

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

A **Regular** meeting of the Board of Education of the Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, December 8, 2016**, 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; Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout; Superintendent Mark Larson, ex officio; and Audrey Anfang, school board student representative.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chevalier moved to amend the agenda to include discussion of open enrollment due to new data. Donovan seconded. Failed 4-2. Schwartz moved to add item 9.E. Discussion to add a study session to discuss open enrollment. Stout seconded. Carried 6-0. Donovan moved, Schwartz seconded, approval of agenda. Carried 6-0.

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA - See #14 for Consent Agenda Items

School Board Chair Lucy Payne noted the \$4,039.99 in donations and expressed the school district's formal thank you. Schwartz moved, McGraw seconded, approval of the actions recommended on the consent agenda. Carried 6-0.

A. Approval of Donations/Grants Totaling \$4,039.99

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 Mahtomedi PTO to Wildwood Elementary Tumblebooks (apps/software) - \$599.99
2. From Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign to Wildwood Elementary - \$90.00
3. From Jennifer Ruhland to Mahtomedi Middle School Fundraiser - \$100.00

4. From Wildwood Lions Club to Mahtomedi Area Community Education Early Childhood Playground - \$3,000.00
5. From 3M to Mahtomedi Area Community Education Stitchers - \$250.00
6. From the Vosooney Family to Mahtomedi Area Community Education Early Childhood – Books

5. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

A. Student/Staff/Community Recognition

None.

B. Mahtomedi High School Update

Kathe Nickleby, Mahtomedi High School Principal, updated the school board members on the high school curriculum highlighting new courses: Baking and Pastry, Musical Theater, Event Broadcasting, Principles of Democracy and CIS French. Nickleby commented on the new Macintosh Lab in the Art Department, that all 11th grade students attended the College Fair and the first College Application Boot Camp will be offered this Summer. Nickleby stated Mahtomedi High School has 37 student clubs including the new Coding Club, Event Broadcast Club, Drama/Theater-Thespian Society, Politics Club and Students Advocating for Equity (SAFE). She also reviewed aligned grading practices, the new Lunch and Learn Program and Restorative Justice and StrengthsFinder training for high school staff.

1. New Performing Arts Courses

Chad Garrels, Choir Teacher and Theater Director at Mahtomedi High School, presented to school board members on the new performing arts courses: Guitar, Piano and Musical Theater with the focus on the new creating and performing standards. Garrels explained how students in the Musical Theater course are gaining confidence in their performance abilities, becoming stronger singers and learning about theater basics, career options and the audition process through professional guest speakers, studying Broadway history and performing. Mahtomedi students have joined the International Thespian Society which provides state and national festivals/workshops with assessments by professionals, college scholarships and leadership opportunities and are also participating in the Hennepin Theatre Trust Spotlight Education Program.

2. Science for Monks- Inquiry of Thinking (Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning -POGIL)

Jim Lane, Science and Engineering Teacher at Mahtomedi High School, presented to school board members on his trip to Bir, India to teach life science

to Buddhist Geshe Monks/Nuns through a request by the Dalai Lama for monks to be trained in western science and funded by the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation of which he is a senior fellow. Lane had the monks answer the question “What is life?” and learned how their cycle of learning (core truths-learning-debate-meditation/reflection) is similar to the methods of teaching he is using in his Mahtomedi classroom. Lane explained teacher core truths of education (pedagogy, collaboration, student thinking, engagement, reflection) and student core truths (content, collaboration, thinking, engagement, reflection) his use of Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL) and Project/Problem or Place Based Learning (PBL) to emphasize curiosity, thinking, debate and cognition.

Both Garrels and Lane thanked the administration for their support and encouragement of innovative teaching.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

A. Audrey Anfang, Student Representative

School Board Student Representative Audrey Anfang reported on the following events at Mahtomedi High School: winter sports, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) happier mindset video, Student Leadership Council (SLC) card signed by Mahtomedi students in support for the Mounds View High School students, SLC’s Parents Night Out Fundraising Event benefiting Jackson Elementary students, Coding Club’s Hour of Code in Math Classes, the Lunch and Learn Program and upcoming Band Concert on December 12th.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 17, 2015 - Regular Meeting

Donovan moved, Stout seconded, approval of the minutes from the November 17, 2016, school board meeting. Carried 6-0.

9. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Calendar of Events

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

B. School Board Equity Goal Update

Superintendent Mark Larson updated school board members on the equity work being done throughout the district and how it relates to the school board goal to learn more about equity and develop an equity plan in the district. Dr. Larson referred to the World's Best Workforce page on the district website and the mission, vision and goals statements. The first goal is to engage students, staff, and the community to provide an equitable learning environment to ensure all students are college and career ready through the lens of Equity, Growth Mindset, and Future Ready Skills, from which the district's Equity Statement was developed. He spoke of the various equity training for the administration including Heather Hackman Consulting Group training sessions on Social Justice, Race in MN Schools Conference and the Superintendent Think Tank, the staff's Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) training and the Educational Equity Alliance/Partnership with the North St. Paul School District. He also highlighted the equity work being done at Wildwood Elementary, O.H. Anderson Elementary, Mahtomedi Middle School and Mahtomedi High School.

C. Second Reading of Policies

The following policies were brought for a second reading: 102 - Equal Educational Opportunity, 413 - Harassment and Violence, 506 - Student Discipline, 509 - Enrollment of Nonresident Students, 520 - Student Surveys. Superintendent Mark Larson reviewed the modifications recommended by the school board at the first reading, required by change in Minnesota statute, or recommended by MSBA.

D. Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Update

Mike Chevalier, School Board Director, updated school board members on the MSHSL Fall Meeting which included a new policy on the use of non-registered officials, a new baseball pitch count policy, basketball consolation games, support of the Heads Up Football Program, a seeded format for this Spring's State Softball Tournament and a proposed constitutional amendment designating one Class AA and one Class A Superintendent position on the MSHSL Board of Directors. The next Board of Directors meeting is February 2, 2017

E. Study Session on December 22, 2016

Chevalier moved to add a study session on December 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss open enrollment. Stout seconded. Carried 6-0. McGraw moved to amend the study session on December 22, 2016 time to 5:30 p.m. Stout seconded. Carried 6-0.

10. ACTION ITEMS

A. Truth-in-Taxation Presentation

Mark Larson, Superintendent of Schools, presented information regarding the proposed levy payable in 2017 and the tax impact for residents. Larson discussed the Truth in Taxation law, property tax background, legislative changes in 2016 that affect the 2017 levy, general fund changes in basic per pupil allowance, school district funds, fiscal year 2016-2017 budget, revenue and expenditure budgets for all funds, proposed tax levy payable in 2017, and property tax comparisons – pay 2016 versus pay 2017.

1. Truth-in Taxation Public Comment

None.

2. Approval to Certify Levy for 2017

Donovan moved, Schwartz seconded, approval to certify levy for 2017. Total certified levy amount \$13,538,945. Carried 6-0.

B. Approval of Resolution Directing the Administration to Prepare Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefor

Superintendent Mark Larson stated that this is an annual resolution in case future budget reductions are necessary. McGraw moved, Stout seconded, resolution directing the administration to prepare recommendations for reductions in programs and positions and reasons therefore. Carried 6-0.

11. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) Board

School Board Director Mike Chevalier reported on the December 2nd AMSD meeting: 2016 AMSD Audit approval, 2017 Legislative Platform and Updated Position Papers approval and the State budget and economic forecast. Chevalier will forward information on school start times from AMSD.

B. Integration District: Educational Equity Alliance (EEA)

None

C. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Legislative Liaison

School Board Treasurer Kevin Donovan reported on the delegate assembly on December 2nd and 3rd and the two resolutions from the Mahtomedi School Board: Create a Funding Source for School Districts to Support Efforts to Close the

Achievement Gap and Create a Funding Mechanism for Current College in the School Teachers to Meet the HLC Faculty Qualifications along with the resolution in partnership with other districts to Increase Equalization for Operating Referendum, Debt Service and Local Optional Levy and Tie to Inflation, the upcoming MBSA Winter Conference January 12th & 13th, and the MSBA Executive Group's trip to lobby in Washington D.C on January 26th- February 1st.

D. Northeast Metro 916 Board

School Board Director Judy Schwartz stated the next meeting is December 14th.

E. Other Items/Reports

School Board Vice Chair/Clerk Julie McGraw reported on the last Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation (MAEF) meeting with a visit to Mr. Oswald's (Mahtomedi High School Math Teacher) classroom to see how he used a MAEF grant to add more monitors, moving chairs and had idea paint put on the walls, the MAEF Fall Fund Drive, student scholarships and the new district Zephyr Service Award.

School Board Treasurer Kevin Donovan reported the first recipient of the Zephyr Service Award to recognize community members who have shown passionate and enduring support of Mahtomedi Schools is former school board member Marlene McKeown.

School Board Director Mike Chevalier reported on the last Mahtomedi PTO meeting and encouraged board members and the community to visit the PTO Facebook page and to use Amazon Smile as part of the proceeds benefit the PTO.

School Board Director Stacey Stout reported on the Mahtomedi Area Community Education Advisory Meeting, the Power Up Kids Cooking Classes and encouraged school board members and the community members to attend the various events offered including the December 14th Community Lunch at the Mahtomedi District Education Center.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Mark Larson reported on the following: the new Passages Program for students ages 18-21 and the Thanksgiving meal they provided for the district administration, the work being done by Courtney McCormick, Mahtomedi High School Engineering Coordinator, with Century College on concurrent enrollment courses, updates to the Mahtomedi School District's website including the results of routine water and land testing, the six program listening sessions, tomorrow's City Leaders' meeting and the meeting on December 21st with Mike Carlson, Senior Pastor at St. Andrew's Church, regarding possible collaboration on equity work.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Donovan moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. Carried 6-0.

14. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Items Approved Under #4)

A. Approval of Treasurer's Report
None

B. Approval to Pay Bills

1. Check Register 02 - Check No. 393530 to 393835 and 80007863 to 80007954
2. Check Register 05 - Check No. 50000427 to 50000431

C. Approval of Wire Transfer Transactions

D. Personnel

1. Approval of Contracts and Work Agreements
 - a. Kelly Francis - Paraprofessional - Mahtomedi Middle School (11-9-2016)
2. Approval of Resignations/Retirements/Terminations
 - a. Rochel Manders - Director of Business Services - District Office (1-4-2016)

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK