

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER
215 PINE AVENUE E, WISCONSIN
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024, 5:45 P.M.**

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Call to Order**– President Rachel Henderson called the meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the Menomonie Area to order at 5:45 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024, in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center at 215 Pine Avenue E, Menomonie, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum**– Roll call showed nine board members present: Abe Smith, Dale Dahlke, Amber Kersting, Karl Palmer, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Rachel Henderson, Mark Hillman, Dominique Stewart, and Angie Skillings. President Henderson declared a quorum and noted that the meeting had been duly noticed. The administrators in attendance were Joe Zydowsky, Samantha Hoyt, Brian Seguin, Katherine Krueger, Tonia Kowieski, Leah Theder, Bart Boettcher, Casey Drake, Shannon Branch, and Mike Kennedy. Also, in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell and videographer Steve Hanson. Electors and others registering in attendance included Ruth Reneson, Rebecca Hoffman, Josie Pillman, Ray Martenson, Tyler Miller, Lynne Hausman, and Dennis Hausman.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance Reading of Mission Statement**- Henderson led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the district’s mission statement.
- D. Agenda Order and Approval/Revision**– Smith requested that discussion item C be moved before the action agenda. Riddle-Swanson asked to move the District Administrator’s employee contract listed under action agenda item C to the closed session. There were no objections, and the agenda order was updated.
- E. Recommendations & Commendations**- Tyler Miller received a commendation certificate from the board. Angie Skillings, Karl Palmer, and Mark Hillman were recognized for their service on the board.
- F. April Highlight on Youth** - The board reviewed the April Highlight on Youth presentation.
- G. Student Representative Communications**- The board heard from student council representatives Max Buhr and Teyha Johnson about current activities at Menomonie High School.
- H. Community Communications**- Community communications in attendance included Josie Pillman and Rebecca Hoffman. They each had three minutes to address the Board of Education regarding their topic or concern.
- I. Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Month Ended March 2024**- The board reviewed the revenue and expenditure reports for March 2024.
- J. Monthly Employment Report (March 2024)** - The board reviewed the monthly non-certified staff employment report for March 2024.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Consent Agenda**- Smith made a motion, seconded by Kersting, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: 1) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 18, 2024; 2) Financial Reports of March 2024; 3) Donations Exceeding \$1,000 for March 2024; and 5) Approve National Travel for the 2025 MHS Choir Trip, as presented. Palmer requested in the minutes of March 18, 2024, discussion item E that the language “After a long discussion, the board agreed on a 4.12% total compensation increase across all employee groups and will consider it for approval at the next meeting.” be changed to “The board discussed a 4.12%

total compensation increase across all employee groups and will consider it for approval at the next meeting.” There were no objections, and the motion passed 9-0 by electronic vote.

III. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda–** Smith made a motion, seconded by Kersting, to approve the following personnel consent agenda as presented: 1) The resignation of Claire Brown, STEAM teacher at Menomonie Middle School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; 2) The resignation of Tyson Hoeft, 8th-grade Math teacher at Menomonie Middle School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; 3) The resignation of Allison Tarnowski, 2nd-grade teacher at Oaklawn, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; 4) The resignation of Rebekah Mathison, Special Education teacher, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; and 5) The employment of Tyra Swanson for the PE/Health teacher at Menomonie High School, effective August 13, 2024. Motion passed 9-0 by electronic vote.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- C. Discuss Preliminary Budget for 2024-2025 and Potential Budget Reductions-** The Board discussed the preliminary budget for the 2024-25 school year. Dr. Zydowsky shared the new list of possible budget reductions that were developed after the last board meeting by the administrative team, modified with input from the QIC groups. After a lengthy review, the Board discussed limiting reductions to all items listed in Level I. Work will continue on the preliminary budget prior to Board consideration in June.

