

-UNOFFICIAL MINUTES-
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OAKLAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL- LIBRARY
500 21ST STREET SOUTH, MENOMONIE, WI
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 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, February 10, 2025, in the Library at Oaklawn Elementary School, 500 21st Street South., Menomonie, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum** – Roll call showed eight board members present: Dale Dahlke, Amber Kersting, Abe Smith, 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. Dominique Stewart arrived at 5:53 pm. The administrators in attendance were Joe Zydowsky, Samantha Hoyt, Tonia Kowieski, Brian Seguin, Katherine Krueger, Eric Nelson, Casey Drake, Bart Boettcher, and Keila Drout. Also in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell and videographer Steve Hanson. Electors and others registering in attendance included Allen Crowe, Josie Pillman, Mary Oehler, Nila Natzke, Casey Yonash, Ron Welsch, Willow Noorlas, 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 & Commendations-** The board recognized MMS Math teacher Casey Yonash with a commendation certificate.
- F. Highlight on Youth** - The board reviewed the February Highlight on Youth presentation.
- G. Student Representative Communications** - The board heard from Student Council representatives Teyha Johnson and Sara Palmer about current activities at Menomonie High School.
- H. Community Communications** - Community communications in attendance included Naomi Cummings and Mike Cooper. 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 January 2025-** The board reviewed the revenue and expenditure reports for the month ended January 2025.
- J. Monthly Employment Report (January 2025)** - The board reviewed the monthly non-certified staff employment report for January 2025 and recognized Kelly Steinmeyer, clerical staff at Menomonie Middle School, and Kay Wolfe, clerical staff at Downsville, on their retirement at the end of the school year.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Consent Agenda-** Hines made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: 1) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 13, 2025, and Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of January 27, 2025; 2) Financial Reports of January 2025; and 3) Donations Exceeding \$1,000 for January 2025, as presented. The motion passed 9-0 by electronic vote.

III. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda**– Wolf made a motion, seconded by Stewart, to approve the following personnel consent agenda, as presented: 1) The employment of Amanda Bast, Assistant Director of Food & Nutrition, effective March 1, 2025. The motion passed unanimously by electronic vote.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Action to Approve Title IX Policy Revisions**- Smith made a motion, seconded by Dahlke, to rescind revisions to Policy 113, Nondiscrimination in District Programs, Activities, and Operations, that the Board approved on September 23, 2024, and amend Policy 113 to update contact information as presented. The motion passed 7-2, with Riddle-Swanson and Hines voting no.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- A. **Review 2025-26 MHS Course Recommendations**- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Brian Seguin, presented recommendations for courses with enrollments of fewer than 15 students. The final updated enrollment numbers will be presented to the Board at the next meeting for approval of these courses.
- B. **Discuss Compensation Plans for 2025-26**- The board reviewed and discussed the proposed wage schedules for the 2025-26 school year. A total compensation increase of 2.95% across all employee groups has been recommended. The board will consider the approval of these wage schedules at the upcoming meeting.
- C. **Discuss Adding Playground Goal to the 2024-25 District Work Plan**- The Board discussed adding a goal to the 2025-26 district work plan: "The Director of Buildings and grounds will work with the elementary school principals to develop a report that identifies a prioritized list of playground needs to be shared with the Board by June 30, 2025." The elementary principals have been directed to collaborate with staff and parent groups to identify these needs.
- D. **Strategic Planning Update**- Strategic planning in the SDMA is making progress, with 24 listening sessions now completed. On February 12, the steering committee will meet to start analyzing the data collected from the listening sessions. Additionally, a community survey will be conducted to gather feedback and input from parents and residents.
- E. **Discuss Federal Policy Changes**- The board discussed recent federal executive orders and policy changes. Acknowledging the significance of these changes, the board agreed to send a message to families to reaffirm its support for students, families, and staff.
- F. **Legislative Advocacy**- Hines, Stewart, and Dupree will take part in the Day at the Capitol event on March 12. Before the event, board members will have the opportunity to provide additional input on the state budget during the March 10 meeting.
- G. **Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports**- Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting, February 12, 2025, 6:00 pm, ASC. Special School Board Meeting, February 24, 2025, at 5:45 pm, River Heights Elementary School. Regular School Board Meeting, March 10, 2025, 5:45 pm, Wakanda Elementary School. WASB Day at the Capitol, March 12, 2025. Spring Break- NO SCHOOL, March 17-21, 2025. Special School Board Meeting, March 24, 2025, at 5:45 pm, Knapp Elementary School.

VI. 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- At 7:19 pm the board took a short recess before moving into closed session.

VII. ADJOURNMENT-

A. Action to Adjourn- Following the closed session, Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

 /s/ Dominique Stewart

Dominique Stewart, Clerk

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Minutes Approved: