

WILLIAMS BAY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, May 11, 2020

Board Members Present: J. Lothian, K. Nelson, P. Peyer, D. Ripple, D. Woss

Absent: None

Administration Present: District Administrator Dr. W. Anderson
Middle/High School Principal Dr. W. White
Elementary School Principal A. Bond
Director of Special Education K. McOmber
Business Manager B. Prather

Absent: None

Guests: 2

I. CALL TO ORDER

Clerk Karolyn Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

II. ANNUAL BOARD REORGANIZATION ACTIONS

A. Election of Board Officers

Clerk K. Nelson asked for nominations for President. D. Ripple/D. Woss motion and second to nominate Jack Lothian for President. Clerk K. Nelson asked if there were any other nominations three times. Motion carried by a roll call vote: J. Lothian –aye; K. Nelson-aye; P. Peyer – aye; D. Ripple-aye; D. Woss-aye; carried 5-0.

President J. Lothian took over the meeting and asked for nominations for Vice President. D. Woss/P. Peyer motion and second to nominate David Ripple for Vice President. President J. Lothian asked if there were any other nominations three times. Motion carried by a roll call vote: J. Lothian –aye; K. Nelson-aye; P. Peyer – aye; D. Ripple-aye; D. Woss-aye; carried 5-0.

President J. Lothian asked for nominations for Clerk. D. Woss/P. Patrick motion and second to nominate Karolyn Nelson for Clerk. President J. Lothian asked if there were any other nominations three times. Motion carried by a roll call vote: J. Lothian –aye; K. Nelson-aye; P. Peyer – aye; D. Ripple-aye; D. Woss-aye; carried 5-0.

President J. Lothian asked for nominations for Treasurer. D. Woss/K. Nelson motion and second to nominate Patrick Peyer for Treasurer. President J. Lothian asked if there were any other nominations three times. Motion carried by a roll call vote: J. Lothian –aye; K. Nelson-aye; P. Peyer – aye; D. Ripple-aye; D. Woss-aye; carried 5-0.

President J. Lothian asked for nominations for Member-at-Large. K. Nelson/D. Woss motion and second to nominate Dianna Woss for Member-at-Large. President J. Lothian asked if there were any other nominations three times. Motion carried by a roll call vote: J. Lothian –aye; K. Nelson-aye; P. Peyer – aye; D. Ripple-aye; D. Woss-aye; carried 5-0.

B. Board Member Assignments

President J. Lothian continued with board member assignments. Discussion followed. K. Nelson/D. Ripple motion and second to appoint the following individuals to the following assignments: WASB Convention Delegate – D. Ripple; CESA Representative – J. Lothian; Alternative High School Representative – K. Nelson; Policy Committee – P. Peyer and D. Woss; Compensation Committee – K. Nelson and D. Ripple, carried 5-0.

C. Designation of Official Depository

D. Ripple/D. Woss motion and second to approve Advia Credit Union in Williams Bay and the State of Wisconsin Local Government Investment Pool as the School District's Official Depositories for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, carried 5-0.

D. Designation of Official Newspaper

D. Woss/K. Nelson motion and second to approve the Lake Geneva Regional News as the School District's Official Newspaper, carried 5-0.

E. Designation of Board Meeting Times and Dates for 2020-2021

D. Woss/D. Ripple motion and second to approve School Board meeting times and dates to be scheduled on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 pm and that four Saturday School Board member workdays will be scheduled quarterly, carried 5-0.

III. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comments

D. Thiel wanted to thank the district for the gifts that were personally delivered by Dr. White, Mrs. Bond and Ms. McOmber last week for Teacher Appreciate Week.

IV. REPORTS

A. District Administrator – Dr. Anderson's notes were as written.

B. Middle/High School Principal – Notes were as written. Dr. White also said that high school graduation will be held on June 5 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a stage set up near the high school parking lot and the sound will be broadcast through car radios. There will be one speaker on the stage at a time. Each graduate will pull up in their car, walk to the stage and receive their diploma. They will pause for pictures and then get back in their cars. After the ceremony, a parade through town will be held. Dr. White also noted that students will be keeping their Chromebooks through out the summer. This decision was made for several reasons. First, school might be held virtually again in the fall. Second, it will be a way to keep in touch with students throughout the summer and finally, other districts have implemented not collecting Chromebooks and it has worked out well.

C. Elementary Principal – Mrs. Bond's notes were as written.

D. Student Services – Ms. McOmber's notes were as written. She also directed the Board to review the Wishtree video posted on the Elementary School website. She also informed the Board that the PTO had purchased a tree from Kishwaukee to be our very own Wishtree. There will be a planting ceremony held at a later date.

- E. School Board – K. Nelson asked how the windbreak that was planted at the elementary school did through the winter. Dr. Anderson said that he would check on it and report back to the board. P. Peyer wanted to recognize a group of mostly 6th grade students that formed Bay Students in Action to raise money for the Walworth County Food Pantry. They have raised over \$1,000.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

- 1. School Board Minutes
Approve the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on April 13, 2020.
- 2. Bills Payable
Approve bills payable for May 2020, Funds 10, 27 and 50 check numbers 71550-71619, Fund 60 check numbers 6672-6775 and Fund 70 check 7109 for a total of \$706,488.64.

D. Ripple/D. Woss motion and second to approve the consent agenda as presented, carried 5-0.

B. Personnel Transactions

K. Nelson/P. Peyer motion and second to approve the personnel transactions listed on the May 11, 2020 personnel transaction sheet, carried 5-0.

C. Discuss and Approve Changes in the HS/MS/Elementary Grading Policy for the 4th Quarter and Second Semester of the 2019-2020 School Year.

Mrs. Bond presented her recommendation for the 4th quarter/semester grading policy. In the elementary school, grades 2 to 5 will receive the following grades for the 4th quarter. Their classroom/academic grades will be based on their level of engagement with remote learning ranging from V-very engaged in remote learning to R-rarely engaged with remote learning. Special classes such as Art, Music, Physical Education, Library/Technology and Guidance will not provide a grade for 4th quarter. For grades 4k to 1, because performance is very subjective, no grades will be given but comments will appear on student's report card.

Dr. White presented his recommendation for the Middle and High Schools. Students in grades 6 to 8 will be graded on a Pass/No Pass basis. High School Students will earn a Pass/No Pass for their second semester courses for the 2019-2020 school year. The definition of Pass will be a D- or above; will not count against GPA and credit will be earned. No pass means that the student earned below a D-; will not count against GPA and no credit will be earned. Honor points will not be awarded for Pass/No Pass. Should a family of a high school student decide to choose a letter grade, it will be calculated into the student's GPA and a letter grade will appear on the student's transcript. Families must indicate their decision to select a letter grade in writing by completing a form that will be provided prior to the semester ending.

Discussion followed.

K. Nelson/D. Woss motion and second to suspend the Williams Bay School District's current grading policy and to adopt the present grading policy for the 4th quarter and the second semester of the 2019-2020 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, carried 5-0.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Update on Virtual Learning

Dr. Anderson gave an update on providing lunches to families while school is not in session. The number of lunches provided has been steadily increasing to 110-115 meals per day. The District is looking to continue to provide the lunches through June 30. The District is not looking to make money but just to break even.

Mrs. Bond reported that things are getting more difficult for families and teachers. She can see the toll that virtual learning is taking on mental health and is noticing that engagement and attendance is dropping.

D. Ripple asked if the teachers are learning any skills during virtual learning that they will be able to utilize in the classroom. Mrs. Bond said that teachers are learning to think outside the box and explore different ways to teach. Brent Mansky, future High School Principal, said that virtual learning has changed the way he will present information in the future when out of school for a sick day or conference. Virtual learning may also change the way that inclement weather days are handled in the future with the ability to send assignments home. Dr. White added that he feels that virtual learning may lead to more students choosing online classes or a hybrid of in person learning and online learning, but nothing replaces the value for in person education.

P. Peyer asked if surveys would be sent out to both parents and students at the end of the semester to garner feedback regarding virtual learning. Dr. White said that this is something that the administration is looking at.

K. McOmber provided an update regarding Special Education services. She has noted a lot more involvement by parents where teachers are coaching the parents and that is carrying over to home life and hopefully summer as well.

B. Discuss 2020-2021 Budget

Dr. Anderson presented the draft budget for the 2020-2021 year. Using the information provided by the Department of Public Instruction and the Governor's Office, a very conservative approach was taken, and the budget was figured on a worst-case scenario of losing \$50 per student on State aid. The proposed budget accounts for salary and fringe benefit increases for all staff members as laid out in the Employee Handbook. Even with this conservative budget, the District will be able to have a balanced budget for the 2020-2021 school year. The budget will appear on the June meeting's agenda for approval. The Board will then approve a finalized budget in October once the Districts Third Friday Student Count is calculated and the final revenue figures from the DPI are provided. Discussion followed.

C. Update on Electronic Sign

The District's electronic sign will be on the Tuesday, May 12 Planning Commission agenda. This will be a virtual meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. Dr Anderson provided the Board the phone number and passcode number for the Board, if they wish to speak at the meeting on behalf of our sign application. Dr. Anderson will be attending the meeting virtually and will present our electronic sign proposal. It is his hope that they will recommend approval of the proposal, so that it can be placed on the Village Board's agenda in June and construction can start on the project this summer.

D. Discuss start of 2020-2021 School Year

Dr. Anderson wanted to start discussing what the start of the 2020-2021 school year might look like in the fall. Everyone hopes that things will be back to normal and that school can resume in a typical fashion with students entering the classrooms and being greeted by their teachers. However, depending upon how many people the COVID-19 pandemic is still impacting, may make this hope less of a reality. Depending upon what phase of the Badger Bounceback Plan we are in will determine the parameters that both staff and students will be able to come back to school. Dr. Anderson offered the following options for the Board to think about. The District would start the 2020-2021 school year virtually, the school year could start in October, the district could go to an A and B schedule where half the students come on A days and the others come on B days, and a blended approach. Discussion followed. Administration has started to look at what happens if students and staff can come back in the fall, such as ordering temporal scanners and masks.

E. Discuss Short Term Borrowing for the 2020-2021 School Year

B. Prather, the District's Business Manager, talked to the Board about what he sees our short-term borrowing needs will be for the 2020-2021 school year. Due to WI Act 184, the deadline for tax payments may be moved from July 31 to October 1. Because of this delay, he anticipates that we will have to increase our short-term borrowing. B. Prather asked the Board for their permission to discuss the available options with our current depository, Advia Credit Union.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VIII. ADJOURN

At 8:27 pm., D. Ripple/D. Woss motion and second to adjourn the meeting, carried 5-0.

Karolyn Nelson, Clerk
ds: 05/20/2020