

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #181
BRainerd PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Minutes for the REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Monday, September 11, 2023

6:00 p.m. at

Forestview Middle School

12149 Knollwood Drive, Baxter

1. Call the meeting to order and roll call:

Members present were: John Ward, Kevin Boyles, Randy Heidmann, Michelle Brekken, Sarah Speer, and DJ Dondelinger

Others present were: Dr. Heidi Hahn, Andrea Rusk, Christine Tangen, Annmarie Lacher, Ryan Schultz, Reid Thiesse, Tim Murtha, Marci Lord, Amy Jordan, Angie Bennett, Alissa Thompson, Jessica Haapajoki, Jill Bjorge, Jodi Kennedy, Molly Raske, Jim Conrad, Christina Lundgren, Tammy Stellmach, Kathy Johnson, Derek Hendrickson, Isaac Smeija, Jon Anderson, Jack Freeman, Fran Jensvold, and Theresa Bourke - Brainerd Dispatch

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Approval of the agenda as amended: *Moved by Director Ward, second by Director Heidmann to approve the agenda as amended. Amended due to different attachments and a date change. Carried.*

4. Recognitions:

- Congratulations to Warrior Football Coach Jason Freed! Coach Freed was named the Minnesota Vikings High School Coach of the Week!

5. Public Input: There were 3 speakers who addressed the board and spoke about concerns they had with a comment from the July 10 School Board meeting, library books, and had a moment of silence for the victims of 9/11.

6. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Director Brekken, second by Director Speer to approve the minutes from the regular School Board meeting held on August 14, 2023 as presented. Carried.

7. Consent Calendar: Hires are approved pending negotiated contracts/agreements and a district approved /acceptable background check.

Moved by Director Dondelinger, second by Director Speer to approve the consent calendar as presented. Carried.

- Staff Changes/Leaves

- Certified - New Hires

Dana Bjorgan - Elementary Teacher, Lowell, Effective 8/28/2023

Nicole Grant - Sped Teacher, BHS, Effective 8/28/2023

Nedra Henline - Elementary Teacher, Garfield, Effective 8/28/2023

Megan Hennen - Language Arts Teacher, FMS, Effective 8/28/2023

Madalyn Kilibarda - Elementary Teacher, Garfield Effective 8/28/2023

Chelsie Meyer - Sped Teacher, Garfield, Effective 8/28/2023

Kelsey Miller - Elementary Teacher, Lowell, Effective 8/28/2023

Julie Oakland Soukup - English Teacher, FMS, Effective 8/28/2023

Kari Ross, Director of Student Support Services & Equity, District, Effective 9/5/2023
Lisa Rydberg - Sped Teacher, FMS, Effective 8/28/2023
Autumn Thull - Early Childhood Teacher, WELC, Effective 8/28/2023
Sarah Vang - Sped Teacher, FMS, Effective 8/28/2023
Julie Wangsness - Elementary Teacher, Baxter, Effective 8/28/2023

- Non-Certified - New Hires

Kimberly Anderson - EA, FMS, Effective 8/29/2023
Megan Barsness - EA, Nisswa, Effective 8/29/2023
Tammy Beck - EA, Baxter, Effective 8/29/2023
Destiny Carrier - EA, BHS, Effective 8/29/2023
Kaitlyn Cook - Collaborative Worker, FSM & BHS, Effective 9/18/2023
Amy Dirks - EA, BHS, Effective 9/25/2023
Bethany Doucette - EA, LEC, Effective 9/28/2023
Katie Elton - Assistant Cook, Baxter, Effective 9/06/2023
Charlotte Good - EA, Baxter, Effective 8/29/2023
Brandi Guse - LPN, FMS, Effective 8/29/2023
Lynnae Haines - EA, BHS, Effective 8/29/2023
Nancy Henningson - EA, Nisswa, Effective 8/29/2023
Miya Jordan - EA, Garfield, Effective 9/15/2023
Ashlee Lucas - Assistant Cook, FMS, Effective 9/11/2023
Jordyn Marsh - EA, FMS, Effective 8/29/2023
Tina Martin - Assistant Cook, BHS, Effective 9/05/2023
Trisha Peterson - EA, Lowell, Effective 8/29/2023
Laurie Talcott - EA, FMS, Effective 8/29/2023
Nadia Thorgrimsen - Student Support Specialist, BHS, Effective 8/29/2023
Kyara Topp - EA, BHS, Effective 9/06/2023
Brian Weiss - EA, BHS, Effective 8/28/2023

