

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

**DATE:** Monday, April 21, 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, Betty Kryka, Tom Morris and Char Gyllin

1. Board Vice President Mike Zilisch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Six members were present.
2. Vice President Zilisch led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. There was one public comment. Ken Van Doren congratulated the winners of the April 1 election. He then commented that the board needed to speak up so everyone could hear what was being said. Mr. Van Doren then called the Board “a rubber stamp” board, and that he found Mr. Heesch to be a bully and not working in good faith regarding all of Mr. Van Doren’s public records requests.

**Reports**

1. **Student Reports:**
  - a. FBLA – The group shared updates from conferences and events members attended. The members also shared some upcoming events.
  - b. Wheelie Beans – Chloe Walsh-Laehn and several of her students gave a demonstration on how students engage in customer service and other life skills through the Wheelie Beans program through the Busy Bee Coffee Shop at Mauston High School.
  - c. SkillsUSA – Mauston High School Principal Jim Dillin and several high school students shared how they did at the SkillsUSA competition and what they learned from the event.
2. **Board Committee Reports** – Policy and Personnel (presented by Kryka) and Finance (presented by Schumer).
3. **Leadership Team Reports** – Members of the Leadership Team shared program updates and initiatives.
4. **Superintendent’s Report** – Superintendent Joel Heesch and Building and Grounds Director Brian Johnson discussed potential pool and track repairs. Mr. Heesch talked about Fund 46, which can only be used for capital maintenance projects for a source of funding for those products. The Board will determine how extensive those repairs will be at a later meeting. Mr. Heesch then went through the agenda items; the salary increases were the CPI increases for this year on each individual’s base wage; the

administration's recommendation to stay with Quartz after going out to market as insurance costs were not decreasing; and finally he wished to thank Board Member Betty Kryka for her years of service to the School District of Mauston.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion by Coughlin/Morris to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6/0, whereby the following items were approved:

1. Minutes of the March 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting and the minutes of the March 18, 2025 Special School Board Meeting.
2. The resignations of Briana Robson and Dustin Vickerman.
3. A Parent Transportation Contract.
4. Start College Now/Early College Credit Applications
5. Payment of the Monthly Vouchers with the total expenditures totaling \$572,309.85 and revenue totaling \$4,535,214.05.

### **Pending Action**

1. Motion by Schumer/Coughlin to accept donations from Culver's of Mauston, Donorschoose.org, and the Green Bay Packers in an amount totaling \$5,920.16. Motion carried 6/0.
2. Superintendent Heesch presented donations that were under \$300: \$200 anonymous donation towards lunch accounts at Lyndon Station Elementary; 35 easter baskets for the students at Lyndon Station Elementary from Dave and Peggy Miller; 30 pudding cups donated for national pudding day from Beverly and Mike Smith for Lyndon Station Elementary; Supplies for an Easter Egg hunt for grandparents day at Lyndon Station Elementary from Beverly and Mike Smith; and food coupons for in the Easter Eggs from Mauston Taco Bell, Hardees, Mauston Park Oasis, Subway of Mauston, Culvers, Dunkin donuts of Mauston, Northside Mobile, and McDonalds, Timber Falls Adventure Park donated free golfing pass for each student at Lyndon Station Elementary.
3. Motion by Kryka/Gyllin to approve the employment contracts as presented. Motion carried 6/0. Employment contracts were for Anna Caswell as a Elementary Physical Education Teacher; Ashley Krueger as a Mauston High School English Language Arts Teacher; Kelsey Clark as a Fifth Grade Teacher; Lindsey Norgard as the Olson Middle School Art Teacher; Payton Woodhouse as a Fifth Grade Teacher, and Peyton Rogers as a Secondary Physical Education Teacher.
4. Motion by Kryka/Zilisch to approve 44 policy revisions: Policies 1100, 1130, 1241, 2210, 2264, 2266, 2270, 2271.01, 2416, 2464, 3214, 3230, 3281, 3440, 4124, 4214, 4230, 4440, 5113, 5330, 5341, 5512, 5611, 5710, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6231, 6325, 6620, 7310, 7410, 7430, 7440, 7440.02, 7450, 7540.03, 7450.04, 7540.07, 8120, 8451, 8531, and 8600. Motion carried 6/0.
5. At 7: 20 p.m. Mike Coughlin left the room to avoid an interest of conflict.

6. Motion by Schumer/Zilisch to approve the administration recommendation to give all professional staff a raise of 2.95%. After a discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Five yeses, zero noes. Motion passed.
7. At 7:20 p.m., Board Member Tom Morris left the room to avoid an interest of conflict, and Board Member Mike Coughlin came back into the room.
8. Motion by Schumer/Coughlin to approve the administration recommendation to give all support staff a raise of 2.95%. After a discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Five yeses, zero noes. Motion passed.
9. At 7:21 p.m., Board Member Tom Morris came back into the room.
10. Motion by Coughlin/Kryka to approve Quartz as the health insurance carrier for the 2025-2026 school year. After a discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Six yeses, zero noes. Motion passed.
11. Board Member Betty Kryka was given a certificate of appreciation from the Wisconsin Association of School Board for her 21 years of service.
12. Public Notary Jennifer Hagemann gave the Oath of Office to Jess Kayhart, Jerome Leak, and Tom Morris. Their terms start April 28, 2025.
13. Motion by Kryka/Morris to adjourn. Motion carried 6/0. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Recording by:  
Jennifer Hagemann, Board Secretary