

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Mauston Board of Education**

DATE: Monday, May 19, 2025

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

PLACE: District Office Community Room
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston, WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Zilisch, Mike Coughlin, Joanne Schumer, Char Gyllin, Tom Morris, Jess Kayhart, and Jerome Leak

1. President Mike Zilisch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Seven members were present.
2. President Zilisch led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. There was one public comment: William Poor of Mauston brought his concerns about the District not being ADA compliant. There was also a written public comment that was submitted.

Reports

1. **Eagle After School Report** – EASP students Ava Scarberry and Paisley Blythe, along with EASP Teacher, April Frelke, presented on what EASP was and the many opportunities the program gives students.
2. **Student Reports** – Mauston High School Principal Jim Dillin gave Board Members a packet of student group information.
3. **Board Committee Reports** – Finance (presented by Gyllin) and Policy and Personnel (presented by Schumer).
4. **Leadership Team Reports** – Olson Middle School Principal Jack Hammer let the Board know about 8th grade Promotion being on June 3 at 1:30pm. Mauston High School Principal Jim Dillin and Mauston High School Assistant Principal Randy Gyllin stated that the Track Dedication and Naming Ceremony for Bill DeVoe was moved to the OMS auditorium at 3:45pm on May 20 and that the conference track would set up a base camp in the OMS gym for May 20.
5. **Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Joel Heesch addressed the written public comment and stated that the administration looked into the claims being brought forward and there were several untruths being stated. Superintendent Heesch told the Board that any claims are reviewed to make sure there was no problems within the District. Superintendent Heesch also addressed several items on the agenda: Trip to Europe in 2026 and open enrollment application approvals. The trip needed to be brought forward and approved so that fundraising opportunities

could get started. Superintendent Heesch passed out a 10-year cost plan for the District. Mr. Heesch also stated Fund 46 can only be used for capital maintenance projects and that the Property and Transportation Committee would be meeting in the future to review the plans for the pool and track for ideas on how to move forward. Lastly, Superintendent Heesch presented an executive coaching consultant contract for him. He was looking for questions and a conversation from the Board if they would like him to pursue an opportunity for someone to help him help the team grow as he grows.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Coughlin/Gyllin to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 7/0, whereby the following items were approved:

1. Minutes of the April 21, 2025 Special School Board Meeting Minutes, April 21, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes, April 23, 2025 5:30pm Special School Board Meeting Minutes, April 23, 2025 6:00pm Special School Board Meeting Minutes and May 5, 2025 Special School Board Meeting Minutes.
2. Gil Saylor and Kelli Dreier Resignations.
3. Payment of the Monthly Vouchers with the total expenditures totaling \$576,506.93 and revenue totaling \$469,325.57.

Pending Action

1. Motion by Gyllin/Coughlin to approve donations and gifts in the amount of \$3,658.92. The gifts and donations included: anonymous donor donated a hydroponic unit and Cricut supplies to Lemonweir Academy; Nora Pruitt, Kobylski Family, Jami Navis, Unifying Nutrition, Kwik Trip, Castle Rock Realty, LegendAry, Beyond the Daily Grind, Wonderland Reptiles, Woodside Ranch, and Alli Wallace; Lyndon Station Elementary PTC, St. Luke's Church; and Angela and Eric Olson. Motion carried 7/0.
2. Superintendent Heesch presented donations that were under \$300: The 2024-2025 National Honor Society donated \$50 to the West Side School Lunch program; Walmart Distribution Center donated 4 Cheesecakes to Grayside Elementary School for Teacher Appreciation Week; Royal Bank donated a Jar of candy to Grayside Elementary School for Teacher Appreciation Week, Beverly and Mike Smith donated a large teddy bear for each girl and a large toy for each boy at Lyndon Station Elementary; and Kelly and Kiril Kustief donated \$250 to the MHS music department.
3. Motion by Schumer/Kayhart to approve the employment contracts of Bonita Hanley as a Second Grade Teacher, Emma Brevik as the West Side Elementary Guidance Counselor, Grace Metko as the Elementary School Music Teacher, Graciana Herrewig as a Special Education Teacher, Julianna West as the District English Language Coordinator/Olson Middle School Spanish Teacher, Kelsi Priest as a Reading Interventionist, Mariah Eichenberg as the Olson Middle School Band Teacher, and Terry Otradovec as the 6-12 Activities Director. Motion carried 7/0.

4. The Board held the first reading on revisions to Policy 5410 - Promotion, Placement, and Retention. There was no action taken.
5. The Board held the first reading on new Policy 5411 - Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At-Risk Students. There was no action taken.
6. Motion by Schumer/Coughlin to approve of additional summer school courses for 2025 as presented. Motion carried 7/0.
7. Motion by Schumer/Kayhart to approve a request for Mauston High School students to travel overseas in 2026. Mauston High School Teachers Jen Holberg and Karen Hable told the Board that the trip would be to Rome and Athens and during Spring Break of 2026. This is because it would be cheaper for the students as well as cooler than it would be in the summer. Motion carried. 7/0.
8. Motion by Coughlin/Gyllin to approve the Administrative Recommendations regarding Open Enrollment Applications for the 2025-2026 School Year. This included Open Enrollment Applications for resident students applying to attend other school districts, Open Enrollment Applications for non-resident students applying to attend school in the Mauston School District, and applications from current eighth-grade non-resident students who wish to continue attending school at Mauston High School, Lemonweir Academy or iLEAD Charter School in grade 9, following Board Policy 5113 - Open Enrollment Program (Inter-District). Motion carried 7/0.
9. Motion by Coughlin/Zilisch to adjourn Executive (Closed) Session in compliance with State Statute (19.85)(1) (c): Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." [Discussion and Possible Approval of Administrative Wages Increases for the 2024-2025 School Year and 2025-2026 School Year, and Discussion and Possible Approval of Employment Contract for Mauston High School/iLEAD Charter School Principal]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 7/0.
10. Meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:31 p.m.

Recording by:
Jennifer Hagemann, Board Secretary and Joanne Schumer, Board Clerk