

MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT #2342
WEST CENTRAL AREA SECONDARY SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
August 19, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:00 am by Nessman. Members present per roll call: Christenson, Ulrich, Sabolik, Beuckens, Strunk, and Nessman. Grosz via telephone. Members Absent: None Administration present: Hogie, Powers, Prasch, Foslien, Knutson, McNamara, Moerke, and Amundson. Administration Absent: None

Visitors: Kari Kreft, Shelby Danielson, Nicole Hanson, and Chris Ray

Motion by Beuckens seconded by Ulrich, to modify the agenda according to agenda addendum. MCU

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Sabolik to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2020 and July 15, 2020 meeting. MCU

Motion by Sabolik, seconded by Strunk, to approve the payment of claims in the amount of \$652,1001.25. Checks reviewed were #147401 - Shawn McGee - Gro Green for \$12,887.16 for the remainder of snow removal, spring cleanup, and mowing, #147415 - Pepper for \$1,125.90 sheet music and curriculum, and #147323 - EMC Insurance for \$62,578.84 for property/casualty insurance. MCU

Committee/Curricular/Activities Reports - Mr. Kelly from BakerTilly commented on financing options for the proposed bond referendum. Mr. Kelly commented that interest rates are at their lowest.

Ms. Strunk provided the minutes from the July Midwest Special Education Cooperative. Ms. Strunk did mention that the coop voted to approve Garrett Dalhoff for an additional 17 days in West Central Area for the 2020-2021 school year.

Technology Coordinator: (Kevin McNamara) – Mr. McNamara is hopeful that all ordered devices will be here by the start of the school year. Our vendor is supposed to receive their shipment this week and send our devices next week. K-2 classroom SMART Panels are installed. Pre K- 4 and music all have the same SMART Panels now. About half of our new access points are installed. The remaining access points will be installed this week. Our two HD Pixellot 2 cameras are installed but will not be fully calibrated until sporting events are scheduled. Security/Safety mirrors are installed in the secondary building and will be installed in hallways throughout the other two buildings. As always, when you see Stacy please make sure to thank her, she is doing awesome things for technology in our school district.

Community Education: (Naomi Moerke) – Ms. Moerke reported that the following summer rec activities were held: Mighty Knights Football camp had 29 participants, Little Knights Volleyball Camp directed Mrs. Foslien had 20 participants, and Golf Camp with PGA Pro Josh Lang was held at Tipsinah Mounds Golf Course with 10 students attending, Softball/Baseball Camp had a total of 25 students registered. Ms. Moerke commented that AARP has canceled all in-person classes through the new year. There is an online option if participants choose. Information on child care was sent out to the district families. We are offering the following options. Childcare will be available to children registered for preschool programs and essential tier 1 employees only at this time. Wrap Around - North only 3-yr old program \$127 per week, 4-yr olds \$87 per week, drop-in of \$35 per day up to 4 days per week. In our current hybrid schedule, Wednesday childcare will be open for Tier 1 Essential employees, school district employees, and our preschool children only. Tier 1 essential employees will be provided daycare until further notice. Cost is dependent upon the Governor's directive. At this time, it will be our current rates. Before and After School Care at both north and south elementaries. Cost is \$5 for the morning session which begins at 7 am and \$5 for the afternoon session beginning at 3:30-5:30 pm. We need families to register 24 hours in advance so we can plan proper staff for numbers of kids.

Activities Director: (Jacob Foslien) – Mr. Foslien reported that Tennis and Cross Country starting on August 17, schedules are still being finalized. Practices for other sports, MSHSL has set parameters and dates for these practices. Winter coaches would not be allowed to work with kids per MSHSL bylaws, registered sports have priority. MSHSL forms and physical need to be updated prior to participation, no activity fees at this time, option participation for student-athletes at this time. Facility use by other entities would be similar to this summer, only for WCA students and staff. Only essential personnel in the school buildings. Currently, we are looking into how to make the weight room and open gym available and making sure that social distancing and mask requirements are met. Morning practices are not an option at this time since the locker rooms are not being used. Transportation will be at 50% capacity (approximately 38 students total), there will be no late bus running until

