

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Monday, December 20, 2021, 6 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 20, 2021 at the Waterville Building. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Michael at 6:14 p.m.

Board Members Jon Bakken, Michael, June Rezac, Jay Schneider, Jon Velishek, and Jeff Stangler attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent Joel Whitehurst, Principals Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Bobbie Jo Bastian, Activities Director Jeff Boran, and Business Manager Margaret Jewison.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the agenda. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Stangler to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 25, 2021. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Schneider to approve the December Finance Report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$1,223,601.68, deposits were \$1,030,409.05, and transfers were \$400,000. Comments on the report included a payment of \$13,200 to Southwest State University for College NOW Courses, a payment of \$9,126 to South Central Service Cooperative for SOCRATES online classes, a payment of \$8,469 to Farrell Equipment & Supply Co., Inc. for Industrial Arts equipment, a payment of \$52,029.87 to Scholastic Equipment Co., LLC for lockers, and a payment of \$14,975 to Nieman Roofing Company, Inc. for roof repairs at the Morristown Building. County tax payments to the school district were also pointed out in the amounts of \$204,223.87 and 2,857.51.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to approve Pay 2022 levy in the amount of \$3,493,717.17. Roll call vote. All members voted in favor – motion declared passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no comments.

REPORTS

WEM Principal Bobbie Jo Bastian and WEM Principal Dr. Jennifer Wilson presented the following report:

PreK-6 Report

On December 13, the 3rd and 4th grade students shared their musical talents at their annual Christmas Program. The group led by Ms. Froehle gave an excellent performance! Great to see so many in attendance!

Once again, River Bend Nature Center educators visited 3rd grade classes. Students participate in activities that highlighted the benefits of recycle, reduce and reuse.

K-4 and 5-6 students will be enjoying Frosty Bingo tomorrow. Many thanks to our very generous WEM community for the donations we have received! We are so grateful for your support for this fun activity!

K-4 students have been collecting food items to be donated to the Elysian Food Shelf. Students have collected a truckload of food items as well as money! Today was our last day for collection and items were delivered! Thanks to all who donated!

Students will be on Winter Break from December 22nd thru January 3rd when school resumes.

Big thank you to all who attended the fifth grade Eagle Bluff Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at the Morristown Legion and a huge thanks to the Legion for hosting this fine event! Early information indicates that more than 356 breakfasts were served!

7-12 Report

Congratulations to our 7-12 grade choir and 7-12 grade band groups. Under the direction of Mrs. Kreinbring and Mr. Larson performances were held by the band on Monday, December 6 and the choir on Monday, December 13. Their holiday performances were full of festive music and talent! Job Well Done!

Congratulations to high school social studies teacher Mr. Josh Smith. Mr. Smith and his wife welcomed their first child, a girl "Aurora Rae Smith". Mom, dad and Aurora are all doing well!

Mrs. Reuvers along with high school English teacher Mrs. Butzer took a group of over 30 students to MSU-Mankato and Bethany Lutheran College on December 2. The group toured facilities and met with admissions. They enjoyed lunch at MSU's student union.

The FFA's fruit and butter braid fundraiser was delivered last week. A thank you to Shannon Kuball for helping to organize the distribution and organization along with our FFA Officers! It was another successful fundraising effort.

Congratulations to junior high math teacher, Mrs. Skidmore. She applied for a grant through *Donor's Choose* for advisory games and flexible seating options. She was awarded the following items for her classroom:

- LC768GA - Flex-Space Premium Wobble Chair - 18 - Gray x 4
- George & Company LLC LCR (Left Right Center) Dice Game in Blue Tin & LCR Wild Dice Game in Green Tin Gift Set Bundle - 2 Pack x 1
- Gamewright Bloom – The Colorful WildFlower Roll and Write Dice Game, Multi-Colored, 5" x 2
- Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza x 2
- PlayMonster Farkle Flip Card Game x 1
- Gamewright Qwixx - A Fast Family Dice Game Multi-colored, 5" x 2
- Santa Cookie Elf Candy Snowman x 1
- Deer In The Headlights The Card & Dice Game played by Wild Game Everywhere for Ages 5 and Up x 2
- 3UP 3DOWN Card Game for Families, Kids, Teens, Adults; 2-6 Players per Deck, Up to 12 Players with 2 Decks; for Road Trips, Camping, Beach Time, Summer Camp x 1
- SKYJO by Magilano - The entertaining card game for kids and adults. The ideal game for fun, entertaining and exciting hours of play with friends and family. x 1
- Reinhard Staube's BLINK Family Card Game, Travel-Friendly, with 60 Cards and Instructions, Makes a Great Gift for 7 Year Olds and Up x 2
- Ganz Shon Clever (That's Pretty Clever) x 2
- Pass The Pigs: Big Pigs x 1

WEM Activities Director Jeff Boran presented the following report: Winter Activities:

- o The winter sports activities have gotten off to a good start.
- o Basketball – The girls play 3 home games this week (Tonight – vs. Randolph – a make-up from Friday as there were no HS officials available. Tuesday vs. USC, Thursday vs. Waseca)! The Boys travel to USC (Wells) tonight (change from tomorrow night due to the lack of officials) and Varsity hosts Waseca Thursday after the Varsity Girls Play. After the break the Girls Basketball team gets started Tuesday, January 4 at St. James. The Boys get started Friday January 7 at Belle Plaine.
- o The Grizzlies have been busy with 10 dual meets and an individual tournament so far this season. They will travel to Chatfield this Thursday 12/23 for a quadrangular with Chatfield, LaCrosse Aquinos Lutheran and Ellsworth, starting at 10:00 AM. After the break the Grizzlies will get started again Saturday Jan. 8th at Norwood Young America
- o One Act Play – “The Best Method of Research of the Human Mind and Some Alterations of Normal Behavior: By Dr. Shepard”, by Jonathan Lake. We have 7 students involved for this year. They will participate in the Gopher Conference Contest at Medford High School on January 22 and in the Subsection 6 contest at Medford HS on January 29. Section 2A One-Act will be held at USC High School in Wells on February 5.

Community Education:
 o School Age Child Care will be open this Wednesday December 22 and then will be closed the remainder of break.

Community Education:

- o Preschool Conferences are this week.
- o Currently 6 people are enrolled in a beginning quilting class held Mondays for 4 weeks.
- o 24 students will be finishing up Driver Education Classroom early next week.
- o 24 parents attended the “Point of Impact” Parent Driver Ed classroom this past Wednesday 11/17.
- o Currently 7 3rd-6th grade Bucketeer teams have secured practice time in our gyms. The wrestling club will also get started with practices in the wrestling room.

- o We continue to provide Childcare services for nearly 25 children in WEM SACC.
- o 52 WEM students participated in the PFCT "The Wizard of Oz" the week of October 25-30, and had two performances on October 29 and 30. 375 people attended the performances.

WEM Board Member Reports

There were no reports given.

WEM Board Committee Reports

There were no reports given.

WEM Superintendent Joel Whitehurst presented the following:

- Whitehurst congratulated June Rezac for earning an MSBA Award, said the budget outlook for the state is at \$7.7 billion, received consensus from the board to sell the 88 acres of ag land the district owns, and reported on the meeting with the Elysian City Council, in which the city was looking to take over ownership of the tennis courts and baseball field by the Elysian School.

Action

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Bakken to approve July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023, Master Agreement with Teachers. Total Package Increase of 3 percent Per Year and the Following One Time Stipend (Not Included in the 3 percent) - \$2,300 For Teachers Employed in the 2020-21 School Year and are Currently Employed with the District - \$450 for Teachers Hired in the 2021-22 School Year Contract Language Attached. See attachments

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Bakken to approve July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023, Agreement with Principals. Salary and Benefit Increase 3 percent Per Year Plus a One Time Payment of \$2,500 in the 2021-22 School Year with the Following Contract Language Added to Address Night Supervision: 50 percent of each fall and winter season assigned supervision duties will be a part of administrative duties. The other 50 percent of each fall and winter season supervision duties will be paid at \$100.00 per event. Principal Bastian 2021-22 (\$95,373) and 2022-23 (\$98,121) - Principal Wilson 2021-22 (\$95,120) and 2022-23 (\$98,157).

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approve the resignation letter of cook Debra Lamont. This will take place immediately.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the following letters of retirement:

* Sara Quiram, Elementary Teacher, effective at the end of the 2021-22 school year. Quiram has been with the district for 36 years.

* Mark Meyer, Elementary Teacher, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year. Meyer has been with the district for 34 years.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Rezac to approve the following new hires:

* Robbin Olson, 3-hour cook, A13/Step 6, \$12.92/hour.

* Corderro Castillo, Special Education Paraprofessional, B21/Step 1, \$13.35/hour

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approved Brian Svendsen, grades 5 and 6 Math Masters co-instructor at a rate of \$30/hour. A motion by Rezac and second by Stangler to amend the pay based on new master agreement to \$31.26/hour.

Six members voted in favor of the amendment and all six voted in favor of the original motion - Motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bakken to approve the 2021-22 Seniority Certified, 2021-22 ECFE Seniority, and the 2021-22 Non-certified Seniority lists. See attachments.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Gary Michael, Attest Jay Schneider, Attest