

# Minutes of Study Session

## The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

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A **Study Session** of the Board of Education of Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, October 26, 2017**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center -Community Room.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Lucy Payne.

### 2. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Mike Chevalier; Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout and Superintendent Mark Larson, ex officio.

Also present: Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services; Beth Sneden, Professional Development and Special Education Supervisor and Lynne Viker, Director of Learning and Accountability.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Payne moved to amend the agenda by adding item 4. F. MSBA Nondiscrimination Policy Resolution. McGraw seconded. Carried 6-0. Donovan moved, Schwartz seconded, approval of the agenda. Carried 6-0.

### 4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

#### A. Sleep and School Start Time Presentation

Superintendent Mark Larson and school board members discussed the following regarding school start times: wellness goals, MN Sleep Society Study, school start time scenarios, student transportation/busing, before and after school activities, sports, before and after school daycare and the themes of the community's questions, concerns and emails. The administration and school board members have held presentations/listening sessions for staff at each of the buildings and for the community at the October 5 PTO meeting, October 23 Chautaugua Fine Arts Center and the next listening session will be on November 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Education Center. Dr. Larson also met with the Mahtomedi High School Student Leadership Council (SLC). All of the sleep study and school start time information/links are on the district website. School board members requested

additional information on the Region 4AA Section school start times/proposed changes, community sports associations' impact, the capacity/cost of the Mahtomedi Adventure Club (MAC) afterschool care program and any other available research on earlier start times for elementary students. Also discussed was a possible transportation audit or parent/student survey.

**B. Fund Balance Policy – Philosophy**

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, presented on the district's Fund Balance Policy which included: analysis of the current policy, history of the unassigned general fund balance, comparison to other districts, the importance of a healthy fund balance and future forecasting. Mahtomedi's current policy requires a minimum unassigned general fund balance of 8% of the total general fund expenditures. The 2016-2017 audit report will be presented December 9 and the Truth and Taxation presentation will be December 14 at the regular school board meetings.

**C. Early Childhood, Finance and Facilities Structures**

Lynne Viker, Director of Learning and Accountability, and Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, discussed with school board members a crossroad initiative which included: creating a designated early childhood space at the District Education Center by moving the district office to the high school media center, thus creating space at Wildwood Elementary for additional K-2 sections; creating a new makerspace at the high school for innovative/creative inquiry based learning, technology and a social area. Menozzi and Viker explained the need to identify under/over utilized areas in each of the buildings and create additional classroom sections at the preschool and elementary levels for sustain enrollment to the middle and high schools to create budget stability.

**D. Future Calendar Items**

Superintendent Mark Larson reviewed upcoming meetings with school board members: an additional December 7 School Board Study Session, changing the January 4 Personnel Committee Meeting to an Enrollment Committee Meeting and adding a two hour equity session with a facilitator to the July 12 School Board Retreat.

**E. Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation (MAEF) and N.E. Metro 916 Foundation Fall Fund Drives**

The school board members and Superintendent Larson agree to 100% participation in donating to the MAEF and N.E. Metro 916 Foundation Fall Fund Drives.

**F. Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) Nondiscrimination Policy Resolution**

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Schwartz move to rescind the MSBA Nondiscrimination Policy Resolution  
Donovan seconded. Carried 6-0.

5. ADJOURNMENT

McGraw moved, Stout seconded, adjournment. Carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00  
p.m.

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK