

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

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A **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Education of Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, May 27, 2021**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center-Community Room, 1520 Mahtomedi Avenue, Mahtomedi, Minnesota 55115

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### 2. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lucy Payne.

### 3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Kelly Reagan; Stacey Stout; Tony Vosooney; Superintendent Barbara Duffrin, ex-officio and Ismail Bah, school board student representative.

### 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

McGraw moved, Stout seconded, approval of agenda. Carried 6-0.

### 5. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA - See #13 for Consent Agenda Items

Donovan moved, Vosooney seconded, approval of the actions recommended on the consent agenda. Carried 6-0.

### 6. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

#### A. Student/Staff/Community Recognition

##### 1. Student Representative Ismail Bah

Superintendent Barbara Duffrin presented School Board Student Representative Ismail Bah with a classic school bell and thanked him for his leadership, being the student voice, and for his commitment through out this difficult year.

2. Mahtomedi Zephyr Buddies' Mentor Recognition: Sarah Brings, Abby Bruggeman, Sabrina Corbera, Ishana Didwania, Milena Ficcadenti, Ian George, Lily Gornik, Ava Hanson, Ava Kaiser (Present), Kylie Lallak, Anika Liner, Greta Liner, Smriti Samtani and Claire Wendland

Community Education Director Kate Andersen recognized the Zephyr Buddies' Mentors. The Zephyr Community Connections Group made up of district staff and community members created the program in January. The program is a mentoring program between secondary students and elementary students to make connections during the pandemic. Twenty-four students participated in the program meeting virtually every other week to share their interests and create friendships. They started meeting in person in May. Fourth-grader Grier Hamen was featured in a video sharing a mentee's perspective.

#### B. Spotlight: Mahtomedi High School

Justin Hahn, Mahtomedi High School Principal presented on part of the high school's mission to create dynamic educational experiences for varied interests and to create a culture that seeks out and honors diverse and global perspectives. Part of the district's and high school's strategic plan is to ensure opportunities for students to explore their passions. Two videos were shared showing how students and teachers are reaching these mission goals. The first video featured Libby Kratzke, Mahtomedi High School French Teacher, speaking with two of her students, Smriti Samtani and Kaelyn Chen. They shared their experience during the school year with penpals, pet projects, using tools like Edpuzzle and Flip Grid, interpretative tests, and units built around the students' areas of interest. The second video featured Laura Goucher, Mahtomedi High School Director of Bands, speaking with several of her band students, Alicia Goeser, Peter Olsen, Jonah Schimnowski and Helen Atkins. They shared their experiences during the school year with composer interviews, student selected music, student led performances in sectional groups, different performance styles, and the "Let's Get Creative Project". Jim Lane, Mahtomedi High School Life Science Teacher, and Sarah Lorntson, Mahtomedi High School Language Arts Teacher, collaborated to allow students co-enrolled in English 11 and Field Ecology to complete a student led Land Acknowledgement Project. This project demonstrated student agency and transfer of learning. Students Lydia Holslin and Dominik McCollough presented an overview of the project to school board members.

#### 7. REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Ismail Bah, Student Representative, reported there is an upcoming connection event with second grade classes and high school Ecology students, upcoming elementary track and field days and the Nature Trail Day at O.H. Anderson Elementary. Mahtomedi Middle School celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week and completed MCA testing. Mahtomedi High School students completed Advance Placement course testing and many enjoyed the Prom – *Carnival on the St. Croix*.

#### 8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Duffrin reported on the retirement parties for staff at each school building and read the names of this year's retirees. Summer School protocol was released by the MN Department of Education (MDE) and masks will be required on buses. Duffrin stated

she is anticipating a more normal 2021-2022 School Year, with more students receiving vaccinations.

## 9. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

### A. Board Member Calendar

The Board Member Calendar was reviewed.

### B. Mahtomedi Compensation Plan (MCP)/Q-Comp Annual Report

Jennifer Merthan, Mahtomedi Compensation Plan Coordinator, presented the MCP/Q-Comp Report to school board members, which is required annually by MDE. The MCP components include setting building-wide goals, participating in Professional Learning Communities (PLC), setting PLC goals and peer coaching. Teachers were surveyed on the value of each of the components and the majority felt they were very/somewhat valuable. The plan uses a continuous improvement model of a plan-do-study-act cycle. Merthan stated the Professional Learning Communities operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators. The review panel determined the program to be proficient or exemplary. The Mahtomedi Education Association (MEA) members voted 124 to 2 to continue MCP next year. Merthan reported the challenges the program is facing include flat State funding with increasing costs, an increase in staff member participation with a lack of a full-time coach in each building and requested additional funding.

