community Room, 1520 Mahtomedi Avenue, Mahtomedi, Minnesota 55115. This meeting was live streamed and recorded.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Lucy Payne.

Payne requested Vice Chair Stacey Stout chair the rest of the meeting as she is attending virtually. Donovan moved, Vosooney seconded, approval of Stout as acting chair. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne (Virtually); Kelly Reagan; Stacey Stout; Tony Vosooney; Superintendent Barbara Duffrin, ex-officio and Ismail Bah (Virtually), school board student representative.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

McGraw moved, Donovan seconded, approval of the agenda. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

5. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA - See #13 for Consent Agenda Items

Donovan moved, Vosooney seconded, approval of the actions recommended on the consent agenda. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

6. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

A. Student/Staff/Community Recognition - None.

B. Spotlight: Mahtomedi Middle School

Mike Neubeck, Mahtomedi Middle School Principal, presented on part of the middle school's mission to ensure all students possess the academic, social, and emotional foundation for individual success while exploring passions and enhancing their joy of learning. Part of the district's strategic plan is ensuring opportunities for students to find their passions. One program teachers are using to accomplish this is the Mahtomedi Book Club, where student can form small clubs around books that interest them. Collaboration with the Media Center featuring new black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) authors and stories has enabled students to engage in discussions focused on passions and interests that impact student life and the community. Staff initiated research showed reading motivation through increased engagement, effort, and commitment greatly improved as a result of students selecting books of their choice. Neubeck explained the shift from elementary students identifying the plot of a story to middle school students examining character development. A video of Elise Aflalpi, Jasper Buerger and Yuktika Samtani, three sixth grade students, sharing their positive experience in book club, along with Virginia Mancini, Seventh Grade English Teacher, discussing two books her students Arjun Chandra and Bethel Darik read was shown. Another part of the middle school mission is to create a culture that fosters trusting relationships and belonging, both peer to peer and student to teacher. Part of the district's strategic plan is to create opportunities to build trusting relationships and an inclusive community. One program the counselors started was grade level Counseling Office Google Classrooms to connect with students and build relationships throughout the various learning models. Another was Wellness Wednesday, when school-produced videos with social-emotional learning (SEL) messages based on the American School Counselors Association SEL competencies were shared in classrooms. A video of Paul Beggin, Sixth Grade Counselor, discussing the Counseling Center's use of Google Classroom, along with three sixth grade students Mejken Amiot, Coen Chavarria and Mandoyou Geleta sharing their experiences with the program was shown.

7. REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

A. Ismail Bah, Student Representative, reported the students at Wildwood and O.H. Anderson Elementary Schools celebrated Earth Day today. The students at Wildwood Elementary dressed up as their favorite animal. MN Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) testing has been taking place at both O.H Anderson Elementary School and Mahtomedi Middle School. MAEF sponsored Senior Yard Signs congratulating the Class of 2021 were available for pick up this week. The Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence honoring the top 10% of the senior class was held Wednesday and prom is scheduled for May 22.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin reported she and School Board Member Kelly Reagan visited O.H. Anderson Elementary for Earth Day. There are a selection of Mahtomedi High School students' History Day Projects on display at the District Education Center. You can scan the QR code to see the student's work. White Bear Center for the Arts held

their 2021 High School WriteNow Contest and Visual Arts Contest. Mahtomedi students Hannah Rose Bruentrup received the Award of Excellence in Creative Nonfiction for her story “Addictive” and Luke Carlson received Best in Show for his digital photograph “Hunting in the Night”. Duffrin attended the 2021 Celebration of Excellence honoring the top senior scholars and the teacher that made a difference in their academic career. Former School Board Member Lael Ramaley and founder of the Celebration of Excellence was recognized for her years of service to Mahtomedi Schools and the Mahtomedi Community. A Celebration of Excellence Scholarship in her name was awarded for outstanding character/kindness to a nominated senior and to the classmate that nominated them. Superintendent Duffrin invited board members to the Modeling A Protein Story (MAPS) Team’s poster presentation “The Deafening Importance of Aquaporin 4” on Saturday, April 24 at Mahtomedi High School.

9. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Board Member Calendar

The Board Member Calendar was reviewed.

10. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Donations/Grants Totaling \$12, 973.00

Acting School Board Chair Stacey Stout stated all donations and grants are greatly appreciated. The use of these funds will be to further the mission of the school district and are used towards the wishes of the donor.

