

## **W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, August 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 2022 at the Waterville Building. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Michael at 6:32 p.m.

Board Members Michael, June Rezac, Travis Bowman, Jon Bakken, Jay Schneider, Jon Velishek, and Jeff Stangler attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent Ryan Jensen, Principal Bobbi Jo Bastian, Activities Director Jeff Boran, and Business Manager Margaret Jewison.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Bowman to approve the agenda with one addition. Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Stangler to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2022 and from July 25, 2022. Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approve the August Financial Report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$730,912.31, deposits were \$61,788.82, and transfers were \$200,000. Comments on the report included a payment of 44,055.00 to M & W Blacktopping for grounds repair and maintenance on the playground.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to authorize the resolution for the sale of bonds. See attachment. Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

### **VISITOR COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

### **RECOGNITION**

There were no recognition agenda items this month.

### **REPORTS**

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

#### **All District**

New teaching staff had their introductory day to WEM on Thursday, August 25. New teachers were introduced to clerical staff, received technology and HR tutorials, and did a meet and greet lunch with members of the Waterville Chamber of Commerce. In total, we have nine new staff members.

All staff will begin workshop week as a whole on Monday, August 29. Consecutive days will be for certified staff only including a meet and greet for each building's teaching staff to meet Superintendent Jensen.

Principals Bastian and Wilson attended the Minnesota Summit for Leading and Learning with Superintendent Jensen. The work and professional development was exceptional.

All students will receive a green carpet welcome on the first day of school. Students will be greeted by staff and all board members are invited to attend and join in the welcome at either of the three main entries into the building starting at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 6 for students in grades 5-12 and Wednesday, September 7 for our elementary students.

#### **PreK-6 Report**

Entrance conferences for students entering Kindergarten through fourth grade will take place Sept. 6 throughout the school day. Back to school orientation for fifth and sixth grade students will take place the evening of Sept. 1. Both are an excellent opportunity for students and their parents to meet teachers and teachers to get to know students and their families.

The first day of classes for fifth and sixth grade students will be Sept. 6 and the first day of classes for K-4th grade students will be Sept. 7.

#### **7-12 Report**

Back to School Open House will be held on Wednesday, August 31 for all 9-12 high school students and Thursday, September 1 for all 5-8 middle school students. Similar to last year the 7th and 8th grade students will have an interactive open house with a scavenger hunt and meet and greet opportunities. The high school will have a traditional open house, however we will be transitioning back to a freshman orientation where freshmen and their parents will be able to be in the building and go through a typical schedule and have a presentation with our administration and counselor.

The first day of school for our 7-12th grade students is Tuesday, September 6.

Different from years past, the high school students schedule has been modified to accommodate every day homeroom. Dr. Wilson brought the idea to the leadership team after the YEA Data Summit through the A & I Grant in Northfield. The idea was presented by the WEM student leaders that attended. The leadership team agreed that there is a need for advisee/student connections, a time to do grade checks, students to have carved in time to organize their tasks, and to connect in a holistic/academic way. Advisors and homerooms traditionally loop throughout a high school career to establish routine and consistency. We believe having an increased routine and built in support time with homeroom advisors and the small group advisory will decrease the daily stress load students feel. Being that this is a student driven suggestion we also believe that voices of our students are being heard and we are making adjustments to provide a meaningful high school experience that tailor to the needs of our population.

Principal Bastian also commented they have decided not to move forward with the bloc scheduling in Morristown.

#### **WEM Activities Director Jeff Boran presented the following report:**

##### **ACTIVITIES**

Boys and girls cross country: Started practice August 15, 2022. First event will be 8-26 at Fairmont. The first meet we will host will be Thursday, Sept. 29 at the Prairie Ridge Golf Course in Janesville. 2022 WEM cross country participants - 3 girls and 6 boys. JWP cross country participants - 9 girls and 5 boys.

Cheerleading: Started practice 5-15-2022. 9 girls are participating in cheer for the fall 2022 season.

Volleyball: Started practice 8-15-2022. The first event for high school will be August 30 at Belle Plaine. Junior high's first event will be September 1 at home against Cannon Falls. Volleyball participants 26 (9-12) and 25 (7th and 8th).

Football: Started practice August 15, 2022. The first varsity game will be Thursday, September 1 at Randolph, with the first home game on Friday, September 9 vs. Cleveland. Junior varsity football plays at NRHEG on Sept. 6 and junior high's first game will be Sept. 8 at home against NRHEG. Football participants 41 (9-12) and 31 to date (7th and 8th).

Co-op sponsorships for 2022-23: Boys and girls soccer, hockey, and girls gymnastics with Waseca. Wrestling and boys and girls cross country with JWP.

##### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

Little Bucs Preschool has 57 students currently registered. Two 4's and 5' classes of 18 each both meet four days a week. We also have two 3's and 4's classes of 11 and 10 that meet three days per week.

School Age Childcare Fall 2022 registrations - Currently 31 registered.

ECFE information regarding classes will be coming out soon for Fall of 2022.

#### **WEM Board Member Reports**

June Rezac presented a card for drone media.

#### **WEM Board Committee Reports**

The policy committee continues working hard at updating old policies.

#### **WEM Superintendent Ryan Jensen presented the following:**

- Jensen said he attended the Dept. of Ed. Back to School Conference, discussed the Minnesota Summit, had a one year warranty walk through on the construction project and there were a punch list of 15-20 cosmetic things which need to be fixed, and Jensen said he is meeting with board, staff, and community members.

#### **Action**

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Rezac to approve substitute teacher pay in the following amounts: 1-10 days \$150, 11-20 days \$175, 21 or more \$200, Retired teachers will start at a rate of \$175.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the resolution relating to the election of school board members and calling the school district general election.

Seven members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

The board had the first readings of the following policies: 504 Students Dress and Appearance and 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Bowman to approve 2022-2023 Special Education Agreement concerning staff sharing between ISD#829 Waseca and ISD#2143 Waterville-Elysian-Morristown.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

## **PERSONNEL**

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Bowman to approve the following new hires:

- Steve Lansing, Physical Education - BS10/C120, \$58,489.
- Melissa Schneider, School Psychologist Assistant - \$27.89/hour, up to 15 hours/week.
- Tricia Slayton - Paraprofessional - Step 3, \$13.61/hour.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Schneider to approve the hiring of MaeLea Harmon as 2nd Assistant Volleyball Coach.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Michael and seconded by Rezac to approve the following contracts:

- July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 Communications Coordinator Margo Kulseth. total package increase of 5 percent, \$40 stipend to attend regular board meetings and payment of association membership dues.
- 2022-2023 School Psychologist Shawna Peterson-Brown. Daily rate increase from \$475 to \$525.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to approve the following resignations:

- Megan Lejchar, Paraprofessional, effective August 9, 2022.
- Austin Nagel, Physical Education, effective August 12, 2022.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Bowman to approve the following requests for lane changes:

- Laura Sammon, MS20 to MS30 effective September 15, 2022.
- Jennifer Graham, MS20 to MS30 effective September 15, 2022.
- Ashley Landru, MS20 to MS30 effective September 15, 2022.
- Tonya Sauer, BS10 to BS15 effective September 15, 2022.
- Anna Skidmore, MS20 to MS30 effective September 15, 2022.
- Eric Gerst, MS20 to MS30 effective September 15, 2022.
- Heather Snesrud, BS to BS10 effective September 15, 2022.
- Pam Heinz, BS30 to BS40 effective September 15, 2022.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Seven members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Gary Michael, Attest

Jay Schneider, Attest