further notice. MSHSL decision, current fall sports are a 20% reduction in season and 30% reduction in contests. We are proposing adjusting fees proportionately to the MSHSL season reduction. This year we are not asking for a financial contribution from corporate partners but their status will be active all year. The Football scoreboard is finally done. The fall coaching assignments are Cross Country - Head Coach, John VanKempen, Assistant Coach, Austin Hanson, and Tennis - Assistant Coach, Jaclyn Hoeper.

Buildings & Grounds Director: (Pete Amundson) – Mr. Amundson reported that custodians are finishing up floors and buildings are looking good. The gym floor has been refinished at North. The kitchen hoods, fire alarms, and fire extinguishers have been inspected. Custodians are working on getting rooms spaced out and on a cleaning schedule. Desk shields are ordered and supposed to arrive before the start of school. Disinfectant sprayers have been ordered but are still haven't arrived yet. Thanks to Miah and Darin for information and a test run of similar equipment. The GroShed is in place and operating, thanks to Gary and Terry for the help getting set up. We currently have tomato plants growing. Mr. Amundson commented that he has attended asbestos training.

Elementary School Principal: (Natalie Prasch) – Ms. Prasch reported that the custodial staff is doing a fantastic job in getting both schools ready to reopen. The custodians have been working diligently to get floors waxed and have been invaluable to help to our teaching staff. The teachers have been in to work on classroom set-up that allows for social distancing and keeping everyone facing the same direction. We are continuing to fine-tune the lunch schedule to determine a rotation for those eating in classrooms and those eating in the cafeteria. The task force planning committee has been exceptionally helpful in planning for the return of students and staff. The daycare will continue to run at North. Wednesdays will be reserved for Tier 1 essential employees and those students who are enrolled in our preschool programs. We will have the support of paras to help with the additional students. Both North & South will offer before and after school care.

Secondary School Principal: (Susan Knutson) – Ms. Knutson reported that it was nice to see students back in the building for some of the athletic camps. Our building maintenance staff is doing an amazing job prepping the building for this new normal all while continuing their regular cleaning and maintenance duties. Rooms are being set up to adhere to the social distancing guidelines and additional PPE options have been ordered. The teacher workshop schedule has been set with much of the time focused on preparing individual classrooms and distance learning options for those students that elect it. We will also spend time planning for the distance learning scenario. The staff has indicated a desire to hold students more accountable and increase rigor in the distance learning model. Secondary Early Entrance conferences will be used to educate families on Google Classroom and Synergy so that in the event we move to distance learning they can feel more prepared. It will also be a time to discuss the COVID safety guidelines that we will be following when students are in the building. Families will be scheduled to attend a meeting with their student's advisor on September 8th or 9th. Thank you for approving the student and staff handbooks. There was some discussion regarding a change to the hat provision. It was asked that I gather more information regarding teacher input. The results of the survey sent to teachers and other staff is provided for your review and possible further discussions in the future. Also, Ms. Knutson presented goals for the upcoming school year. Increase staff input in decisions made that impact students and staff by establishing a Secondary Leadership Team. This team will be made up of a representative from each department and/or grade level and meet monthly. Create a handbook revision procedure that includes staff and student feedback prior to presentation to the board. Remain a positive leader, provide support to students and staff through a fluid school year, and increase time in the classroom especially with all of our non-tenured staff. Increase my presence in creating legislation that meets the needs of rural MN by serving on the MN Education Policy Fellowship Team.

Business Manager: (Diane Powers) - Ms. Powers reported that Title I, II & IV grant applications for FY 21 will be completed soon. Audit work is progressing with the audit scheduled for the end of September. Unsure at this time how much time auditors will actually be spending in the building. The transportation report for FY20 was submitted last week.

Superintendent: (Dale Hogie) - Mr. Hogie reported that the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Funding, WCA is projected to receive approximately \$137,000 to be applied to expenses brought on by COVID-19. Grant County received an allocation also and the commissioners believe they have spent and retained enough of their allocation to meet costs. School districts in Grant County were asked to present a list of COVID related costs. I have been informed that WCA will receive a \$51,000 transfer from Grant County. We have received applications in the low teens for the administrative assistant position. Naomi & I will be reviewing the applications with the intention of interviewing 4-5 candidates on Monday. We would like to reduce the position to 28-30 hours per week. I discussed with Susan the possibility of using 12 hours per week during the school year for additional para/supervision time. There are 10 candidates for four open seats for the school board, Terry Christenson, Sheen Haack, Chase Johnson, Heather Johnson, Natasha Kaiser, Gary Sabolik, Kayla

Stanstead, Kesha Trinka, Miah Ulrich, and Claire Vincent. With this many candidates, we should have a candidate forum. I have been told that Deb Hengel has moderated events previously. I will be in contact with her. Upon approval of the Return-to-School plan, the information will be provided to parents and community members. We expect there will be students who will not be attending in-person. Another survey will likely be sent to parents to obtain a more accurate count and will likely ask for bussing intent again also. The basic plan is provided for you but there still remains work to do on the details of having students in the building and also for the others who will be receiving instruction at home. State and Regional officials continue to work on guidelines for in-person and hybrid instruction. Last spring we had a model that was put into place quickly with limited State directive and guidance. We are prepping for fall to be completely different.

Motion by Sabolik, seconded by Strunk to approve the resignations of the following: Michelle Toso as a Paraprofessional, Nicole Hanson as Administrative Assistant, Michelle Petersen as Assistant Cook/Dishwasher, Aleaiah Garza as Secondary School Custodian. Also, approve the following lane changes: Megan Dotts from BA to BA+10, Mareen Biss from MA to MA+20, Haley Grosz from BA to BA+10, Heidi Wetterling from BA to BA+10, Amy Linn from MA+10 to MA+20, Stephanie Schei from BA+10 to BA+20, and Kay Buck from BA+10 to BA+20. Approve Megan Holmes 6 week leave request with an anticipated start date of October 21, 2020. Roll Call vote: Yes - Strunk, Nessman, Christenson, Ulrich, Sabolik, and Beuckens. Grosz abstained. MC

New Business:

Motion by Beuckens, seconded by Christenson to approve snow removal bids for 20/21 & 21/22 for Gro Green for Secondary and North Elementary. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Sabolik, seconded by Ulrich to approve Milk bids for 20/21 for Cash-Wa Distributing. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Beuckens to approve the bread bid from Bimbo Bakeries through Lakes Country Service Cooperative for the 20/21 school year. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Beuckens, seconded by Ulrich to approve the Resolution to Adopt a Base Learning Model for 20/21 School Year. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion By Sabolik, Seconded by Ulrich to approve the Resolution calling for a Special Election for a November 3, 2020, Building Bond Referendum for Pay 2022. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Ulrich, Sabolik, Strunk, Beuckens; No- Nessman, Christenson, and Grosz via phone. Motion passed 4-3

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Strunk to approve Mr. Hogie's compensation adjustment for FY21 and FY22 that discontinues his VEBA Retirement contribution and moves the equivalent amount, less TRA and FICA amounts, to salary. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Beuckens, seconded by Sabolik to approve the first reading of Policy #808 - COVID-19 Face Covering Policy. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Ulrich to approve activity fee adjustment for Cross Country and Girls' Tennis for 2020. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Ulrich to close the meeting as permitted by MN Statute, Section 13D.05 Subd. 3 to discuss the conditional property purchase agreement. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU Time closed: 9:13 am.

Motion by Christenson, seconded by Beuckens to open the closed meeting. Roll Call Vote: Yes-Strunk, Nessman, Sabolik, Christenson, Ulrich, Beuckens, Grosz via Phone. MCU Time opened 10:02 am.

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Christenson, to adjourn. MCU