1. From the Cossack Foundation to Mahtomedi Girls’ Golf Team-\$10,000.00
2. From Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation to Wildwood Elementary School First Grade Art Supplies-\$595.00
3. From Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation to Wildwood Elementary School Add+VantageMR Teacher Training-\$878.00
4. From Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation to Mahtomedi High School Books-\$1,500.00

Vosooney moved, McGraw seconded, approval of donations/grants totaling \$12,973.00. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

B. Approval of Policies with Recommended Changes

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin recommended approval of the following policies. Donovan moved, Reagan seconded, approval of policies: Policy 213-School Board Committees; Policy 419-Tobacco-Free Environment; Policy 516-Student Medication; Policy 601-School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals; and Policy 607-Organization of Grade Levels. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye,

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Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

C. Personnel

1. Recommendation to Approve Employment for Licensed Personnel Who will Continue to be on Probationary Status for the 2021-2022 School Year

- a. Lara Adair
- b. Mariah Adams (.8 FTE)
- c. Quinn Anderson
- d. Kael Bacon
- e. Shannon Bartels
- f. Adam Blomgren
- g. Anne Brunner
- h. David Collova
- i. Christina Duehn (.8 FTE)
- j. Hayley Engel
- k. Colette Felion
- l. Theresa Helms
- m. Michael Isola
- n. Alexandra Middlebrook
- o. Sydney Samson
- p. Trevor Thompson
- q. Alise Voit
- r. Mitchell Wanner
- s. Sheryl White (.8 FTE)

Vosooney moved, Reagan seconded, approval of employment for licensed personnel who will continue to be on probationary status for the 2021-2022 School Year. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

2. Recommendation to Approve Contract Status for Licensed Personnel Moving from Probationary Status to Continuing Contract Status for the 2021-2022 School Year

- a. Katlyn Bailey
- b. Rebecca Hague
- c. Maren Hanson
- d. Deidre Held
- e. Lauren Konecny
- f. Elizabeth Kratzke (.8 FTE)
- g. Daniel Kurkiewicz
- h. Carson McEvoy
- i. Samantha Panek
- j. Breanne Stremke

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- k. Nicole Thoma
- l. Sarah Torborg
- m. Andria Warner

McGraw moved, Donovan seconded, approval of contract status for licensed personnel moving from probationary status to continuing contract status for the 2021-2022 School Year. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

3. Approval of Resolution to Terminate and Non-renew Probationary Teaching Contracts

- a. Brenda Begley
- b. Julie Glaser
- c. Devin McDermott
- d. Michael Zahner

Donovan moved, McGraw seconded, approval of the resolution to terminate and non-renew the probationary teaching contracts. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0.

11. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) Board

Tony Vosooney, School Board Treasurer, reported on the last AMSD meeting where Representative Lisa Demuth and Representative Cedrick Frasier answered questions on what is happening at the legislature. Peter Leatherman presented on the recent state survey regarding the community's view of schools pre-pandemic until now and into the future.

B. Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation (MAEF)

School Board Clerk Julie McGraw reported Mahtomedi High School Scholarship Night is May 12. MAEF is still taking applications for the two year Community & Technical Scholarship until May 31. MAEF's Giving Week will be May 9 -15 and will spotlight the great things happening in Mahtomedi Schools, along with a Mini Virtual Silent Auction. High Fives were distributed to honor staff at Mahtomedi Middle School and High School.

C. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Legislative Liaison

School Board Chair Lucy Payne reported the guest blog on instructional hours she and Superintendent Duffrin completed for KnowledgeWorks has been published nationally. They are continuing to work with MSBA, MN Department of Education (MDE), and Education Minnesota to redraft the language regarding required instructional

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minutes/hours and will be sharing the proposed draft with the MN House of Representatives and MN Senate.

D. Northeast Metro 916 Board

Kevin Donovan, School Board Director, reported the board approved Dr. Val Rae Boe's superintendent contract effective July 1. The new Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with updated rules/regulations regarding districts joining or leaving the consortium will be sent to member districts for their board's approval. Superintendent Duffrin reported several districts raised questions that are being addressed.

E. School Board Subcommittee Reports

School Board Treasurer Tony Vosooney reported on the Policy Committee Meeting held before tonight's board meeting with a group of Mahtomedi High School students to discuss Policy 506–Student Discipline under an equity lens. Vosooney stated it was a great discussion and the administration will review the discussed changes and continue the conversation going forward. Superintendent Duffrin reported the students stressed the importance of continuing equity training for all licensed staff, the administration and school board members.

