

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Independent School District No. 820

Sebeka, MN 56477

Regular meeting January 11, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. following the reorganizational meeting. The following members were in attendance: Nathan Erickson, Kayla Frame, Charles Funk, Russell Johnson, Eric Nelson and JoAnn Olson. Absent Rodney Huttunen. Also present were Superintendent Dave Fjeldheim; Principal Amie Westberg; Business Manager Holly Paulson; staff members Ruth Johnson; and Dave Kerkvliet; and Review Messenger Roy Rudderforth.

Nelson moved, Olson seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Negotiations Committee met with Mr. Fjeldheim on December 29th to discuss continuing in the position of superintendent for the school district. Mr. Funk noted that Mr. Fjeldheim suggested that he go to a reduced contract position for the 2021-2022 school year. By doing so the board will be able to see how that will work out for the district and determine if it is a model for future years. The contract would be reduced to 170-day contract days beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 that will result in a significant savings to the school district. This will allow more time off during the summer break when responsibilities are less intense and days off during certain months of the school year for family and a couple of opportunities to travel.

Business Manager Holly Paulson reported that the Truth In Taxation form and Levy Certification for the 2020-Payable-2021 Levy has been completed and submitted to MDE and County Auditors; reconciled the 2020 payroll and submitted for preparation of W-2's; calendar year Flex Plans and HSA accounts have been set up for employees who want to participate in the program; working on FY2021 budget revisions; completed Report of Outstanding Indebtedness and submitted to the county auditors and summarized Board Considerations for 2020 noting that board consideration money is contributed by the board members and Mr. Fjeldheim and is used for flowers for staff/family funerals; cake for Para Appreciation Week; retiree gifts; Education Appreciation Week, and Welcome Breakfast; started the process of 2021 HITA bid year with AJ Gallagher for health insurance; winter activity contracts have been completed and given to coaches; and final budget and expenditures have been submitted and accepted in SERVS for CRF (Cares Relief Fund) and noted that we received a total of \$130,690.78.

Activities Director Jon Lillquist was present and reported on a Conference Zoom meeting to discuss admissions for games and noted that no admission will be charged and noted that each school is allowing two fans per player to attend games; Boys Basketball 7th-12th has 22 participants, GBB 8th-12th has 20 participants, Jr. High GBB 6th-8th has 16 participants, wrestling 7th-12th has 11 participants from Sebeka and 14 from Menahga and BBB Cheerleading 7th-12th has 9 participants.

Principal Westberg reported that all students were back in the building on January 4th; the end of third quarter/semester one is January 15th noting that high school students will be allowed an extra week to catch up on missing assignments and the last day of the grading period will be January 22nd and grades will be due on January 27th; January 18th is our in-service day with staff meetings in the morning, CPR training from 12:30-3:00, and teachers working on grades and preparing for the new semester the rest of the time; working with Sourcewell to meet with our science teachers; Homecoming is the week of January 18th and Mrs. Rasmussen and Mrs. Koch are working on the final touches for the coronation and activities for students; and she will be virtually attending the MASSP winter conference on January 25th-28th.

Superintendent Fjeldheim reported on the PMA Bond Portfolio Management report and MASA/MSBA/MREA Legislative Platforms; Health and Safety meeting report noting that there were no major concerns or issues at this time; reviewed Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act; and noted that Food Service, Transportation and Custodial departments are all running effectively and efficiently.

Under Discussion Items, Mr. Fjeldheim noted due to the pandemic the MSBA Leadership conference will be held virtually on the mornings of January 14th, 21st, and 28th. Mr. Fjeldheim and Mr. Funk are signed up to view the conference. He also noted that a majority of the work has been completed with the mural as the main item to be completed although there are still a few punch list items to complete and final payout totaling approximately \$200,000; and that in-person learning for all students began on January 4th with nine new students starting also and all extra and co-curricular activities have officially started with discussion surfacing about the new regulations to begin on January 18th related to masks for physical education classes and extra-curricular activities, and the effects on these winter activities. Mr. Fjeldheim indicated we will do our best to abide with the new regulations, although using common sense will be exercised by staff, especially during strenuous activities.

Johnson moved, Nelson seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: Truth in Taxation and regular meeting minutes of December 14th; Treasurer and Investment report for January; monthly bills at 588,130.34; resignation from Paraprofessional Becky Mullen; resignation from Community Education Director Raina Connor; assignment of Paraprofessional Janelle Brockpahler; reduced time Superintendent contract for Mr. Fjeldheim for the 2021-2022 school year; Intent to Open negotiations with EMS for 2021-2023; and Enrollment report at 452 students K-12 of in-person and distance learners. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Olson seconded to approve the second reading of the 2020-2021 EMS Seniority List as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Nelson moved, Frame seconded to approve the first reading of the 2020-2021 budget revisions for Funds I, II, IV, and VIII as presented by Business Manager Holly Paulson showing revised revenues of \$6,895,798 and revised expenditures of 7,101,042 and a projected deficit of \$205,244 for FY 2021 not including the Construction Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Nelson moved, Erickson seconded to approve a resolution authorizing administration to make recommendations for cost containments for the 2021-2022 school year noting that this is a yearly process that is done in the event there would be a major change in state funding or some other unforeseen changes in demographics that would take many students out of our district and affect the budget for the following year. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Frame, Funk, Johnson, Nelson, Olson; against: none; absent: Huttunen; therefore, the motion was duly passed.

Johnson moved, Erickson seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:52 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson
Clerk of Sebeka School District