

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 777, Benson, Minnesota
Monday, October 11, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. – Northside Elementary School Cafeteria

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Brian Samuelson. Members present: Brian Samuelson, Bill McGeary, Gary Williams, Paul Carruth, Mary KW Langan, Eric Peterson and James Berens. Members absent: None. 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 J. Berens to approve the agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

Citizens Comments: None.

Consent Agenda Items: Minutes for the September 13, 2021 Regular Meeting; September 21, 2021 Special Meeting; September 2021 Payroll in the amount of \$745,988.86; Bills and hand checks in the amount of \$600,833.13; Approval of Resignations: Nicole Peterson - Food Service; Michelle Goossen - JH Boys Basketball; Allyssa Gronseth - Paraprofessional; Brian Turner - Custodial; Supim Erenberg – Custodial; Resolution 2021-12 Annual Resolution Establishing a Combined Polling Place; 2021-2022 Seniority List.

Motion by M. KW Langan, second by E. Peterson to approve consent agenda items as presented. Roll call vote with the following voting in favor: P. Carruth, J. Berens, E. Peterson, B. McGeary, M. KW Langan, G. Williams, B. Samuelson and none against. Motion carried (7-0).

Progress Reports:

PK-5, Garrett Schmidt: Principal Schmidt provided an activities update; October 6 was National Walk to School Day; aimsWeb fall testing is complete; Northside staff have been great at adapting to our new facilities and routines; Thank you to our support staff who do a great job supervising our lunch/recess every day.

6-12, Mike Knutson: We had 315 family contacts for Parent Teacher conferences at BHS on October 4; Congratulations to the girls tennis team and coaches as Section 3A runner-up; BHS juniors took the ASVAB test on September 23; On October 6 Principal Knutson met with 6-12 teachers to lay out our Personalized Learning Community focus for this year; October 7 and 8 - Dig Pink and Tackle Cancer nights for volleyball and football; October 13 – PSAT for eligible students; October 20 - MRVED Common In-Service Day; October 29 – Last day of first quarter; FFA is selling fruit; Counselor Jason Strand is lining up visits to take students to area technical colleges.

Financial Report, Katie Foley: Business office staff are completing negotiation settlements; The auditors were here on Wednesday to complete testing on the Summer Food Service Program; The Minnesota Department of Education approved all fund transfers that were approved at the September 13 board meeting; Business office staff are preparing for end of calendar year items.

Superintendent Report, Dennis Laumeier: Dennis thanked board members for attending all the extra board committee meetings; MN State High School League (MSHSL) will discuss the topic of shot clocks for high school basketball at the December MSHSL meeting; Church of Cash performance was held in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on October 9. Community Education Director Shelly Vergin did a great job organizing this community event. Madison Anderson – Wilson assisted Shelly as Assistant PAC Manager; Supt. Laumeier provided a Covid-19 update; Congratulations to the girls tennis team on Section 3A runner-up; The budget committee met with Daktronics to view electronic sign options for the high school.

Board Committee Reports: The budget and non-certified committee reports will be presented during the meeting.

Old Business:

Strategic Planning: The board made final revisions to the community survey. The survey will be sent out to staff, students, parents, community members in November to gather feedback so the board can update the district strategic plan. This plan will help provide the roadmap for the board moving forward.

500 Policy Series: This is the second reading on Policies 523, 524, 524FRM, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 529FRM, 530, 530FRM, 531, 532, 535, 535FRM based on changes recommended by MSBA to meet law.

Motion by B. McGeary, second by G. Williams to adopt policies 523, 524, 524FRM, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 529FRM; 530, 530FRM, 531, 532, 535, 535FRM based on changes recommended by MSBA to meet law. Motion carried (7-0).

New Business:

Non-Certified Package 2021-2023: The non-certified committee met with all non-certified groups last week and made recommendations for the overall package for the groups.

Motion by G. Williams, second by M. KW Langan to approve the non-certified total package increase of \$22,704 in FY22 and \$75,204 in FY 23 for an overall total package increase of \$97,908. Motion carried (7-0).

Fund Transfer: Finance Director Katie Foley and Supt. Laumeier presented a resolution regarding a fund transfer in the amount of \$1,200,000 from Unassigned General Fund Balance to Committed Fund Balance.

Motion by G. Williams, second by P. Carruth to pass the Fund Balance Transfer Resolution No. 2021-13 in the amount of \$1,200,000 from Unassigned General Fund Balance to Committed Fund Balance. Roll call vote with the following voting in favor: Mary KW Langan, Gary Williams, Bill McGeary, Eric Peterson, James Berens, Paul Carruth, Brian Samuelson and none against. Motion carried (7-0).

Construction Funds: Supt. Laumeier reported there will be approximately \$250,000 in construction funds left over. The budget committee met to discuss projects and expenditures for the remaining construction funds. The budget committee recommends the following projects for the remaining construction funds: NS Front Sidewalk Lighting (completed) \$15,000; Discovery Kids Parking lot lights (in progress) \$15,000; BAC HVAC Mitigation Wall (built by Trades) \$15,000; BHS School Signs \$50,000; BHS hot water heater (in boiler room) \$50,000; NS Mini Boiler (to run with dehumidification) \$50,000; BHS Mini Boiler (to run with dehumidification) \$50,000.

Motion by M. KW Langan, second by B. McGeary to approve the project list as presented for the remaining construction funds. Motion carried (7-0).

Donations: BHS Centennial of Ed Scholarship: \$100 Karen Bihle (In Memory of Inga Long); School Supplies: \$85 Swift County Benson Hospital; Weightroom Donation: \$1,500 Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company; Matching Weightroom Donation: \$1,500 CVEC; Football Equipment: \$7,000 Patrick's; Volleyball Equipment: \$4,000 Patrick's; Angel Fund: \$1,000 Anonymous Donor (In Memory of Mary Anne Abner); Angel Fund: \$150 Helen & Robert Claussen; Angel Fund: \$75 Noel & Marie Koenigs; Angel Fund: \$75 Connie Kenyon.

Motion by B. McGeary, second by G. Williams to pass Resolution 2021-14 to accept the donations made to the district. Roll call vote with the following voting in favor: B. McGeary, E. Peterson, J. Berens, P. Carruth, M. KW Langan, G. Williams, B. Samuelson and none against. Motion carried (7-0).

Future Meetings:

Regular School Board Meeting – Monday, November 8, 2021, 5:30 p.m., Northside Elementary Cafeteria

Adjournment:

Motion by G. Williams, second by P. Carruth to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried (7-0).