F. Other Items/Reports

Superintendent Duffrin reported on the Annual Metropolitan Educational Cooperative Service Unit (Metro ECSU) Meeting, which highlights the services that are offered to member districts, such as Special Education Low Incidence Programming and the Young Authors' Workshops. The school board representative is invited to the annual meeting.

School Board Clerk Julie McGraw reported on the Community Education Advisory Committee Meeting. The first of five Food Truck Fridays was held on April 16 at the District Education Center with 300 people attending. The next one will be on May 21. McGraw stated they are a great way for the community to connect. Summer Mahtomedi Adventure Club (MAC) enrollment is lower than previous years and fall registration for MAC is taking place. May Baskets are being made for area seniors. The digital Summer Brochure is available online and a youth sports and activities brochure will be mailed out soon with additional activity opportunities.

School Board Vice Chair Stacey Stout reported on the City-School Leaders Meeting and the new City of Willernie and City of Mahtomedi Banners on the streetlights. Aaron Forsythe, Mahtomedi High School Associate Principal of Activities & Athletics, reported the Class of 2021 Parade through the school campus and community will be held on June 2. School Board Clerk Julie McGraw reported the June Farmer's Market will be held in Veterans Memorial Park.

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School Board Vice Chair Stacey Stout reported on the Gifted & Talented Advisory Committee Meeting, which included a presentation on College in the Schools and Advance Placement Courses, along with possible additional advanced high school programming.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Donovan moved, Vosooney seconded, adjournment. Roll Call Vote: Donovan-Aye, McGraw-Aye, Payne-Aye, Reagan-Aye, Stout-Aye, Vosooney-Aye. Carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

13. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Items Approved Under #5)

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. March 25, 2021 - Regular Meeting
2. April 8, 2021 - Study Session

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

C. Approval to Pay Bills

1. AP Check Register - Check No. 410473 to 410754 and 9800012020 to 9800012084

D. Approval of Wire Transfer Transactions

E. Personnel

1. Approval of Contracts and Work Agreements

- a. Katherine O'Brien-Miller - First Grade Teacher (LTS) - Wildwood Elementary School (3/30/2021-6/11/2021)
- b. Jennifer Reichel - Director of Teaching and Learning - Districtwide (7/1/2021)
- c. Kaylyn Simonette - Fifth Grade Teacher (LTS) - O.H. Anderson Elementary School (4/15/2021-6/11/2021)
- d. Andrew Werkhoven - Night Lead Custodian - Mahtomedi High School (4/19/2021)

2. Approval of Leaves of Absence

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- a. Christina Boice - Data Assessment Coordinator (.4 LOA) - Districtwide (2021-2022)
- b. Elisabeth Haen - Language Arts Teacher (.2 LOA) - Mahtomedi High School (2021-2022)
- c. Rebecca Hague - Special Education Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School (4/12/2021-4/30/2021)
- d. Rebecca Hurd - Chemistry Teacher (.2 LOA) - Mahtomedi High School (2021-2022)
- e. Kelsey Joson - Physical Education Teacher (.5 LOA) - Mahtomedi Middle School (2021-2022)
- f. Lorie Kaehler - Reading Teacher (.1 LOA) - O.H.Anderson Elementary School (2021-2022)
- g. Susan Katzke - Math Teacher (.4 LOA) Mahtomedi High School (2021-2022)
- h. Kathryn Schwister - Music Teacher (.5 LOA) - Wildwood Elementary School (Extended Leave of Absence (4 years) Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 122A.46)

3. Approval of Resignations/Retirements

- a. Sandra Armstrong - Special Education Teacher - Mahtomedi High School (6/11/2021)
- b. Lori Baker - Second Grade Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School (6/11/2021)
- c. Shelia Frye - Third Grade Teacher - O.H. Anderson Elementary School (6/11/2021)
- d. John Krause - Science Teacher - Mahtomedi Middle School (6/11/2021)
- e. Tifini Lipovetz - Special Education Paraprofessional - Mahtomedi High School (6/10/2021)
- f. Anne Miller - Second Grade Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School (6/11/2021)
- g. Edward Morreim - Sixth Grade Math Teacher - Mahtomedi Middle School (6/11/2021)

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h. Teresa Peterson - Second Grade Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School
(6/11/2021)

i. Marianne Rice - Reading Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School (6/11/2021)

j. Sue Robinson - Kindergarten Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School
(6/11/2021)

k. Marie Sortland - Language Arts Teacher - Mahtomedi Middle School
(6/11/2021)

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK