

# MINERAL POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA

Public Notice is hereby given to the public and to news media pursuant to Chapter 19, Subchapter IV, Wisconsin Statutes that a Regular Meeting of the School Board of the Mineral Point Unified School District in the Mineral Point Middle School/High School building located at 705 Ross Street in the city of Mineral Point, Iowa County, Wisconsin.

**11/09/2015 6:30 PM**

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Presenter: Larry Steffes

Time: 6:30 PM

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Presenter: Larry Steffes

## **III. COMMUNICATIONS**

Presenter: Larry Steffes

### 1. Board Communications Received

### 2. Citizen Communications

If interested in addressing the School Board during the Communications portion of the meeting, please stand and state your name when the Board President requests communications from the citizens.

#### a. President's Comments to the Audience

On behalf of fellow Board members, at this time I would like to invite any member of the audience to stand with comments about items of interest or concern that do or do not appear on the agenda this evening. Please begin by stating your name and address. It would be appreciated if you would limit your comments to three minutes so that we can keep the meeting moving in a timely fashion and allow others an opportunity to speak. We ask that you remember that Wisconsin law prohibits us from discussing specific employees or their job performance. Thank you for your support of our school district.

#### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE/BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. Credit Card Statement of Activity

2. Approval of Bills Payable

3. Approval of Budget Amendment

The District recommends approval of amending the budget to properly code revenue (savings) from the energy efficiency project from fund 38 to fund 10. Doing so corrects an inconsistency found in bookkeeping.

4. Personnel Services

a. Approval of Staff Leave of Absence

1. Bret McGraw has requested a FMLA paternity leave of absence Nov 20th - Dec 23rd, returning when school resumes Jan 4, 2016.

#### **V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

1. PMA Financial Services - Financial Forecast

Scott Gralla, PMA Financial Services, will present the board with a financial forecast for the Mineral Point School District.

2. Final Budget - Allocation of Surplus

After final aid estimates and property valuation was known the district has approximately a \$208,000 surplus. The surplus has yet to be allocated.

The board could choose to allocate the surplus to salary and benefits, non-capital instructional needs and services, capital projects, existing debt, fund balance, or a combination thereof.

The board has the opportunity to discuss what to be done with the surplus.

Recommendations are forthcoming from the Superintendent along with action scheduled for the December board meeting in conjunction with the long range facility planning report by Nexus.

## VI. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Act on possible options regarding the current vacancy of the instructional assistant position assigned to PreKindergarten and Early Childhood for the 15-16 school year.

Legal counsel has advised that the motion to not rehire the PreK/EC assistant be redone.

2. Wellness Policy 457 - Rule

This is the second reading of proposed changes to the Wellness Policy 457 - Rule

3. Removal of Playground Base Material

In conjunction with a Cummins grant to replace playground equipment, the district installed shredded rubber in the spring of 2012. To date the District has received three persons sharing concerns regarding the use of shredded rubber as a base on the elementary playground. The two most recent concerns followed a report in the media regarding crumb rubber being dangerous for students. The District does not use crumb rubber on any sites.

The District contacted EMC, our liability insurance carrier, for guidance on the question to remove or not remove the shredded rubber. EMC recommends schools first use shredded rubber as it is the safest as a playground base, followed by shredded bark, followed by pea gravel.

EMC also supplied the district with a safety report on effects of shredded rubber as a playground material. (See attached)

Roger Palzkill, Director of Buildings and Grounds contacted Ivey's Construction and Waste Management for the cost to remove shredded rubber and install shredded bark. Ivey's price to remove an estimated 60 ton of material and replace with 20 to 25 loads of bark was estimated not to exceed \$13,500. Waste Management's quote to dispose of the shredded bark was estimated not to exceed \$3,400 noting the cost would be much more if the material were hazardous. Shredded rubber is not considered a hazardous material. The total amount to remove, dispose, and replace the shredded rubber is estimated not to exceed \$17,000.

Given the low frequency of concern, the District's insurance carrier recommending shredded rubber as a base, the lack of research and evidence that shredded rubber is harmful, and the significant cost of removal and replacement, the District does not recommend removal of shredded rubber as a base material on the elementary playground.

4. Madison Community Foundation

The District has investigated using the Madison Community Foundation for commencing an endowment fund. Information learned to date will be shared with the board and a discussion regarding the board's desire for the future direction of the endowment will follow.

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Presenter: Luke Francois

1. PLC Vignette

Board Members expressed interest in learning more about Professional Learning Communities (PLC) through video resources. A short vignette of PLC's will be shared with the board throughout the year to give the board a better understanding of the work being conducted by staff in a PLC environment.

2. WSPRA Award

Joelle Doye, Communications Director, received recognition at the fall conference of the Wisconsin Schools Public Relations Association luncheon.

3. Stadium Donations

a. Cummins

The District received a \$5,000 donation toward the stadium project from Cummins. Cummins is a valued partner in education and Mineral Point Schools.

b. Mineral Point Alumni NFL raffle

Former Principal Ted Evans presented the MPSD with a check for \$30,000 as a gift toward the stadium project. The funds will be used to make the annual payment of the note for the stadium secured by the school district. The District personally thanks Mr. Evans for his efforts on behalf of the stadium project.

#### 4. Advocacy and Public Relations

### VIII. **Book Study - School Board Field Book**

The School Board FieldBook will be distributed with a timeline for completion and discussion agreed upon and book study questions distributed.

#### 1. The School Board Field Book: Leading with a Vision Chapter Two - Three Roles Essential to Every School System

Chapter 2 defines the board's role and separates the functions of that role from other organizational roles. The authors state that role perspectives are defined through expertise, time, and access, and argue that actions that deviate from one's proper role result in micromanagement. Examine Table 2-1 and 2-2: Strategic, Tactical, and Operational Definitions and Roles.

Question: How do expertise, time, and access shape these roles? How can a board determine if changes are actually occurring in the classroom without micromanaging? What self-imposed guidelines would the board consider to avoid micromanaging?

The authors present a five-step decision-making process that aligns the three roles in making, implementing, and assessing school district decisions.

Question: What do you think are essential components of a board charge that provides both strategic clarity and guidance while avoiding assigning tactics?

Question: Do you think the decision making process provided by the authors allows for sufficient board authority? Why or why not? If a board is not satisfied with the tactical outcome, what are its strategic responsibilities and its proper limits in providing correction?

**IX. NEXT MEETING DATES**

1. Regular Board Meeting, December 14, 2015 6:30PM, Board Room MPSD

**X. ADJOURN**

**XI. OTHER ENCLOSURES**

Regular meeting

10/12: <http://mineralpointschools.org/mpsd/blogs/news/october-school-board-meeting/>

Special meeting

10/26: <http://mineralpointschools.org/mpsd/blogs/news/special-school-board-meeting-1026/>