- Coaches/Comm. Ed - New Hires

Danielle Addison - PreK Plus Program Assistant, WELC, Effective 9/11/2023
Nicholas Anderson - Ass't Lacrosse Coach, BHS, Effective 4/14/2023
Dana Clough - 9th Grad Lead Volleyball Coach, BHS, Effective 8/14/2023
Ethan DeRosier - Ass't Lacrosse Coach, BHS, Effective 4/14/2023
Cherise Dobbins - Fun'N'Friends Program Assistant, Baxter, Effective 9/05/2023
Ellie Hoffman - Fun'N'Friends Program Assistant, Baxter, Effective 9/01/2023
Jacob Holm - Ass't Lacrosse Coach, BHS, Effective 4/14/2023
James Kath - Head Wrestling Coach, BHS, Effective 11/2/2023
Lauren Kowalzek - Fun'N'Friends Program Assistant, Baxter, Effective 9/5/2023
Linda Marsh - Community Ed Instructor, Effective 9/06/2023
Rachel Muehlbauer - Fun'N'Friends Program Assistant, Baxter, Effective 8/30/2023
David Rozinka - Umpire Coordinator, District, Effective 7/30/2023
David Stengrim - JH Equipment Manager, FMS, Effective 9/5/2023
Lisa Sunder - PreK Plus Program Assistant, WELC, Effective 9/11/2023
Kryston Wiseley - Comm Ed Instructor, District, Effective 7/11/2023

- Substitutes

Marbeth Abraham - EA Sub, District, Effective 9/5/2023
Heather Friemann - EA Sub, District, Effective 9/5/2023
Mecedes Klein - Nurse Sub, District, Effective 8/29/2023
Shyla Rocca - EA Sub, LEC, Effective 8/29/2023
Lincoln Singh - EA Sub, District, Effective 9/8/2023
Donna Wind - Cook Sub, District, Effective 9/11/2023

Amber Workman - Nurse Sub, District, Effective 8/29/2023

- Separations

Melissa Andersen - Cook, WELC, Effective 9/11/2023

Denise Anderson - EA, FMS, Effective 9/1/2023

Linda Buck - Teacher Sub, District, Effective 9/08/2023

Brad Clarine - Assistant Basketball Coach, FMS, Effective 8/16/2023

Ahmi Emig - Teacher Sub, District, Effective 9/3/2023

Vicki Johnson - Cook, BHS, Effective 8/15/2023

James Kath - Assistant Wrestling Coach, BHS, Effective 8/30/2023

Kate Laughton - PreK Plus Program Assistant, WELC, Effective 9/11/2023

Jessica Mortel - Student Success Center Clerical, BHS, Effective 9/15/2023

Shyla Rocca - EA, Riverside, Effective 8/29/2023

Tate Ruck - Assistant Football Coach, FMS, Effective 8/23/2023

Kayla Schubert - Indigenous Education Coordinator, District, Effective 8/21/2023

Katheryn Staley - PreK Plus Lead, WELC, Effective 9/8/2023

Megan Strong - Teacher, Garfield, Effective 8/16/2023

Jaclyn Taylor - Clerical, District, Effective 8/16/2023

Ashley Utz - Cook, Baxter, Effective 8/15/2023

James Wimmer - Assistant Football Coach, FMS, Effective 8/24/2023

- Donations/Grants - Gifts were received from Mills Automotive Center, BN Credit Union, Lake Hubert Women's Club, Willie & Designs Designs, Nisswa American Legion Auxiliary, Lakes Area Presbyterian Church, and Brainerd Ace Hardware.

- Ratify Payment of Bills

8. **Presentation:**

- "Coming Home" Concert Update: John Erickson informed the board that the upcoming "Coming Home Concert" is a pick up choir event and will be directed by BHS Graduate and Distinguished Hall of Fame Inductee Dr. Craig Arnold. The event is September 30th at 7 p.m. in the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts. At this time there are 69 A Cappella singers and 71 community members signed up to sign. Participants are from as far away as New York, Vienna, and Alaska.

9. **New Business:**

For Action:

Presentation: Preliminary 2023 Payable 2024 Proposed Tax Levy at the maximum: Marci Lord, Director of Business Services, informed the board that the proposed property tax levy payable in 2024 will impact the fiscal year 2025 budget. Adjustments are still being made, but the current percent of increase is 3.6%. Many of the calculations in a school district's annual property tax levy are enrollment driven. Once the district knows how much revenue the local tax levy will generate, expenses will need to be managed to closely match the established revenue amounts. The recommendation was to approve the maximum proposed levy, allowing for potential calculation changes to occur between now and December. Any changes will be brought forth when the levy is certified in December.

1. Approval of the preliminary 2023 payable 2024 proposed tax levy at the maximum as presented.

Moved by Director Ward, second by Director Brekken to approve the preliminary 2023 payable 2024 proposed property tax levy at the maximum as presented. Carried.

2. Approve the Termination of the Brainerd SRO Contract as presented: Dr. Heidi Hahn informed the board that the Brainerd City Council voted unanimously to request withdrawal from their current SRO contract. The district agrees with the withdrawal honoring the unique position that the

current legislative language has placed upon the individual SRO. There is a current safety and support plan that is in place under the direction of Brainerd Chief Davis to ensure there is a physical presence seen around the high school grounds but not in the building and to have officers on site at activities. The Baxter City Council has chosen at this time to have their SRO remain on site and they are waiting to see how this issue continues to evolve with the state legislature and Governor Walz.

Moved by Director Dondelinger, second by Director Speer to approve the termination of the Brainerd SRO contract as presented. Carried.

Moved and Amended by Director Ward, second by Director Heidmann to approve sending a letter to the Speaker of House, President of the Senate, Governor Waltz, and Legislative Representatives from Crow Wing, Cass, and Morrison Counties about the safety of the students and stop the political game and work this legislation out. Carried.

Directors Dondelinger, Ward, and Heidmann volunteered to work on the letter and will forward for approval from all directors once composed.

3. Approval to have the Building and Grounds Purchasing to advertise for bids for Snow Removal Services for SY 24/25 as presented: Reid Thiesse, Director of Buildings and Grounds, informed the board that for the past two years the district has solicited bids for snow removal services on an annual basis. This year, because of the cost of services, we will advertise for bids in accordance with MN State Procurement Statutes and will bring the bid results to the October board meeting for approval.

Moved by Director Dondelinger, second by Director Speer to approve advertising for bids for snow removal services for this school year as presented. Carried.

4. Discussion and Approval of the Revised Policy 902 Appendix B as presented: Annmarie Lacher, Director of Community Education, reminded the board that at the last board meeting they requested a revision to the policy to allow the sales/service of alcohol at the Gichi-ziibi venue year round (restricted to the hours of 5-9 p.m.) from current policy that only allows sales/service of alcohol during summer when school is not in session. She also stated that for consideration they could change the policy to allow non-profit organizations who receive their required temporary liquor license to sell/serve alcohol themselves rather than requiring they contract with a licensed caterer. Annmarie represented two versions for the review. One allowing no caterer and the other requiring use of a caterer.

Moved by Director Ward, second by Director Heidmann to approve option one which requires the use of a caterer for events serving alcohol at the Gichi-ziibi as presented. Carried.

5. Approval of the First and Final Reading of Policy #506.1 form as presented: Dr. Heidi Hahn informed the board that when Policy 506 was reviewed and adopted at the August Board meeting, the Discipline Complaint Procedure and Form 506.1 was not part of the approval process. As per statutory requirements, a Discipline Complaint Procedure and Form is required as part of Policy 506. The Discipline Complaint Procedure and Form outlines that a parent/guardian may file a complaint and seek corrective action when the requirements of the Minnesota Fair Pupil Dismissal Act, or the implementation of the behavior and discipline policies are not being implemented appropriately or are being discriminately applied. MSBA developed a model form, and Superintendents from surrounding districts met regarding this form, and agreed to align our forms so families in our region are seeing the policy and complaint form align as well.

