

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Independent School District No. 820

Sebeka, MN 56477

Regular meeting May 12, 2025

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Jeannie Arthur, Nathan Erickson, Kayla Frame, Rodney Huttunen, Cheri Kangas, Eric Nelson and JoAnn Olson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Kerkvliet, Principal Amie Westberg; staff members Rachel Kern, Nikki Ament and Ruth Johnson; Student Council Representative Kelcie Kuschel; Grady Kirk from Sourcewell; community member Randy Vandermay and Review Messenger Reporter Dave Hanson.

Olson moved, Frame seconded to approve the agenda with the following additions: 3.2 School Links Presentation by K-12 Counselor Rachel Kern and Grady Kirk from Sourcewell; 7.5.3 Melissa Koch Homecoming Co-Advisor resignation; 7.5.4 Assignment of Reagan Mayer Homecoming Co-Advisor; 7.5.5 Resignation Paraprofessional Arrysa Kessler; and 9.8 Senior Class Transportation. Motion carried unanimously.

Under Visitor or Delegation Comments, Randy Vandermay was present to provide information regarding Trap Shooting and asked the School Board to consider paying for registration fees and meal costs for the State Trap Shoot competition. He reported that there would be 27 shooters and also noted that they placed in the top 40 in the State last year with one individual placing 5th. The School Board stated they will approve this request for registration and meal costs for the Trap Shoot State Championship Conference meet under new business items on the agenda.

Student Council Representative Kelcie Kuschel reported that the Student Council will be holding their elections for next school year; providing beverages for students and staff after Day of Caring, providing freebies for students during the color run, helping with elementary field day and requested transportation for the senior class trip to Fargo on May 21st.

Under the Business Manager report, Superintendent Kerkvliet reported on behalf of Holly Paulson noting that for FY25 the updated budget deficit spending is estimated at \$190,240 and explained that there are many moving parts and unknowns that affect the fund balances; Health, Dental and Vision open enrollments with renewals starting July 1st; working on the FY2025 final budget revision and initial FY2026 budget; working with Freshwater to get estimated FY2026 salaries in SEDRA; received email from the US Department of Education notifying that the application for SRSA (REAP) will open on May 15th; and attended the annual MASBO Spring Conference in Duluth and will be attending year end meetings for payroll and finance.

Jon Lillquist's AD report included Spring sports playoff dates for softball start on May 19th; baseball starting May 22nd; track starts with sub-sections on May 22nd and sections on May 29th; and Golf sections on June 2nd and 3rd; and the tentative district schedule for football has been released and if it is approved by MSHSL, Sebeka will be playing Kelliher/Northome, McGregor, Bertha Hewitt and Ogilvie at home and will travel to Cromwell, Mille Lacs, Carlton-Wrenshall and Verndale.

Principal Westberg reported on: Giovanni's Pizza fundraiser was a success selling over 2700 pizzas and noted that the Giovanni's rep said that our school is one of their biggest fundraising schools; registration for high school classes took place on May 8th with students using Course Planner; elementary and seniors have scheduled their field trips; Elementary Field Day is scheduled for May 15th and Day of Caring for students in grades 7-12 is held on the morning of May 16th with the Color Run for grades K-12 set for the afternoon of that day weather permitting; reviewed competencies and definitions of Portrait of a Graduate; and noted that for the school year 2025-2026, 1st grade will be one section and 5th grade will be one section and will be utilizing Mrs. Pulju and Mrs. Ament to teach 6th grade language arts and math.

Superintendent Kerkvliet reported on the following: noted that the solar project state grant has been approved and Solar Connection is working with Minnesota Power to get things started; updates regarding MREA, MSBA, MASA, and MDE; had an issue with a breaker that trips on the refrigerator in the high school Special Ed room; signed an agreement with Herzog Roofing to have roof section G (kitchen area) replaced this summer; Transportation department running well; Food Service Department would like to order a meal planning software so asked if one position could be moved to a half time position if the software was ordered; attended the "Students of Character" awards ceremonies noting that Logan Dehmer and Kayleigh Warmbold received the awards, and also attended the "Teachers of Excellence" and "Pillar of Excellence" awards which were received by Nicolle Ament, Jenny Lillquist and Al McGraw (50 years as a bus driver); continue to attend the monthly Freshwater meetings; participated in a meeting with the Wadena County Joint Task Force to continue school safety training and planning with emergency response personnel; attended the Astera Health Regional Clinics Board meeting and was able to tour the new cancer center; and noted that on November 10th, William Grube from Gruvy Education will be presenting an AI Education training.

Under Discussion Items, Nikki Ament reviewed the Q-Comp program and how the program works to improve instruction and student achievement.

Frame moved, Arthur seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: April 21st regular meeting minutes; Treasurer and Investment report for May; monthly bills in the amount of \$684,765.95; Summer Rec Workers Max Lake, Vyolette Lysne, Kyla Watson, Annika Pulju and Jaylin Lillquist; Summer Rec Director Jon Lillquist; resignation of Homecoming Co-Advisor Melissa Koch; assignment of Reagan Mayer as Homecoming Co-Advisor; resignation of Paraprofessional Arrysa Kessler effective at the end of the school year; and May enrollment at 430 students K-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Huttunen seconded to approve the resolution accepting the following donations: 1. Baseball - \$500 from Wolf Lake Wolf Pack for baseball equipment, \$40 from Steve and Nancy Huhta and \$20 from Martha Carter; 2. BPA - \$1,200 from WCTA for Nationals; 3. SkillsUSA - \$60 from Greg Ristinen; 4. FFA - \$25 from Peterson Farm Seed; 5. Fishing Team Sponsorship - \$120 from Olson Tire and Oil in Ottertail; \$120 from True North Welding in Perham; \$150 from Lakes Area Landscaping LLC in Pelican Rapids, \$120 from Zenenergy LLC and \$300 from R.D. Offutt Farms; and 6. Targeted Services Summer School - \$1,200 from WCTA. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Erickson, Frame, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson and Olson; against: None; therefore, the resolution was duly adopted.

Frame moved, Kangas seconded to approve the graduating class of 2025 as presented contingent upon all requirements completed at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Erickson moved, Huttunen seconded to approve the first reading of the final budget revisions for fiscal year 2025 showing revenues at \$8,153,547 and expenditures at 8,343,787 for a deficit of \$190,240. Motion carried unanimously.

Frame moved, Olson seconded to approve the resolution renewing the MSHSL 2025-2026 membership. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Erickson, Frame, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson and Olson; against: None; therefore, the resolution was duly adopted.

Huttunen moved, Kangas seconded to approve to pay \$2,000 in registration fees and meal costs for students and coaches for the Trap Shoot State Championship Conference meet which will be held in June. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board tabled 9.6 COMMUNITY CONCERN FOR YOUTH 2025-2026 RESOLUTION

Erickson moved, Frame seconded to approve a resolution to dissolve the cooperative agreement in Boys Hockey between WDC, Staples/Motley, NYM, Sebeka and Parkers Prairie noting that the purpose of dissolving this cooperative sponsorship is to form a new cooperative agreement with the above-mentioned schools and Henning High School. The following members voted in favor: Arthur, Erickson, Frame, Huttunen, Kangas, Nelson and Olson; against: None; therefore, the resolution was duly adopted.

Olson moved, Arthur seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson
Clerk of Sebeka School District