

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
DECEMBER 20, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Lind, Sarah Young, Carol L Johnson, Ann Long Voelkner, Gabriel Warren, and Superintendent Tim Lutz

Maya Lindquist, Student Representative
Savannah Haugen, Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

Chair Ann Long Voelkner read a statement indicating masks must be worn by all who attend School Board Meetings.

PREVIEW OF AGENDA – SUPERINTENDENT TIM LUTZ

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Gabriel Warren, seconded by Sarah Young, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Maya Lindquist & Savannah Haugen reported on Bemidji High School activities including: Debate Team, students finishing college and scholarship applications, BHS Choir Concert, and a recent school safety threat.

Maya Lindquist left at 6:38 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Jeff Lind, and carried by consent to approve the following items:

- A. Minutes from November 15, 2021 School Board Meeting
- B. Current Bills & Special Checks Totaling: \$3,359,190.23
- C. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 200-90-9: Harassment and Violence
- D. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 600-50-1: Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
- E. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 700-60-1: Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records
- F. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 900-20-1: Public and Private Personnel Data
- G. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 900-30-1: School Weapons Policy
- H. Certified Staff Appointments
- I. Noncertified Staff Resignations
- J. Teacher Seniority List
- K. Request to Accept Grant – Tour of Manufacturing
- L. Request to Accept Grant – Walmart

- M. Request to Accept Grant – George W Neilson Foundation
- N. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy SBR 700-10-4: Equal Educational Opportunity

SPECIAL TOPICS

Spotlight: A Little Spot of Giving: Northern Elementary School – Wendy Templin

2020-2021 Audit Presentation – Jon Roscoe, from Miller McDonald, Inc., presented the FY 2020-2021 audit findings.

COVID-19 UPDATES

COVID-19 Updates

Superintendent Tim Lutz indicated students are able to stay in the in-person learning model because of various mitigation strategies in place. He noted the County COVID case numbers are declining. He gave a student vaccination status update: ages 12-18 – 45% have received their first dose, 42% are fully vaccinated; ages 5-11 – 21% have received their first dose, 12% are fully vaccinated. We may begin to look at easing up on mandates at a later date, but we will look at how many staff and students are vaccinated, and we will continue doing what we are doing until we know what the Omicron variant is doing. We have relaxed some procedures by holding concerts in large, well-ventilated areas and putting some classes together for breakfast and lunch.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CT Marhula – FYI
Daniel Larson – Safety-Mandates

LISTENING SESSION REVIEW

Carol L. Johnson and Jeff Lind reported on the following Listening Session topics:
Angel Soli – Procedure for Drug Dogs at School
Steve Brown – High School Safety – Students & Staff
Seth Freundschuh, Sara Mitchell & Jeff Aas – High School Schedule Changes

DONATIONS

EQUITABLE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

2020-2021 World's Best Workforce Summary

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Sarah Young, and carried by all in attendance to approve the 2020-2021 World's Best Workforce Summary.

RELATIONSHIPS/COLLABORATION

Public Recreational Trail Easement Agreement

The motion was offered by Sarah Young, seconded by Jeff Lind, and carried by all in attendance to approve the Public Recreational Trail Easement Agreement.

ISD 31 Bemidji Community Arena Corporation Agreement

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Jeff Lind, and carried by all in attendance to approve the Land Lease, Use Agreement, and Purchase Agreement between ISD 31 and the Bemidji Community Arena Corporation.

HIGH QUALITY DISTRICT

Request for Licensed Staff

The motion was offered by Gabriel Warren, seconded by Sarah Young, and carried by all in attendance to add 1.0 FTE social worker and 1.0 FTE homebased/homebound teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.

Annual Audit – FY 2020-2021

The motion was offered by Jeff Lind, seconded by Carol L. Johnson, and the vote was carried unanimously to approve the FY 2020-2021 annual audit as presented.

2021 Payable 2022 Levy Limit Certification

Krisi Fenner, Director of Business Services, presented the Truth in Taxation Public Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on December 20, 2021.

The motion was offered by Gabriel Warren, seconded by Carol L. Johnson, and carried by all in attendance to approve the 2021 Pay 2022 Levy Limit at the MAXIMUM.

School Board Member Replacement Process

The appointment process to fill the School Board Member vacancy caused by Jeff Haack was discussed. The Board Personnel Committee will develop the selection criteria and application process and will report back to the full Board. The appointment will be in effect for the rest of 2022. No action was taken.

Potential Reduction in Programs and Positions

Sarah Young introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFORE

WHEREAS, the financial condition of the school district may dictate that the School Board must consider a possible reduction in expenditures, and

WHEREAS, shifts in elementary and secondary student participation might cause discontinuance of positions and/or curtailment of programs, and

WHEREAS, a determination must be made concerning which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed, and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 31: That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions to effectuate economies in the school district and reduce expenditures; and make recommendations to the School Board for discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Carol L. Johnson, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Carol L. Johnson, Gabriel Warren, Jeff Lind, Sarah Young, and
Ann Long Voelkner
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, said resolution was declared passed and adopted.

Bemidji High School Schedule

Ann Long Voelkner provided a summary of the High School Schedule presentation at the last School Board Work Session. Any changes made to the schedule would be in effect in SY 2023-2024.

Resolution of School Board Supporting Form A Application to Minnesota State High School League Foundation

Carol L. Johnson offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF SCHOOL BOARD SUPPORTING FORM A APPLICATION TO MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation was formed to provide support for Minnesota's high school youth to participate in athletics and fine arts.

WHEREAS, the Bemidji Area Schools School Board recognizes the value of student participation in extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State High School League Foundation is offering grants and funding to assist schools in recognizing, promoting, and funding extracurricular participation by high school students in athletic and fine arts programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bemidji Area Schools School Board supports the district's application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation for a FORM A grant to offset student activity fees.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Gabriel Warren, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Gabriel Warren, Sarah Young, Jeff Lind, Carol L. Johnson, and
Ann Long Voelkner
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 13-14, 2022 – MSBA Leadership Conference
January Meeting – Monday, January 24, 2022, 6:30 p.m. *(Date change due to Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday Observance.)*

OTHER

Once Around the Table

School Board Members shared their observations of events in the district.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Gabriel Warren, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn. Time: 8:52 p.m.

Clerk

Date Approved

Chair

Date Approved