

MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT #2342
WEST CENTRAL AREA SECONDARY SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
April 15, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Nessman. Members present per roll call: Sabolik, Christenson, Grosz, Beuckens, Nessman, Ulrich and Strunk. Members Absent: None. Administration present: Hogie.

Visitors: Nicole Hanson

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Grosz to modify the agenda adding Item 7 under new business - Consider and approve 10-Month Clerical contract due to minor changes due to working with a union representative. Roll Call Vote: Christenson, Beuckens, Ulrich, Strunk, Grosz, Sabolik, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Christenson, to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on March 25, 2020. MCU

Motion by Sabolik seconded by Strunk, to approve the payment of claims in the amount of \$590,765.44. Roll Call Vote: Grosz, Sabolik, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, Grosz, and Nessman. Roll Call Vote: Strunk, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, Grosz, Nessman. MCU

Technology Coordinator: (Kevin McNamara) – Mr. McNamara reported, overall things are going very well considering the amount of change we have faced from a technology standpoint in the last month. Our teachers are doing a fantastic job of creating digital content and delivering it to our students in an effective way. A HUGE thank you to Stacy for her continued time and effort to keep everything working effectively and meeting the needs of the LARGE number of end users we are currently serving. Also, a huge thank you to Shawn Carlson for answering a lot of the tech calls from K-4 families. Shawn has been a great asset to our tech department since handing out devices on Monday.

Community Education: (Naomi Moerke) – Ms. Moerke reported paraprofessionals have been on a rotating schedule for watching the daycare kids in both buildings. South has 2 students, and North has between 8 and 15 per day. Face masks were provided by Tina Lindquist should the staff want to use them while in the daycare. Summer care is staffed to be open when/if the Governor allows. Preschool registration opened April 13th. We currently have North KConnection: M/W 14, T/TH 12; South KConnection: M/W 7, T/TH 4 and Little Knights: North 9 and South 5. We have our summer recreation brochure ready to go. Should summer programming have to look differently this summer, Mr. Hogie and I have had a conversation about what might be some activities we could offer our students online.

Activities Director: (Jacob Foslien) – Mr. Foslien reported MSHSL has established a weekly Zom meeting keeping us up-to-date on things they are working on and looking into. Discussions have started as to what the summer calendar may look like for athletics and training. Trap League has cancelled and is still waiting to hear if the fishing league will. I have talked with Pete about spring/summer facilities projects we need to look into completing by fall. I have been in contact with area AD's about spring, summer and fall what-ifs.

Buildings & Grounds Director: – (Pete Amundson) Mr. Amundson reported that custodial staff have adapted to many changes in schedules and duties in response to COVID-19 with changes happening weekly and sometimes daily. Some painting is being done at all three buildings. We have started some summer cleaning projects in some areas that are difficult to get done in the summer and do not disrupt teachers being able to use classrooms. Hoping to shut down boilers for tear down and some minor repairs about May 1st.

Elementary School Principal: (Natalie Prasch) – Ms. Prasch reported that the second round of getting materials to families was held on Monday. Students in grades K-1 got Ipads and students in grades 2-4 got Chromebooks.. Teachers have been very busy preparing lessons and activities for students in all academic areas. Our feedback so far has been very positive and the kids love seeing their teachers on the screen. We have had all staff helping to clean out desks, sorting materials and helping with distribution. Everyone has been very flexible with their time and helping colleagues. I know our staff is the best, so it is no surprise that everyone has risen to the occasion. We are so lucky to be working and living in this environment. We continue to have our staff meetings via Google Meets. The professionalism within our staff is phenomenal! We have daycare available and open at both North and South. Our paraprofessional staff is doing an outstanding job at both sites. We will continue to discuss math resources for the upcoming school year. We will host webinars on the resources so teachers can choose a resource. We are hoping to do in-person training in June and August. We are continuing to discuss our 4th

quarter assessments and report cards. A student who met in quarter 3 will receive a meets in quarter 4 on the same learning objectives. For areas that teachers have not been able to access because of distance learning, students will receive a n/a- not accessed-on some objectives.

Secondary School Principal: (Susan Knutson) - Ms. Knutson reported that distance learning is going well with very little issues with connectivity at the high school. Any device issues are being handled in a timely manner. A parent survey on distance learning has been conducted. The greatest hurdle seems to be the varying amount of work assigned at each grade level and from each individual teacher. Middle school teachers have created color coded "to do" lists each day for the students but some days are still overwhelming especially in cases where the work can't be accomplished independently. Teachers are sending attendance through Synergy at the end of the week and Jake & I are addressing students that are not participating and getting reported "absent". Recommendations are being made to not issue grades at this time but to focus on engagement and student well being. The secondary will be using a pass/fail system.

Business Manager: (Diane Powers) - Ms. Powers reported that we received approval from MDE for each site to be reimbursed for meals that our Food Service staff are preparing daily. USDA now says as of April 1st, we cannot claim for reimbursement meals delivered to non-free/reduced families. (We were able to claim all meals prepared and delivered in March) MDE has applied for a waiver to allow some districts to claim all meals. They have received approval. MDE notified us that for now, the North & South sites may qualify for this waiver if we can demonstrate an increased financial hardship for the communities due to COVID-19. Ms. Powers reported that she is working with city officials to get statements showing that the families in the communities have been negatively affected economically by the virus. Families will not be charged for any meals that are delivered, no matter what the outcome of our waiver application is. From March 18th to April 9th, our food service staff have sent out 2,104 breakfast and lunches and served 155 breakfasts and 238 lunches to the children who attended the daycare in our buildings. The requests have gone up from 100 sent out for delivery to 225 as of April 15. Today's count of 225 is up 64 from the day before. We received notice that WCA will be eligible for some financial help for COVID-19 expenses from FEMA. We are in the process of gathering the data to start the application. Ms. Powers reported that she is continuing to work on the FY 21 budget. Budget vs actual numbers were also made available.

Superintendent: (Dale Hogie) - Mr. Hogie reported that he is attending twice weekly Zoom meetings with area superintendents and other regional educational leaders. The meetings help to accurately and consistently interpret newly released guidance provided by MDE and the State of MN. Mr. Hogie reported that if our percentage of families eligible for free and reduced meals grows to over 50%, we will likely be eligible for a summer meals program that will make all WCA students eligible for summer meals. Mr. Hogie commented our State revenue level has been established for the FY21 school year. It is highly unlikely that that revenue amount will be decreased but the State may delay a higher percentage of basic aid to school districts. For FY21 and the near future, I would expect State increases for education to be near 0%. The State's economic forecast has changed dramatically in the last 6 weeks. Mr. Hogie reported he gave Mr. Foslien the go ahead to coordinate a telecommuting instructional program with the company that has been conducting drivers education.

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Beuckens to approve the following general consent items: the leave request for Megan Dotts for 12 weeks starting approximately September 29th and approve capital outlay expenditures up to \$150,000. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Beuckens, Christenson, Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Sabolik, seconded by Christenson to approve the hiring of Lucas Beirels as Math Instructor at BA-Step 3. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Beuckens, Christenson, Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Christenson, seconded by Beuckens to approve resolution for the non-renewal and termination of William Holmes. Roll Call Vote - Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, Nessman. MCU

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Christenson to approve moving the planned August 11, 2020 referendum date to November 3, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Christenson to table School Perception survey until May 6th meeting until we have a timeline. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Grosz, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, and Nessman; No- Sabolik and Strunk.

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Christenson to approve the retirement of Laurie Smith. Roll Call Vote - Christenson, Beuckens, Ulrich, Strunk, Grosz, Sabolik, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Beuckens to approve the resolution accepting donations. Roll Call Vote - Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Nessman, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, and Nessman. MCU

Motion by Beuckens, seconded by Christenson to approve letter of recommendation for Natalie Prasche. Roll Call Vote: Yes - Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, and Nessman.

1. First Reading of the following policies:
 - a. Policy #414 Mandatory Reporting
 - b. Policy #419 Tobacco-Free Environment
 - c. Policy #421 Gifts to Employees and School Board Members
 - d. Policy #510 School Activities
 - e. Policy #516 Student Medication
 - f. Policy #524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Ulrich, to adjourn. Roll Call Vote: Sabolik, Grosz, Strunk, Ulrich, Beuckens, Christenson, and Nessman. MCU

Sara Strunk
Clerk