

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, October 10, 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: Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout and Superintendent Barbara Duffrin, ex-officio. Not Present: Mike Chevalier.

Also present: Laura Eliason, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Alice Seuffert, Communications Specialist; Lynne Viker, Assistant Superintendent of Learning; and Cathy Wyland, Director of Community Education.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Family Survey Results

Alice Seuffert, Communication Specialist, explained at the end of each school year an online survey is sent to Wildwood Elementary, O.H. Anderson Elementary, Mahtomedi Middle School and Mahtomedi High School families. The 2018-2019 survey was revised to reflect the themes from the district's new strategic plan. There were four main themes of information gathered from the annual family survey: Communication and Connection (overall impression of information sharing and engagement); School Climate (overall impression of school climate including belonging, the relevance of school, relationships, and stress management); Areas of Excellence (overall impression of the quality of education, learning programs, and personal excellence); and Overall Educational Experience (overall impression of school and district including areas of strength and opportunities for growth). Seuffert shared the reported positive experiences, the identified opportunities for growth and

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how the information is being shared and used at each of the schools to make positive improvements.

B. Student Exit Survey Highlights

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin explained feedback is collected from families withdrawing their students from Mahtomedi Public Schools via an online survey and the results are reviewed by the superintendent and building principals. Superintendent Duffrin reported from September 2018 to September 2019 thirty-four surveys were received and the main themes for leaving were student conflict, social emotional /academic stress and moving. Opportunities for growth were identified and several changes were implemented for the 2019-2020 school year which included: a new enhanced Zephyr Wellness Program, an emphasis on making connections, staff development for differentiated learning within the classroom to engage and challenge advance learners, continued equity work, a curriculum review process connected to the district's new strategic plan and a revised more consistent K-12 Family Handbook. Positive comments included: excellent teachers/staff, quality academic experiences and extracurricular opportunities.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Donovan moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK