

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Independent School District No. 820
Sebeka, MN 56477
Regular meeting April 8, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office with the following members in attendance: Nathan Erickson, Charles Funk, Rod Huttunen, Cheri Kangas, and Eric Nelson. Absent members Kayla Frame and JoAnn Olson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Kerkvliet; K-12 Principal Amie Westberg; Business Manager Holly Paulson; staff member Jerome Meyer; and Review Messenger Reporter Dave Hanson.

Under Visitor and Delegation Comments, Jordan Anderson - Freshwater Education District Business Manager, presented information on what Freshwater does, how the finances work and what the benefits are of having Freshwater be a part of a school district.

Funk moved, Kangas seconded to approve the agenda with the following additions: 7.1.1 Approve Work Session Minutes; 7.5.5 Approve Jr. High Baseball Coach Justin Ahrendt and 9.3 Approve Lead in Water, Paint and Soil Written Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

The Facilities Committee met on March 27th to review and discuss the solar panel grant project. Superintendent Kjos from Menahga attended the meeting to give his feedback on the project.

Business Manager Holly Paulson reviewed health insurance information from the MN Healthcare Consortium for the renewal date of 07/01/2024 noting that there will be an increase of 5%; updated SPED payroll coding for FY2024; received confirmation from Minnesota Management & Budget that our Pay Equity report was in compliance; attended a virtual REAP webinar for the FY2024 application that will be paid in FY2025 noting the estimate for the 2024-2025 school year is \$25,185.

Jon Lillquist's AD report included Spring sports numbers: Baseball grades 6-12 have 41 participants; Softball grades 6-12 have 35 participants; Track 7-12 has 16 participants from Sebeka and 28 from Menahga; Spring Sports photos scheduled for April 10th; and is recommending Ed Heltunen for Co-Head Cross Country Coach.

Principal Westberg reported on Kindergarten Roundup held on Monday, April 8th; reviewed new electives for high school classes noting that every subject will be on a 2-year rotation which will help students plan out their high school career; will be offering 10 College in the Schools classes over the 2-year rotation; and reviewed requirements for English; updated on LETRS training; will be having a mock car crash for juniors and seniors on May 10th; and will be visiting Cocksackie-Athens Central School District in New York on April 15th - April 18th noting that this trip is offered through the Career Cohort with Sourcewell.

Superintendent Kerkvliet reported on the Warrior Mascot Appeal noting that he visited with area legislators on this issue; reviewed updated information from MREA, MSBA noting that the Day at the Capitol was very informative; attended the MASA Spring Conference and a Great Start Cohort; completed a Title IV survey; continues to work through staff shortages in the custodial department; interviewed for a new food service assistant and continue to look for used bus options for the transportation department; continue to update MSBA policies; reviewed the employee group health insurance noting a 5% increase; attended a webinar on the special education teacher pipeline grant which could help us train or advance paraprofessional and or Tier 1 or Tier 2 teachers in the area of special education over the next 5 years; noted that the Sebeka School Wellness committee hosted a game drive to help get new games in the classroom; dates and rules have been set for the Sebeka Fishing Team/Heart of the Lakes Fishing League; and reviewed minutes of the Health and Safety meeting noting that there were no issues or concerns in any department.

Under Discussion Items, Superintendent Kerkvliet reviewed the Solar For Schools grant opportunity; Strategic Planning work session; MSBA/MASA Day at the Capitol; end of year responsibilities; and staffing adjustments and cost containment items.

Huttunen moved, Erickson seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: regular meeting minutes from the March 11th meeting and work session minutes of April 3rd; Treasurer and Investment report for April; monthly bills totaling \$684,856.93; resignation of SPED teacher Bryson Vasey; resignation of Social Studies teacher Joe Lindmeier; assignment of Joni Redetzke as Food Service assistant; assignment of Co-Head Cross Country Ed Heltunen; assignment of Justin Ahrendt as Jr. High Baseball coach; and K-12 enrollment at 462 students. Motion carried unanimously.

Funk moved, Kangas seconded to approve the updated MSBA 410 Family Medical Leave Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Huttunen seconded to approve the resolution accepting the following donations:

1. SkillsUSA - \$500 from Johnson Well Drilling
2. Wellness Committee – \$20 from Hub 71; \$50 from Aim Chiropractic; \$50 from Johnson Well Drilling; \$100 from WCTA; and \$100 from JBrothers Mechanical. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Funk, Huttunen, Kangas, and Nelson; against: none; absent: Frame and Olson; therefore, the resolution was duly adopted.

Funk moved, Nelson seconded to approve to move forward with a strategic plan for Sebek Public School with guidance from Sourcewell. Motion carried unanimously.

Huttunen moved, Funk seconded to approve an updated for Lead in Water, Paint and Soil Written Plan as per LCSC Jeff Preuss. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Kangas seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson
Clerk of Sebek School District