

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 777, Benson, Minnesota
Monday, July 12, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. – Northside Elementary School Cafeteria

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Brian Samuelson. Members present: Brian Samuelson, Bill McGeary, Eric Peterson, Gary Williams, Paul Carruth and James Berens. Members absent: Mary KW Langan. Also present: Dennis Laumeier, Mike Knutson, Garrett Schmidt, Katie Foley, Lori Eix, Reed Anfinson.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by B. McGeary, second by G. Williams to approve the agenda. Motion carried (6-0).

Citizens Comments: None.

Consent Agenda Items: Minutes for the June 21, 2021 Regular Meeting; Bills and hand checks in the amount of \$982,129.27; **Approval of Personnel:** **Fall Coaches:** Head Football - Adam Foslien; Asst. Football - Mark Grussing; Asst. Football - Tom Foley; Asst. Football - Brady Dokkebakken; Asst. Football - Mike Felt; JH Football - Adam Jensen; JH Football - Steve Goossen; Head Girls Tennis- Coleton Anderson; Asst. Girls Tennis - Datriana Jensen; Asst. Volleyball - Laura Mitteness; JH Volleyball - TaiAnna Moe; Head Cross Country - Samantha VanHeuveln; Band Director - Brock Duncan; JH Band Director - Brock Duncan; Choir Director - Madison Wilson; Approval of Superintendent Dennis Laumeier to be designated as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion by P. Carruth, second by E. Peterson to approve consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried (6-0).

Progress Reports:

PK-5, Garrett Schmidt: Summer School at Northside started today and will be held through July 29th; We are still looking to fill the Head Volleyball coach position.

6-12, Mike Knutson: Benson Kid Day is this weekend. During Kid Day, there will be a music concert on Friday in the new Performing Arts Center (PAC). On Saturday, community members can take a self-guided tour of Northside and the high school to see the new spaces; In August, Benson High School will host an area paraprofessional workshop presented by Minnesota River Valley Educational District (MRVED).

Financial Report, Katie Foley: Auditor Brian Koehn was here last week working on the preliminary audit; Business office staff are working on payoff payroll and starting on FY22 payroll.

Superintendent Report, Dennis Laumeier: An Open House of the Northside and high school new spaces will be held on Saturday, July 17th from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Staff and student council members will be available to help out during the open house; Supt. Laumeier provided a Covid-19 update for the 2021-2022 school year.

Board Committee Reports: The Activities Committee report will be presented later in the meeting.

Old Business:

BHS Open Lunch: Currently, BHS students in grades 9-12 have the option of leaving campus during lunch. A follow-up discussion from the June meeting was held regarding the pros and cons of closing school lunch and updating any lunch changes to the 2021-2022 6-12 student handbook.

Motion by E. Peterson, second by P. Carruth to close open lunch to 9th grade students and require a signed parent permission waiver for grades 10-12 students to leave campus for lunch and update this change in the first reading of the 2021-2022 grades 6-12 student handbook. Motion carried (5-1).

New Business:

2021-2022 PK-5 Student Handbook: PK-5 Principal Garrett Schmidt reviewed the minor changes to the 2021-2022 PK-5 Student Handbook. This is the first reading.

2021-2022 6-12 Student Handbook: Principal Knutson reviewed the changes to the 2021-2022 6-12 Student Handbook. In the handbook, lunch times, student council members and the 2021-2022 school calendar have been updated. Mike will add the new closed lunch changes. This is the first reading.

2021-2022 MSHSL Resolution Membership: In order for teams and individuals to compete in arts and activities for the 2021-2022 school year, the district is required to be a member of the MN State High School League (MSHSL). The MSHSL completed a comprehensive financial study through a task force comprised of school leaders from all size districts. Based upon the recommendations of the task force, changes have been made and membership fees have been adjusted between district sizes.

Motion by B. McGeary, second by G. Williams to adopt the resolution for 2021-2022 MSHSL Membership. Roll call vote with the following voting in favor: P. Carruth, J. Berens, E. Peterson, B. McGeary, G. Williams, B. Samuelson and none against. Motion carried (6-0).

Donations:

Angel Fund: \$153.35 Erick & Jill Hedman; \$47.03 Dwight & Krista Hoover; \$119.40 Tom & Tracy Johnson; \$28.25 Tami Koosmann; \$36.59 Jason & Sarah Young; \$500 Swift County HRA B.A.C.K Program.

Motion by G. Williams, second by B. McGeary to pass Resolution 2021-03 to accept the donations made to the district. Roll call vote with the following voting in favor: J. Berens, E. Peterson, B. McGeary, G. Williams, P. Carruth, B. Samuelson and none against. Motion carried (6-0).

Future Meetings:

School Board Work Session – Monday, August 2, 2021, 5:30 p.m., Northside Elementary Cafeteria

Regular School Board Meeting – Monday, August 16, 2021, 5:30 p.m., Northside Elementary Cafeteria

Superintendent Performance Evaluation – Year-End 2020-2021: The board will go into closed session for purposes of conducting the year-end superintendent evaluation.

Negotiations Strategy: The board will go into closed session for purposes of conducting employee negotiations strategy Motion by P. Carruth, second by E. Peterson to go into closed session at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried (6-0).

Motion by B. McGeary, second by J. Berens to end the closed session at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried (6-0).

Adjournment:

Motion by G. Williams, second by P. Carruth to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried (6-0).

MRVED Flexible Learning Year (FLY) Public Hearing:

MRVED Districts have agreed to pursue a Flexible Learning Year (FLY) application. To apply for the next three-year FLY Waiver, districts who are proposing to start before Labor Day must hold three public hearings on the proposed FLY calendar. Three public hearings will be held after the June 21st School Board Meeting, July 12th School Board Meeting and the August 2nd Board Work Session. This is the second public hearing.