V. ACTION AGENDA

- A. Approve Revisions to Policy, 343.1, Class Size-** Palmer made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve revisions to Policy 343.1, Class Size, as presented. Motion passed 9-0
- B. Approve Staffing Plan for 2024-2025-** Skillings made a motion, seconded by Riddle-Swanson, to approve the staffing plan for 2024-2025, as presented. Smith made a motion, seconded by Stewart, to amend the staffing plan for 2024-2025 by approving the three elementary behavior specialists, one elementary special education teacher, and a bilingual paraeducator, and remove from the plan for later discussion and reconsideration the accounting assistant position and an additional major maintenance employee/custodian at MHS. The amendment failed 3-6 by roll call vote, with Riddle-Swanson, Smith, and Stewart voting yes, and Hillman, Skillings, Palmer, Henderson, Dahlke, and Kersting voting no. After further discussion, the original motion passed 9-0.
- C. Approve SDMA Pay Scales and Issuance of Employee Contracts for 2024-2025-** Skillings made a motion, seconded by Dahlke, to approve SDMA pay scales and Issuance of Employee Contracts for 2024-2025 (minus the district administrator contract which had been moved to closed session), as presented. Motion carried 8-1, Hillman casting a no vote.
- D. Approve 4K Programming Agreements-** Palmer made a motion, seconded by Kersting, to approve 4K programming agreements, as presented. The motion passed 9-0.
- E. Approve 2023-2024 Budget Revisions-** Smith made a motion, seconded by Skillings, to approve the 2023-2024 Budget Revisions, as presented. The motion passed 9-0.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- A. Clerk’s Report from Spring Election-** Stewart shared the results from the Spring Election. The Board of Canvassers met on Friday, April 5, 2024, and certified the election results. Emily Hines, with 2,587 votes, Angela Wolf, with 2,596, and Michelle Dupree, with 2,682 votes, were elected to the board for three (3) year terms starting April 22, 2024, and ending April 25, 2027.

- B. Review Annual Technology Department Report-** Director of Technology Katie Krueger provided an annual report of the Technology Services Department. She shared department highlights that include creating a translation tools guide for family and staff; switching to GuideStart and Rapid 7 for internal threat scanning; auditing the district webpage; updating switches at Downsville and MHS; refreshing Macbooks and desktops; and refreshing MMS classroom interactive displays. Krueger also shared upcoming goals and projects, including continued work on disaster recovery planning and network redundancy, increased cybersecurity awareness and practices, moving to Nutanix AHV hypervisor, and refreshing switches at Oaklawn.
- D. Discuss Defeasance of Long-Term Debt-** The board discussed the option of saving approximately \$180,000 through cash defeasance for long-term debt. The board will consider the cash defeasance resolution at the next board meeting.
- E. Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports-** No school for students and Professional Development for Staff is on April 15, 2024. WASB New Board Member Gathering is scheduled for April 16, 2024, at 7:00 pm, at the MMS Library. Reorganization of the Board Meeting at 5:00 pm and Health and Medical Committee Meeting on April 18, 2024, at 3:50 pm, ASC. April 22, 2024, Reorganization of the Board Meeting at 5:00 pm and Special School Board Meeting at 5:45 pm., ASC. The Diversity Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2024, 3:45 pm., ASC. Regular Board Meeting on May 13, 2024, at 5:45 pm, ASC. Retirement Mixer is on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 4:00 pm, Middle School Commons. Memorial Day is May 27, 2024, no board meeting.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Action to move into closed session, for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), Wisconsin Statutes.** Skillings made a motion to move into closed session, but the motion died for lack of a second. At 8:28 p.m., Stewart made a motion, seconded by Smith, to table the closed session. The motion passed, 5-3-1, with Henderson, Kersting, Riddle-Swanson, Smith, and Stewart voting yes, Palmer, Skillings, and Hillman voting no, and Dahlke abstaining.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT- President Henderson adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Dominique Stewart, Clerk

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Minutes Approved: May 13, 2024