

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TIERED LECTURE HALL- MENOMONIE HIGH SCHOOL
1715 5TH STREET WEST, MENOMONIE, WI
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025, 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 5:46 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025, in the Tiered Lecture Hall at Menomonie High School, 1715 5th Street W., Menomonie, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum** – Roll call showed seven board members present: Abe Smith, Dominique Stewart, Rachel Henderson, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Emily Hines, Michelle Dupree, and Angela Wolf. President Henderson declared a quorum and noted that the meeting had been duly noticed. The administrators in attendance were Joe Zydowsky, Samantha Hoyt, Tonia Kowieski, Brian Seguin, Katherine Krueger, Eric Nelson, Kevin Tomaszewski, Casey Drake, Mark Anderson, and Shannon Branch. Also, in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell and videographer Steve Hanson. Electors and others registering in attendance included Joyce Uhler, and Allen Crow.
- 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 & Commendations-** The board recognized MHS paraeducator Carly Hustedt with a commendation certificate.
- F. Highlight on Youth** - The board reviewed the January Highlight on Youth presentation.
- G. Student Representative Communications** - The board heard from Student Council representatives Teyha Johnson and Max Buhr about current activities at Menomonie High School.
- H. Community Communications** - There were no community communications.
- I. Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Month Ended December 2024-** The board reviewed the revenue and expenditure reports for the month ended December 2024.
- J. Monthly Employment Report (December 2024)** - The board reviewed the monthly non-certified staff employment report for December 2024.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Consent Agenda-** Hines made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: 1) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 9, 2024; 2) Financial Reports of December 2024; and 3) Donations Exceeding \$1,000 for December 2024, as presented. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.

III. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda–** Riddle-Swanson made a motion, seconded by Stewart, to approve the following personnel consent agenda, as presented: 1) The retirement of Ralph Haas, 7th-grade ELA teacher at Menomonie Middle School, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. 2) The retirement of Colette LaBuda, Math Interventionist at Oaklawn Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. 3) The retirement of Tina Buchholtz, 1st-grade teacher at Wakanda Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. 4) The retirement of Maria Drazkowski, Special Education teacher at Menomonie High School, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. 5) The retirement of Amy Schoeder, District Speech-Language Pathologist, effective at the end of the 2024-2025

school year. 6) The resignation of Michelle Belanger, Assistant Director of Food & Nutrition, effective January 14, 2025. The motion passed unanimously by electronic vote.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Action to Approve 2024-25 Budget Revisions-** Wolf made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve the 2024-25 Budget Revisions, as presented. The motion passed 7-0 by electronic vote.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- A. **Review 30-Year Capital Improvement Plan-** Kevin Tomaszewski, the Building and Grounds Director, presented his annual update on the 30-year capital improvement plan. The update addressed the status of projects scheduled for 2024-2025 and included recommendations for the 2025-2026 school year. The board had an extensive discussion about including repairs and replacements for elementary playground equipment in the plan. Action on the plan will be taken at the next meeting.
- B. **Clerk's Report on 2025 School Board Election-** Board Clerk Dominique Stewart announced that five candidates have filed to run in the upcoming school board election scheduled for April. The candidates, listed in the order they will appear on the ballot, are: Josie Pillman, Joyce Uhlir, Rachel Henderson, Abe Smith, and Dominique Stewart.
- C. **Review Process for Building the 2025-26 Budget-** Eric Nelson, the Director of Business Services, reviewed the budget timeline. He introduced a new online tool aimed at gathering input, making the budget-building process more collaborative and inclusive for SDMA staff. Building principals and department directors will receive the budget letter and budget builder packets this week.
- D. **Review Number of Regular and Special Education Spaces Available for Open Enrollment-** Director of Student Services, Tonia Kowieski, shared a report with the number of spaces available for regular and special education open enrollment requests for the 2025-26 school year.
- E. **Review Audit Report-** The annual audit has been completed and submitted to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Each board member received a copy of the report and had the opportunity to review it. Eric Nelson, the Director of Business Services, was available to answer any questions.
- F. **Review and Discuss 2025 WASB Resolutions for Delegate Vote-** Dominique Stewart will represent the school district at the 2025 WASB Delegate Assembly next week. Board members reviewed the proposed resolutions prior to the meeting and provided their feedback to Stewart.
- G. **Legislative Advocacy-** The Board reviewed the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) budget priorities for the 2025-27 biennium. Additionally, the Board had an opportunity to review a presentation detailing the proposed budget from the Wisconsin Association for Equity in Funding. Smith provided further insights regarding the upcoming WASB Day at the Capitol in March.
- H. **Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports-** Health/Medical Committee Meeting on January 16, 2025, 3:50 pm, ASC Board Room. Ranger Night at Wakanda Elementary School on January 16, 2025, 4:30-6:00 pm. No school for students/Professional Development Day for Staff on January 20, 2025. Wisconsin State Education Convention in Milwaukee, January 22-24, 2025. Special School Board Meeting at Menomonie Middle School on January 27, 2024, at 5:45 pm. SDMA QIC Meeting, February 3, 2025, 3:50 pm, ASC Board Room. NO SCHOOL for students and staff on Friday, February 7, 2025. Professional Development Day for staff and NO SCHOOL for students on February 10, 2025. Regular Board Meeting, February 10, 2025, 5:45 pm, Oaklawn Elementary School. Special School Board Meeting, February 24, 2025, at 5:45 pm, River Heights Elementary School.

VI. ADJOURNMENT- Riddle-Swanson made a motion, seconded by Henderson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

/s/Dominique Stewart

Dominique Stewart, Clerk

jm

Minutes Approved: February 10, 2025