

**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, DECEMBER 9, 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, December 9, 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 seven board members present: Abe Smith, Angela Wolf, Rachel Henderson, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Dale Dahlke, and Amber Kersting. Dominique Stewart appeared by telephone. Emily Hines and Michelle Dupree were absent. President Henderson declared a quorum and noted that the meeting had been duly noticed. The administrators in attendance were Joe Zydowsky, Brian Seguin, Tonia Kowieski, Eric Nelson, Samantha Hoyt, Casey Drake, and Mike Kennedy. Also, in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell. Electors and others registering in attendance included Josie Pillman, Tera Ellison, Daniel Paulson, Tom Wagner, Vickie Wagner, Bethie Redepenning, Jen Hovde, Megan Abel, and Mike Cooper.
- 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**– The agenda was approved as presented.
- E. Recommendations and Commendations**- Commendations were given to Tera Ellison, Tara Grubbe, Mike Kennedy, Jen Hovde, Morgan Seguin, Carly Preusse, and Katie Krueger.
- F. Highlight on Youth**- The board reviewed the December Highlight on Youth presentation.
- G. Student Representative Communications**- The board heard from Teyha Johnson and Max Buhr, Student Council representatives, about current activities at Menomonie High School.
- H. Community Communications**- Community communications in attendance included Josie Pillman, Joyce Uhlir, Daniel Paulson, and Mike Cooper. Each person had three minutes to address the Board of Education regarding their topic or concern.
- I. Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Months Ended November 2024**- The board reviewed the monthly expenses by function, expenses by object, and revenue reports for November 2024.
- J. Monthly Employment Report (November 2024)**- The board reviewed the monthly non-certified staff employment report for November 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 November 11, 2024; 2) Financial Reports for November 2024; 3) Donations Exceeding \$1,000 for November 2024; and 4) MHS Orchestra Out of State Travel Request. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.

III. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda**– Smith made a motion, seconded by Riddle-Swanson, to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda, which includes the retirement of Kimberly Winchester, Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Orientation/Mobility Specialist, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. The motion passed unanimously by electronic vote.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Action to Approve 2025-26 District Calendar**- Dahlke made a motion, seconded by Wolf, to approve the 2025-26 District Calendar, as presented. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.
- B. **Action to Approve New High School Course “Mustang Messenger”**- Stewart made a motion, seconded by Dahlke, to approve the New High School Course “Mustang Messenger” as presented. The motion passed unanimously by electronic vote.
- C. **Action to Approve Policy 343.46, Early College Credit Program**- Smith made a motion, seconded by Riddle-Swanson, to approve Policy 343.46, Early College Credit Program. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- A. **Strategic Planning in the SDMA**- The SDMA will start updating its strategic plan in January 2025. Dr. JoAnn Sternke and Brian Kammers from Excel Leader LLC will facilitate this process. Sternke attended the meeting and provided an overview of the steps involved, outlining the phases and timeline for the update. A Strategic Planning Committee, made up of staff, parents, community members, administrators, and board members, will guide the effort. In January, a survey will be distributed to the community, and listening sessions will be held to gather input and feedback on key themes and priorities.
- B. **State Accountability Report Cards**- On Tuesday, November 12, 2024, the State of Wisconsin released its School and District Accountability Report Cards. The district received an overall rating of “Meets Expectations”. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Brian Seguin presented each building’s report card, highlighting both strengths and areas for improvement.
- C. **SDMA Accountability Report Cards 2.0**- Brian Seguin presented the Accountability Report Card 2.0, which highlighted elements not captured in the State Report Card. He noted several increases in program participation, including AP courses, transcript classes, AIM, Youth Apprenticeships, Student Council, and Junior Achievement.
- D. **Review 2024-25 Budget Revisions**- Director of Business Services Eric Nelson presented revisions to the 2024-25 budget. These revisions will be included in the agenda for approval at the January 13, 2025, meeting.
- E. **Review Rule 361, Guidelines for Reconsideration of Educational Materials**- During the November school board meeting, Board members proposed extending the time allowed for reviewing district books and materials. Currently, the administrative rule allows this review once a year. Some nearby school districts offer longer review periods of three to five years. To save time and resources in the review process and based on previous Board feedback, the SDMA will change the rule to allow the reconsideration of any book only once every five years. If there are special circumstances that require a quicker review, the reconsideration committee can approve it with a majority vote.
- F. **Review Information for the 2025 School Board Election**- The SDMA will hold a school board election on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Three positions are up for re-election: incumbents Rachel Henderson, Abe Smith, and Dominique Stewart. To run for a position, candidates must complete a Campaign Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. They should submit these documents to the school district clerk at the