Moved by Director Brekken, second by Director Ward to approve the first and only reading of Policy 506.1 form as presented. Carried.

6. Approval of the Third and Final Reading of MSBA Policy #516.5 as presented: Dr. Heidi Hahn Informed the board that there has not been any questions or concerns raised regarding this policy.

Moved by Director Dondelinger, second by Director Brekken to approve the third and final reading of MSBA Policy 516.5 as presented. Carried.

10. Committee Meeting Updates:

- Finance Committee Meeting - September 11, 2023 - Director Ward informed the board that at today's committee meeting they discussed policies, concession revenue changes, and the levy discussion.

11. Informational:

- Brainerd Public Schools Foundation - Sarah Speer informed the board that new members and officers were welcomed, the Warrior Worn program is underway and Warrior gear is online and looking forward to receiving lots of orders.
- Equity Task Force Update / Recommendations - Michelle Brekken said the task force meets the next day and would have a report at the next meeting.
- Follow-up on School Board complaint from July 10, 2023 - Director Boyles stated that an investigation has been concluded by himself, Director Speer & Dr. Hahn. Director Heidmann read a prepared statement and each of the Directors spoke.
- Business Services Report – Marci Lord informed the board that this is the first report for the year and reminded the board the blue column is ADMs and student counts are head counts.. The count is currently down 10 students from projections but the five year average reflects down 21, so it appears to be tracking better than average.
- Superintendent's Report - Dr. Heidi Hahn stated it has been a great start to the year and how fun and a privilege to greet students on the first day. The new Student Support Services and Equity Director, Kari Ross, was introduced. Thank you to John Erickson for all his work. Last month he had a total of 190.5 volunteer hours. Heidi asked for everyone to help in some way and volunteer for the upcoming Homecoming parade and events all happening the last week of September.

12. Director Comments:

- Director Boyles - Stated that the board is having retreats and anyone is welcome to attend and from the last retreat they decided they wanted to allocate time for the Directors to share items. The board will be drafting letters of concern about the SRO legislation and free meals for all students. Looking for community support and volunteers for homecoming events. Mr. Boyles also informed the group about the Delegate assembly conference that is held in November and was looking for a volunteer to attend this year.
- Director Brekken - Spoke about how grateful she was to beagle to be in the building on the first day of school.
- Director Dondelinger - Spoke about how people need to get involved. Politicians make a lot of promises and nothing is actually done.
- Director Heidmann - Spoke about his time at Harrison Elementary and Brainerd Learning Center on the first day of school and how it was a great day.
- Director Speer - Spoke about how great it was to celebrate the start of the year with the staff and it was a great start for the 6000+ students. She also enjoyed her time on the first day of school in the buildings.
- Director Ward - A note of thanks for the remembrance of the 911 victims. Noted the Warrior run fundraiser on Saturday 9/23. Thanked the elementary administration for their literacy presentation at their retreat. He also stated how much fun it was on the first day at school at Riverside, high threeing the students.

13. Future Meetings:

September 11, 2023	Finance Committee Meeting @ 4:00 p.m. at FMS
September 11, 2023	Regular School Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at FMS
September 12, 2023	Battle of the Books Grand Finale 3:00 p.m. at FMS
September 15, 2023	Armed Forces Tribute @ 1:00 p.m. Crow Wing County Historical Courthouse
September 20, 2023	Long Range Planning Committee Meeting @ 12:30 p.m. at FMS
September 27, 2023	Curriculum /Instruction Staff Dev Committee Meeting @ 12:00 p.m. at FMS
October 9, 2023	Regular School Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at WESB

14. Moved by Director Dondelinger, second by Director Speer to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

DJ Dondelinger, Clerk
Janet Horn, Recording Secretary