

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER  
215 PINE AVENUE E., MENOMONIE, WISCONSIN  
MONDAY, JULY 22, 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, July 22, 2024, in the Administrative Service Center Board Room, 215 Pine Avenue E., Menomonie, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum**– Roll call showed seven board members present: Dale Dahlke, Rachel Henderson, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Abe Smith, Dominique Stewart, Angela Wolf, and Michelle Dupree. Emily Hines and Amber Kersting were absent. 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, Tonia Kowieski, Katherine Krueger, Leah Theder, Bart Boettcher, Diane Schofield, and Casey Drake. Also, in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell and videographer Steve Hanson. Electors and others registering attendance included David Schofield, Eric Atkinson, Josie Pillman, Ray Martenson, and James Stewart.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance and Reading of Mission Statement**- Henderson led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the district’s mission statement.
- D. Agenda Order and Approval/Revision**- The agenda was approved as presented.
- E. Community Communications**- Josie Pillman was present for community communications. She had three minutes to address her concerns to the Board of Education.

**II. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda**– Stewart made a motion, seconded by Riddle-Swanson, to approve the following personal consent agenda items as presented: The emergency one-year employment of Seth Kreibich, a World Language teacher at Menomonie Middle School, effective August 13, 2024. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.

**III. ACTION AGENDA**

- A. Approve 2024-2025 Pay for SDMA Lifeguards**- Smith made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to approve the increase in the pay of SDMA Lifeguards to \$15/hour, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by an electronic vote.
- B. Approve Year-End Budget Transfers**- Dahlke made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve a year-end fund transfer of up to \$2 million, as presented. The motion passed 7-0 by an electronic vote.

**IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW**

- A. Discuss/Consider Temporary Construction Easement and Option to Purchase Agreement with City of Menomonie for the potential Municipal Well(s) at Menomonie High School**- The City of Menomonie needs to expand its well capacity to meet its demand for fresh water, and the High School has been identified as a potential location for future wells. Eric Atkinson, City Administrator, and David Schofield, Director of Public Works, attended the meeting. Mr. Schofield presented information to the Board about a temporary construction easement and the option to purchase an agreement allowing the city to test the High School location. After discussion, the Board decided not to pursue the agreement, but offered to revisit it in the future if needed by the City.
- B. Board Member Update on Community Engagement Sessions and Referendum Exploration**- The board shared feedback from recent community engagement sessions.

- C. Discuss Referendum Resolution for November 5 Election-** The board discussed the possibility of a referendum in November and reviewed sample ballot questions and election timelines. Board members discussed holding a referendum that would provide \$2.5 million per year for four years. This would not eliminate the projected budget deficit, but the district's fund balance is anticipated to be sufficient for continuing operations for 4 years without major cuts to programming or closing schools. They agreed to make a final decision on a referendum resolution at the next board meeting in August.
- D. Annual Student Services Report-** Director of Student Services Tonia Kowieski provided her annual student services report to the board. As of October 1, 2023, 569 students in the school district receive special education services. Kowieski also reported on the district's self-assessment, special education staffing, Section 504 accommodation plans, English Language Learners (ELL), Gifted and Talented programming, and Student Health Services.
- E. Annual Seclusion and Restraint Report-** Director of Student Services Tonia Kowieski shared the required seclusion and/or restraint report from the 2023-2024 school year.
- F. Annual Review of SDMA Bullying & Harassment Report-** Tonia Kowieski shared with the board a review of SDMA bullying and harassment policies, along with the annual compliance report for 2023-2024
- G. Review Rule Updates Related to Artificial Intelligence (Students- Rule 362, Staff- Rule 527)-** The board reviewed Administrative Rule 362—Guidelines for Acceptable Internet and Technology Use and Administrative Rule 527—Staff Rules for the Acceptable Use of Technology and Electronic Communications, which have been updated to reflect the acceptable use of Generative/Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the SDMA.
- H. Review Admissions and Rental Fees for 2024-2025-** After several years of maintaining the same prices for admissions to high school athletics events and the same rates for facility rentals, the school district will increase fees for the 2024-25 school year. Admissions for adults and students will cost \$5.00. MHS students will be provided free admission with an MHS student ID. Annual passes: Student = \$50, Single = \$75, Couple = \$100, and Family = \$150. Facility rental fees were increased \$5.00.
- I. Review Extracurricular Staff Contract Requests-** The board reviewed extracurricular staff contract requests from June 20, 2024, through July 18, 2024.
- J. Review Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports-** July 24, 2024, Community Listening Session at Menomonie Leisure Center, 11:00 am- 12:30 pm. August 12, 2024, Regular Board Meeting at ASC, 5:45 pm. New Teacher Orientation August 13-15, 2024. August 14, 2024, New Teacher Luncheon at 7:30 am, MHS. Professional Development for all staff August 20-22, 2024. August 21, 2024, Breakfast for all Staff at 7:30 am, MHS. Professional Development for staff and Annual Meeting, 6:00 pm, Menomonie High School on August 26, 2024. Meet & Greet Day on August 27, 2024. The First Day of School with busing is on August 28, 2024.

**V. CLOSED SESSION-**

- A. Action to move to 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, and for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e), Wisconsin Statutes.** At 8:00 pm, the board took a five-minute recess before moving into a closed session.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT-** Following the closed session, Riddle-Swanson made a motion, seconded by Dahlke, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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Dominique Stewart, Clerk

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Minutes Approved: August 12, 2024