

MERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Monday, July 22, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Merton Intermediate School Little Theater

Board Member Kent called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Kent announced the meeting was properly posted. Board members in attendance were Rebecca Imes, Justen Kent, Nicole Cotton, Troy Andersen and Dean Dobbartin. District Administrator Russ was in attendance. There were no reporters and approximately 4 citizens in person.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Andersen, second by Cotton to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Community Forum (Discussion)

No citizens wished to speak in the community forum.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Andersen, second by Cotton to approve the consent agenda items (Approval of Financial Report, Bill Listings, Donations and all Personnel Actions). Motion passed - 4-0.

A. Approval of Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes from Monday, June 17th, 2024 and Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

B. Approval of Financial Report, Bill Listings, and Donations

Approved Direct Deposit #900062674-900062795 in the amount of \$194,033.05, Direct Deposit #900062796-900062865 in the amount of \$87,680.26, and Direct Deposit #900062866-900062931 in the amount of \$107,429.37. Check 553854 in the amount of \$456.21. Payroll Wire Transfers #202300286-202400007 in the amount of \$287,063.08, and #202300302-202300302 in the amount of \$101,435.62. Accounts Payable Checks #56511-56572 in the amount of \$269,716.43 and #56549-56552 in the amount of \$13,112.78, AP Wire #202300294-202300298 in the amount of \$4,859.50 and AP Wire #202400007-202400007 in the amount of \$124.54, Credit Card Transaction #62024 in the amount of \$46,996.41. ACH/Direct Deposit #232400094-232400119 in the amount of \$5,073.89.

District Administrator Russ would like to thank St. John's United Church of Christ for their \$500 donation to our Angel Fund. This money will be used to offset outstanding food service balances for those families in need.

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C. Personnel Actions (Action)

Approved the letter of resignations from Lee Schroeder, Hannah Liptack and Sophie Matthys, and Katelyn Kelley. Approved the individual teacher contracts for Sara Ford, Kristen Goffard, and Jennifer Newcomer. Approved the Letter of Appointment for Tanya Koike.

Board Member Dobbertin joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Delegations to be Heard

There were no delegations to be heard.

Administrator's Report

1. Information

Dr. Russ reported there were three open records requests completed since the last board meeting.

Dr. Russ updated the board on the Title IX Policy and how that is progressing. The new Title IX definition of sex is proposed to include sexual identity, gender identity, and pregnancy. There may be an additional open board meeting on July 30, 2024 at 7:15 p.m. depending on the outcome of several court decisions on July 26th, 2024.

Committee Reports

A. Policy/Personnel Committee

The Policy/Personnel Committee met on Monday, July 15th, 2024, to discuss the first reading of some 800 Series policies, revise policy 341.1 - District Reading Goals and Early Literacy Program, Policy 363 - Educational Technology Policy, and the NonDiscrimination Policy and Procedures.

B. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, July, 17th to review the 2024-25 Student Fees and School Lunch Prices. Administration recommended raising student registration fees by \$10 to cover a small portion of the costs of consumables related to the new math and reading curriculums. No recommendation was sent to the Board out of the Committee. The Committee is also recommending raising lunch fees by \$0.10 - \$0.20 to cover the increasing food and labor costs per meal, \$0.05 per milk and \$0.25 for seconds at the Primary School..

New Business

A. Final Review/Approval of 2024-2029 Strategic Plan (Action)

Motion by Imes, second by Cotton to approve the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. Motion carried 3-2. Kent and Andersen voted no. Rebecca Imes thanked the entire team of staff, administrators, community members, parents and Excel for all of their work in spearheading the Strategic planning process.

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B. Approval of 2024-25 Academic Standards Declaration (Action)

Motion by Imes, Second by Andersen to approve the Academic Standards Declaration to be: *The Merton Community School District is committed to using benchmarked and rigorous academic standards that set the highest expectations for student performance and prepare students in the District for success in college and career development. Our Curriculum and Instruction Department works closely in the Curriculum Renewal and Design process to understand the influence of multiple factors in determining the specific learning targets (what we want students to know and be able to do) to direct student learning. To align expectations for students with the District's desired learning targets for high school readiness, the School Board is committed to supporting content units of study through our board-adopted curriculum process (Policy 330). In creating these learning expectations, the District carefully looks at multiple sources to best prepare our students for future college and career success and then creates standards that best fit the needs of the Merton Community School District students. These sources include the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards, Wisconsin Essential Elements Standards, ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, and other locally developed academic expectations.* Motion carried 5-0.

C. Final Review/Approval of 2024-25 Student/Family Handbooks (Action)

Motion by Imes, second by Cotton to approve the Student/Family Handbooks. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval of 2024-25 Student Fees (Action)

Motion by Dobbertin, Second by Imes to approve the 2024-25 Student Fees. Motion carried 3-2. Kent and Andersen voted no.

E. Approval of 2024-25 School Lunch Prices (Action)

Motion by Dobbertin, Second by Imes to approve the 2024-25 School Lunch Prices. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Approval of 2024-25 66.03 with Hartland Lakeside School District for Physical Therapy Services (Action)

Motion by Andersen, second by Imes to approve the 2024-25 66.03 with Hartland Lakeside School District for Physical Therapy Services. Motion carried 5-0.

G. First Draft/Review of proposed 800 Series Policies that were presented at the Policy Committee meeting on July 15, 2024 (Discussion)

District Administrator Russ asked for feedback on the first reading of the 800 series policies. Board member Imes asked for clarification on Policy 821 in regard to if the comments were turned off going forward as the policy states and who has supervision over the social media accounts. Dr. Russ indicated comments are not turned on and the District Administrator and Director of Technology have ownership over the district-run social media accounts. Dr. Russ let board members know if there is any other feedback it can be shared with him or other Committee members.

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H. New Policy Approval and Old Policy Deletions - 700 Series Policies and Policy 363 Educational Technology that were first presented at the June 17, 2024 (Action)

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 720 Health and Safety in District Facilities and Programs that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policy 4001.2 and replace with Policy 722 Reporting Injuries and Unsafe Conditions that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policies 4002.1, 4002.2, 4002.3, 4006.3 and replace with Policy 723 School Safety Plans that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 724 Indoor Environmental Quality Management that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 725 Asbestos Management that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 731.1 Privacy in Locker Rooms that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policies 4003.1 and 4022, and replace with Policy 731.2 Use of Security Cameras and Electronic Monitoring Equipment that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 732 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones) that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policy 8008 and replace with Policy 742 Use of District Equipment and Supplies by Persons Affiliated the District that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

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Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 743 Waste Management and Recycling that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policies 4006 and 4006.2, and replace with Policy 751 Student Transportation Services that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 751.1 Use of Alternate Vehicles to Transport Students that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policy 4006.4 and replace with Policy 751.2 Alternate Transportation Policy that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 751.3 Transportation in Unusually Hazardous Areas that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policy 6040 and replace with Policy 761 Free and Reduced Price Benefits in School Food Service Program that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to delete Policies 4010 and 4010.1 and replace with Policy 771 Use of Copyrighted Materials that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 761 Free and Reduced Price Benefits in School Food Service Program that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Cotton, second by Andersen to approve Policy 363 Education Technology that has been recommended by the policy committee and provided to the full board for its consideration and action. Motion passed 5-0.

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Future Meeting and Agenda Items

- A. Possible meeting July 30, 2024 @ 7:15 p.m. (Open Session)
 - 1. NonDiscrimination Policy
- B. August 19, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. (Open Session)
 - 1. Monthly Meeting w/Community Forum
- C. September 10, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. (Open Session)
 - 1. Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting
- C. September 23, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m (Open Session)
 - 1. Monthly Meeting w/Community Forum
- D. October 28, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. (Open Session)
 - 1. Monthly Meeting w/Community Forum
 - 2. Approval of 2024-25 Budget

Motion by Andersen, second by Cotton to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 .

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Cotton
District Clerk