

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER  
215 PINE AVENUE E, MENOMONIE, WI  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 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 5:45 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025, in the gym at Downsville Elementary School, N2681 460th Street, Downsville, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum** – Roll call showed nine board members present: Dale Dahlke, Amber Kersting, Abe Smith, Rachel Henderson, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Emily Hines, Michelle Dupree, Dominique Stewart, 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, Katie Krueger, Eric Nelson, Casey Drake, Bart Boettcher, Stacy Nelson, and Stacy Lee. Also, in attendance were recording secretary Jenny Mikesell and videographer Steve Hanson. Electors and others registering in attendance included Marie Kreutzer, Sally Eddy, Beretta Snyder, Josie Pillman, Lovine Kistner, Martha Peabody, Aaron Kohn, Beth Kohn, Jay Dupree, Gordon Wolf, Diane Creaser, Kelli Kistner, Elaine Hilmanowski, Dane Kreutzer, Wyatt Kreutzer, Shari Schwartz, Christine Kistner, Brittany Colstrom, Karen Wolf, Tracie Kreutzer, Morgan Kreutzer, Daniel Paulson, Kim Leach, Scott Leach, Stephanie Buchholtz, Jane Hulett, Jordan Neubauer, Jan Neubauer, Mitch Kreutzer, Gary Sol, Melody Johnson, Josh Johnson, Scott Sykora, Anita Sykora, Patricia Griess, Julie Fiege, William Giese, Dan Dunbar, Pam Wildner, Amanda Carrier, Aaron Carrier, Rachel Eldred, Kayla Schutts, Kelly Christianson, Dustin LaBlonde, Nicole Cook, Zach Leach, Kaylene Wolfe, Diane Leach, Dean Wold, Allen Crowe, Marissa Wildner, Megan Hansen, Rene Mehlberg, Heather Biesterveld, Jeff Markham, Laurie Christianson, Adam Falteisek, Thomas Krueger, Michelle LaBlonde, Brittany Thibado, Emilie Wiese, Kathy Fisher, Steve Hogseth, Kate Larson, Shari Larson, Jamie Blomquist, Adam Laurent, Sheri Laurent, Bonnie Rivard, Lacie Palmer, Nichole Ankrum, Terry Bundy, Sara Bundy, Katie Markham, Brandon Boughton, Randy Knaack, and Kalsey Leach.
- 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 revised to move the closed session discussion regarding "Staffing at Downsville Elementary School" (items 6.A-C) before the open session action item, "Approve Closing Downsville Elementary School" (item 4.C). This adjustment allowed the board to gather more detailed information about staffing at Downsville before making a decision on the school's closure.
- E. Highlight on Youth** - The board reviewed the April Highlight on Youth presentation.
- F. Student Representative Communications** - The board heard from Student Council representative Liam Wachewicz about current activities at Menomonie High School.
- G. Community Communications** - Community communications in attendance included Josie Pillman, Wyatt Kreutzer, Jane Hulett, Hadley Fisher, Gary Sol, Jeff Markham, Shari Larson, William Giese, Emilie Wiese, Sheri Laurent, and Katie Markham. Each community member had three minutes to address the board with their topic or concern.
- H. Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the Month Ended March 2025**- The board reviewed the revenue and expenditure reports for the month ended March 2025.

- I. Monthly Employment Report (March 2025)-** The board reviewed the monthly non-certified staff employment report for March 2025.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Action to Approve Consent Agenda-** Hines made a motion, seconded by Stewart, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: 1) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 10, 2025, and Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of March 24, 2025; 2) Financial Reports of March 2025; and 3) Donations Exceeding \$1,000 for March 2025, as presented. The motion passed 9-0 by electronic vote.

**III. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Action to Approve Personnel Consent Agenda–** Riddle-Swanson made a motion, seconded by Wolf, to approve the following personnel actions, as presented: 1) The resignation of Maxwell Ellison, Band teacher at Menomonie Middle School, effective the end of the 2024-25 school year; 2) The resignation of Matthew Voss, 2nd-grade teacher at Downsville Elementary School, effective the end of the 2024-25 school year; 3) The employment of Nicole Langman, Kindergarten teacher at River Heights Elementary School, effective August 13, 2025; 4) The employment of Jessica Klopatek, 5th-grade teacher at Wakanda Elementary School, effective August 13, 2025. The motion passed unanimously by electronic vote.

**IV. ACTION AGENDA**

- A. Action to Approve New WIAA Sport Request- Girls' Wrestling-** Stewart made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to Approve the New WIAA Sport Request- Girls Wrestling as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Action to Approve Updates to School Nutrition Policies-** Kersting made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to Approve Updates to School Nutrition Policies as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**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-** At 6:34 pm Smith made a motion, seconded by Hines to move into closed session. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

**VI. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

- A. Action to Reconvene in Open Session for the purpose of taking action, as deemed necessary or appropriate, on any matter discussed or deliberated upon in closed session.** At 6:51 pm, Smith made a motion seconded by Wolf to reconvene in open session.

**V. ACTION AGENDA**

- C. Action to Approve Closing Downsville Elementary School-** Smith made a motion, seconded by Wolf to Approve recommendation #1 to Close Downsville Elementary for the 2025-26 school year, and include a) Approve new elementary attendance boundaries for the 2025-26 school year; b) Assign current Downsville students to a new elementary school; c) Provide an expedited process for Downsville families to make in-district transfer requests; d) Assist students and families with the transition to a new school by providing school visits and connections with parent-teacher organizations; e) Approve staff transfer requests and assign any remaining staff to positions based on staff member credentials, preferences, and district needs; and add item f) create a committee of parents, staff, and community members to study possibilities and to develop a recommendation

for the future use of the building. The motion passed 6-3, with Stewart, Riddle-Swanson, and Henderson voting no.

- D. Action to Approve New Elementary Attendance Areas-** Smith made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to Approve New Elementary Attendance Areas as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Action to Approve Staffing Plan for 2025-26-** Kersting made a motion, seconded by Dupree, to Approve Staffing Plan for 2025-26 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW**

- A. Clerk's Report from Spring Election-** Stewart reported on the 2025 Spring Election. Results from the Board of Canvassers meeting indicated that Henderson, Smith, and Stewart were elected for another term ending in April 2028.
- B. Review Annual Technology Department Report-** The board decided to postpone the Annual Technology Department Report to the meeting on May 12, 2025.
- C. Legislative Advocacy-** Board members discussed advocacy efforts for the upcoming Joint Finance Committee meetings on April 28 and 29.
- D. Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports-** No school for students and staff on April 18 & 21, 2025. National Bus Driver Appreciation Day on April 22, 2025. Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting, April 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm., at ASC. WASB New Board School Member Gathering, April 24, 2025, at 7:00 pm, MMS. Reorganization of the Board Meeting and Special School Board Meeting, 5:45 pm, ASC.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT-**

- A. Action to Adjourn-** Riddle-Swanson made a motion, seconded by Dupree to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

/s/Dominique Stewart

Dominique Stewart, Clerk

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Minutes Approved: May 12, 2025