## 10. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approval of Donations/Grants Totaling \$115,040.81

School Board Chair Lucy Payne stated 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 the Sauer Family Foundation to Mahtomedi Early Childhood & Early Childhood Special Education Programs - Conscious Discipline: Building Resiliency Among Young Children Training Program - \$40,729.00
2. From Mahtomedi Parent Teacher Organization to O.H. Anderson Elementary School Fourth Grade Nature Trail Day - \$580.00
3. From Mahtomedi Parent Teacher Organization to O.H. Anderson Elementary School Bingo - \$206.02
4. From Mahtomedi Parent Teacher Organization to O.H. Anderson Elementary School Third Grade Nature Trail Day - \$479.79
5. From Mahtomedi Parent Teacher Organization to O.H. Anderson Elementary School Fifth Grade Nature Trail Day - \$330.00
6. From Wells Fargo Blackbaud Giving Fund to Mahtomedi Middle School - \$540.00
7. From Mold Craft, Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$250.00

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8. From S.E. Weddell E. Jane Sullivan to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
9. From Justin and Wendy Hahn to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
10. From Mahtomedi Education Association to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
11. From Susan Morton Moore Clark to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
12. From Paul W. Rogosheske to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
13. From Mahtomedi School Board and Superintendent Duffrin to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
14. From Kari Lynn Munson to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
15. From Melissa M. Ward & Bradley F. Ward to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$150.00
16. From Nicholas J. Rasmussen & Roger M. Schlichting to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$250.00
17. From Carol Heinsch to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
18. From ETA Tutoring and College Support Services to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
19. From Christine Dittberner, Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$125.00
20. From Joel Dittberner to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$125.00
21. From Michael L. Schwartz & Judith M. Schwartz to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
22. From James Hansen to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$1,100.00
23. From Janice Johnson & Dale Johnson to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
24. From Lael E. Ramaley Trustee to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
25. From John Belisle to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$250.00
26. From Newton D. Smith Jr. & Alice R. Smith to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
27. From Steven F. Wolgamot & Karen H. Wolgamot to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
28. From Richard W. Copeland, D.D.S. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$250.00
29. From Dashby Holdings to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$350.00
30. From Pine Tree Orchards, Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
31. From American Legion Post 507 to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00
32. From Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$500.00

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33. From O’Leary Auto Body Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
34. From WW Liquor Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$250.00
35. From Brian R. Roelofs, Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
36. From Wildwood Tavern, Inc. to Mahtomedi High School Celebration of Excellence - \$100.00
37. From Kramer-Berg Legion Post 507 to Mahtomedi Middle School Youth Athletics and Activities - \$1,450
38. From Kramer-Berg Legion Post 507 to Mahtomedi Community Education Senior Programs and The Scoop Newsletter - \$2,000
39. From the Cassack Foundation to Mahtomedi High School Girls Hockey - \$6,500
40. From Robert Luniewski Corporation to Mahtomedi Community Education Food Trucks - \$200.00
41. From American Legion Post 507 to Mahtomedi High School Band - \$500.00
42. From Auto Edge LTD to Mahtomedi High School Fishing Club - \$300.00
43. From Gladstone Woodbury to Mahtomedi High School Fishing Club - \$250.00
44. From 4M Fund City of Mahtomedi to Mahtomedi Community Education Annual Support - \$52,676.00

Stout moved, Vosooney seconded, approval of donations/grants totaling \$115,040.81.  
Carried 6-0.

B. Recommendation to Approve Employment for Licensed Personnel Who will Continue to be on Probationary Status for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. Jennifer Seckora

Donovan moved, McGraw seconded, approval of employment for licensed personnel who will continue to be on probationary status for the 2021-2022 School Year. Carried 6-0.

C. Approval of the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget

Payne moved, McGraw seconded, tabling approval of the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget until the June 24 Regular School Board Meeting. Carried 6-0.

11. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD) Board

Tony Vosooney, School Board Treasurer, reported on AMSD’s May meetings where Andre Prah, MDE’s Agency Finance Director, gave an overview of Federal COVID-19 Relief Funds. The Bloomington School District and the University of MN researchers presented on the link between school start times and academic/health outcomes for

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students. MDE gave a review of the legislative session and what to expect in the upcoming special session and the retiring superintendents were recognized.

B. Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation (MAEF)

School Board Clerk Julie McGraw reported on Spring Giving Week, which raised over \$52,000 through donations, sponsors and auction items. School Board Chair Lucy Payne thanked McGraw for organizing the donated auction items from the school board. The need for the Weekend Backpack Program has increased by 10%.

C. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Legislative Liaison

School Board Chair Lucy Payne reported she and Superintendent Duffrin spoke again to the legislature regarding instructional hours. After meeting with MDE, MSBA and administrators, they have another round of new language to send to the Senate staff, with a deadline of June 4. The Education Budget Committee deadline is tomorrow. MSBA has excellent webinars on Federal funding available online and will have a webinar with a summary of the legislative session on its website, along with a detailed budget book for board members. The Summer Seminar will be held virtually on August 5.

D. Northeast Metro 916 Board

Kevin Donovan, School Board Director, reported the N.E. Metro 916 Education Foundation Golf Tournament is June 15. Donovan is part of a committee doing a School Resource Officer Study from May to November. This is Superintendent Connie Hayes last month and they are hoping to meet in-person for her final meeting.

E. School Board Subcommittee Reports

None.

F. Other Items/Reports

School Board Director Kelly Reagan reported on the District Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting and how Mahtomedi Schools are supporting elementary students in reading through ongoing assessments and a multi-tiered system of support with core instruction and early interventions. The Literacy Review will take place in the 2021-2022 School Year. Changes to the music and arts programming requirements include offering three courses for each grade level at the elementary/middle school level and three courses at the high school level. At Mahtomedi Middle School there is a need to expand the art programming to meet the new standards. The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) had three meetings during its first year. This committee was formed to reach out to Native American students/families and increase collaboration with other districts. The Youth Leadership Council was reestablished this year with students from the Mahtomedi School District and The North St. Paul School District. The Mahtomedi School District also established an Equity Leadership Team (ELT) to

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work on equity throughout the district. The ELT has been working with the Equity Literacy Institute.

Tony Vosooney, School Board Treasurer, reported on the last Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting. The PTO is offering back to school kits for the students at O.H. Anderson Elementary School and Original Works of Art. Families can order both on the PTO website. The PTO is organizing an after school Fifth Grade Strategy Games Event on June 7 and will be providing frozen treats for the elementary end of year celebrations. At the June meeting the PTO will be approving the 2021-2022 calendar, budget and board positions.

School Board Director Kelly Reagan reported on two Community Education events. The delivery of May Day Baskets to seniors and the next Food Truck Friday is June 18.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Donovan moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

## 13. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Items Approved Under #5)

### A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. April 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting
2. May 13, 2021 - Study Session

### B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

### C. Approval to Pay Bills

1. AP Check Register - Check No. 410762 to 411024 and 9800012086 to 9800012144

### D. Approval of Wire Transfer Transactions

### E. Personnel

1. Approval of Contracts and Work Agreements
  - a. Michelle Igo - Special Education Finance Specialist - Mahtomedi District Office (7/1/2021)
2. Approval of Leaves of Absence

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- a. Tracie Fiola - Special Education Paraprofessional - O.H. Anderson Elementary School (5/13/2021-6/10-2021)
- b. Julie Stanton - Cleaner - Mahtomedi High School (6/14/2021-8/27/2021)

3. Approval of Resignations/Retirements

- a. Roy Anderson - Head Custodian - O.H. Anderson Elementary School (7/31/2021)
- b. Hayley Engel - Occupational Therapist - Wildwood Elementary School (6/11/2001)
- c. Rebecca Hague - Special Education Teacher - Wildwood Elementary School (6/11/2021)
- d. Kelsey Joson - Physical Education Teacher - Mahtomedi Middle School (6/11/2021)
- e. Michael Neubeck - Principal - Mahtomedi Middle School (6/30/2021)
- f. Cynthia Sherar - Gifted and Talented Coordinator - District-wide (6/11/2021)
- g. Kelly Tronstad - Parent Educator - Mahtomedi Community Education (6/4/2021)
- h. Katherine Voda - Special Education Paraprofessional - Mahtomedi Middle School (6/10/2021)

F. Approval of the Resolution to Designate Superintendent Barbara Duffrin as the Identified Official with Authority to Authorize User Access to MDE Secure Websites for our Local Education Agency

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK