

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Monday, March. 18, 2024 5:45 p.m.
Tiger Den, Delano
Delano Public Schools
Independent School District #879, Delano, Minnesota

1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. Record of members present or absent.

Members present: R. Depa, R. Schaust, J. Gierke, A Johnson. C. Black,S. Roeser and S. Baker

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Upon motion by C. Black seconded by R Schaust, the Board of Education approved the meeting agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Work Session

The school board discussed the public comments from the April school board meeting. The board was pleased to hear people’s questions and the need for clarification. The district’s legal counsel reviewed Policy 631 and determined the school cannot honor parent requests not to have their child read particular books and there is a need to define “secondary” in the policy. Legal counsel suggested removing a sentence in the policy allowing parents to request that their child not read a particular title. The sentence will be removed and brought to the April board meeting for a second reading. The school board discussed how student school board representatives should be selected. Students will still vote on candidates but the final decisions come down to the interview, application, recommendations, and the vote. M. Schoen updated the board on the progress of the Strategic Plan. The next action item is the Environmental scan followed by a survey next fall. The district received two proposals for lawn mowing services. The district chose Jenco Property Maintenance. Student representative updates: DHS hosted a motivational speaker who spoke about finding hope, students were excited about spring break and are happy about a double chemistry class opportunity. DIS: Mental Health Month, MCAs and the Battle of the Books. DES: spring concerts and Tiger Fun Fair are approaching.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Program Review

Angie Lauderbaugh Special Education Coordinator provided an update on the Special Education program. Lauderbaugh updated the board on the percentage of resident students and total students who are receiving special education services. Building highlights include CE: Collaborative meetings with ECFE, birth to 2 services and services for children 3-5. DES: supporting with unexpected or difficult behaviors and adaptive phy ed field day planned for March. DIS: grade level case management change has helped strengthen relationships with staff and students and increased collaboration with general ed and SPED, welcomed three new staff members, and students experienced playing basketball in wheelchairs. DHS: Finished phase 2 of the courtyard, more turf area and picnic tables so a class could work outside, new schedule has allowed for more co-teaching and opportunities for service delivery, when appropriate, during WIN time.

6. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by J. Gierke, seconded by S. Baker, the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

A. School Board Minutes

1. Feb. 26, 2024, School Board Meeting Minutes

B. Financial Affairs

1. Current Budget Status with Year-to-Date Adjustments
2. Investment Transactions
3. CARES Act Budgets
4. Wire Transfers
5. Minnesota Liquid Asset Fund

6. Cash Report
7. Revenue Report by Fund
8. Expense Report by Fund
9. Expense Report by Program
10. Expense Report by Object
11. List of Bills Presented for Payment

7. Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts

Upon motion by R. Schaust, seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the Resolution for Acceptance of Gifts. Motion passed 7-0.

8. Personnel Matters

Upon motion by S. Roeser seconded by S. Baker, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters. Motion passed 7-0.

9. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent M. Schoen provided district updates. The strategic planning committee will participate in an environmental exercise. Schoen commissioned Wold Architect to do a facilities analysis and comprehensive plan. The plan will encompass property acquisitions. The district is also doing a demographic scan to review potential growth.

B. Principals

DIS Principal, Katie Thompson

K. Thompson updated the board on DIS. During school has been discussing how best to keep whole school communication going, especially during busy times of year like April and May. They are beginning to work on handbook updates for next year and planning the April 2 “retreat” day for the team to review building initiatives and goals. PD updates: 3/20 will give time for staff to complete SAEBRS assessment and will include staff MCA training and curriculum planning time. MTSS: MTSS building team will review SAEBRS data and look for noticeable shifts from fall or areas in need of attention. Events: Spring break, MCA testing season. Thompson welcomed back Melissa Koch.

High School Principal, Barry Voight

B. Voight provided an update from the high school. Voight recognized John Fitzer who is Retiring after 35 years, Boy’s Hockey Team - first conference championship in nine years, also named the Class A Academic State Champs by the MHCA and Girl’s Basketball - conference champs, the first time in 30+ years. School Discipline Report - the discipline report indicates that offenses are on pace, possibly surpassing the trend, most notably due to attendance tracking, we also saw higher numbers in Jan and Feb than have seen in the past, School Climate Survey Results - opposite results from trimester one. SBLT is discussing possible handbook changes - most notably is attendance. Attendance is a growing concern for classroom teachers, in talking with colleagues, it is happening all over.

DES Principal, Rachel Schultz

R. Schultz provided an update from the elementary school. The biggest progress at the elementary school has been made on its access to interventions and aligning the SAEBRS screening results with the SST process. The school is working on handbook revisions, August retreat day and staffing/READ act. The elementary school is planning for next year’s PD during workshop week and late starts. Most of the school’s time will be spent on the READ Act. The elementary school is looking forward to: 2nd Grade Music Concerts, Kindergarten Round-Up, Tiger Fun Fair, preparing for MCAs, Imagination Fair - April 18 and Tiger Dash - May 4.

C. Business Manager

Business Manager M. Reeder briefed the board on the 24/25 budget process and timeline as well as recapped the WTC LTFM plan and bread and milk quotes.

D. Community Ed

Community Education Director, E Erlandson presented community ed updates. New Playground Efforts - CE has had a variety of fundraisers over the past number of years. Those efforts would help purchase items for ECFE/preschool/TKC. The playground at CE was donated a number of years ago. It has a number of elements to it that are not appropriate for young learners (ages 3-5) and are too far off of the ground (monkey bars). The fundraising efforts have generated between \$10-\$15K. We had Landscape Structures over last week to take measurements and to develop concepts and cost estimates. Based on the dollars generated thus far and the amount that is most likely needed, CE is in the earlier stages of this major capital project. Activities Winter Wrap-up / Spring Start. Girls Basketball Finished as Section Runner-ups to Benilde St. Margarets. Taylor Tool has been recognized as an All-State Performer. Boys Basketball finished with a loss in the Section Semi-Finals. Senior Will Strandemo finished his high school career eclipsing the 2,000 point mark with a career total of 2,072 Points. Wrestling - Cael Olson and Tate Olson competed in the MSHSL Wrestling Tournament. Cael finished his career as a 4-time state entrant. He made the podium finishing in 4th place this year. Spring Sports - Started last week with Softball, Track, and Baseball. Golf Starts This week. Lacrosse begins on April 1. Conference Survey - All head coaches were sent a survey regarding the current state of the conference. The survey asked for their insights with the following questions:

- How satisfied are you with the Wright County Conference as it currently stands?
- Please list the top three benefits of remaining in the Wright County Conference.
- What are the top three concerns or challenges you face within the Wright County Conference?
- How would you rate the overall competitiveness of our teams within the Wright County Conference?
- How open are you to the idea of exploring a new conference for our athletic/activity programs?
- Which conference option would you prefer, considering our current situation?
- Please share any additional thoughts, comments, or concerns regarding our current conference or potential changes that you think would be helpful for us to consider.

AD Survey - All head coaches were sent a survey regarding the current state of the conference. The survey asked for their insights with the following questions:

- What qualities do you believe are essential for an Activities Director to effectively manage high school sports programs and foster a positive culture within the school community?
 - From your perspective as a head coach/advisor, how important is communication and collaboration skills in an Activities Director when coordinating schedules, addressing concerns, and fostering relationships with coaches, students, and parents?
 - In your experience, what leadership attributes do you think are crucial for an Activities Director to possess in order to support and advocate for the needs and development of both coaches/advisors and students?
 - How do you prioritize the ability of an Activities Directors to handle administrative responsibilities, such as budget management, facility maintenance, and compliance with regulations, when considering their effectiveness in overseeing the department?
 - Please list the top 3-5 characteristics, skills, or abilities that you believe are important for an Activities Director.
- Student School Board Representatives
Student representatives, W. Sorenson and S. Grant briefed the board on activities at the elementary school, the intermediate school and the high school. DHS hosted a motivational speaker who spoke about finding hope, students were excited about spring

break and are happy about a double chemistry class opportunity. DIS: Mental Health Month, MCAs and the Battle of the Books. DES: spring music concerts and Tiger Fun Fair are approaching.

10. Board Reports

A. MAWSECO

Board member A. Johnson reported on behalf of MAWSECO. MDE is scheduling MAWSECO site visits to schools that receive Title One services and will be affected by the READ Act.

C. Wright Technical Center

Board member J. Gierke reported on behalf of the WTC. WTC Board Members discussed funding; the budget looks better and the center is investing in summer camps. WTC also approved its school calendar.

11. Old Business.

A. Approve the second read, Policy 410, Family and Medical Leave Policy. Upon motion by A. Johnson, seconded by S. Roeser, the Board of Education approved the second read, Policy 410, Family and Medical Leave Policy. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Approve the second read, Policy 213, School Board Committee (with committee name change to SAFF). Upon motion by R. Schaust, seconded by A. Johnson, the Board of Education approved the second read of Policy 213, School Board Committee (with committee name change to SAFF). Motion passed 7-0.

12. New Business

A. Approve extended field trip, Boys Lacrosse. Upon motion by S. Roeser, seconded by J. Gierke, the Board of Education approved the extended field trip, Boys Lacrosse. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Approve an extended field trip for football. Upon motion by R. Schaust, seconded by A. Johnson, the Board of Education approved the extended field trip for football. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Approve extended field trip, Boys Soccer. Upon motion by S. Baker, seconded by S. Roeser, the Board of Education approved the extended field trip, Boys Soccer. Motion passed 7-0.

D. Approve extended field trip, Girls Swim. Upon motion by R. Schaust, seconded by J. Gierke, the Board of Education approved the extended field trip, Girls Swim. Motion passed 7-0.

E. Approve Vendor for the 2024 and 2025 Lawn Mowing Seasons. Upon motion by S. Roeser, seconded by C. Black, the Board of Education approved the Vendor for the 2024 and 2025 Lawn Mowing Seasons. Motion passed 7-0.

F. Approve Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Resolution for Wright Technical Center. Upon motion by C. Black, seconded by S, the Board of Education approved the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Resolution for Wright Technical Center. Motion passed 7-0.

G. Approve the first read of Policy 631, Reconsideration of Media Materials. Upon motion by S. Roeser, seconded by A. Johnson, the Board of Education the first read of Policy 631, Reconsideration of Media Materials. Motion passed 6-1 with S. Baker opposing.

13. Public Comment

No public comments.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

CLERK

Bobbie Dahlke
RECORDER