

WILLIAMS BAY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, November 23, 2020

Board Members Present: Jack Lothian (virtually), Dianna Woss, Dave Ripple, Karolyn Nelson (virtually) and Dr. Patrick Peyer

Administration Present: District Administrator Dr. William White,
Middle/High School Principal Brent Mansky
Elementary Principal Ali Bond
Business Manager Ben Prather
Special Education Director Kassie McOmber
Maintenance Director Ryan Quinn.

Guests: 12

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dave Ripple called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mr. Ripple acknowledge that Jack Lothian and Karolyn Nelson were participating in the meeting virtually.

II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

III. REPORTS

- A. Student Representatives – Senior Vanessa Jimenez reported Student Council is holding a food drive. Wellness Wednesdays are starting for high school students, it is going well. Students started using an app called Platform for physical education. Remote learning days are on Dec 1 and Dec 2. Students are talking about mental health within their friend groups.
- B. Parent-Teacher Organization – None
- C. Athletic Boosters - Mike Coolidge thanked the Sports Boosters for the ice machine in the training room and acknowledge the middle school trophy case built by Jacob White.
- D. Athletic Director – Mike Coolidge shared that winter sports have started. Three sports started last week and three started tonight. Participating are 10 girls basketball players, 30 boys basketball players, two gymnasts, one swimmer, one hockey player, and three or four wrestlers.
- E. Fine Arts/Music Boosters – None
- F. District Administrator – None
- G. Middle/High School Principal – Mr. Mansky indicated notes as presented. He shared feedback from parents from the middle school remote learning survey. Mr. Mansky then reached out via phone to solicit feedback from parents that gave lower scores. He determined that the lower scores were due to fundamental beliefs on remote learning.

H. Elementary Principal – Mrs. Bond responded notes as presented and shared that the parents were pleased with the changes made to virtual instruction after last spring. asked if the Board had any. J. Lothian asked a question about transitioning from remote learning to in-person. Mrs. Bond said that the transitions were overall good, however, some students who have difficulty with transitions normally, also had a harder time getting back into school.

I. Student Services – Mrs. McOmber indicated notes as presented.

J. School Board – None

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

B. Personnel Transactions

D. Woss/P. Peyer motioned and seconded to approve the personnel transactions listed on the November 23, 2020 personnel transactions sheet, carried 5-0.

C. Approve Additional Spring 2021 Youth Options

D. Woss/P. Peyer motion and second to approve the Gateway Technical College requests for the Spring of 2021 for Raul Rojas and Ava Kelly, carried 5-0.

D. Approve the Winter Sports Plan

Woss/P. Peyer motion and second to approve the 2020-2021 Winter Sports Guidelines as presented. J. Lothian thanked everyone who put effort into the plan. D. Ripple thanked the group as well. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approve Middle/High School First Semester Final Exam Schedule

P. Peyer/D. Woss motion and second to approve the approve the Williams Bay Middle/High School first semester final exam schedule as presented, carried 5-0.

F. Approve the Formation of the District Finance Committee

P. Peyer/D. Woss motion and second to approve the establishment of the Finance Committee, carried 5-0.

Board President J. Lothian appointed D. Ripple and P. Peyer as board representatives to the committee.

G. Discuss and Possibly Act on Transitioning to Virtual Learning

Dr. White shared what other local school districts are doing in terms of remote learning/ in-person. He shared that he received a letter from the middle/high school staff that was signed by 16 staff members and a letter from the elementary staff. Dr. White provided an update on Walworth County Health Department move to Phase I and recommendation that schools transition to virtual formats but indicated this is up to local decision. Dr. White recommended keeping students and staff virtual during the week of November 30th. Students and staff would return to school on December 7th. P. Peyer wanted to confirm that there have been no cases tied to the campus. He agreed that remaining virtual through next week is a smart decision, reconvening, if necessary, to discuss. D. Woss said that consistency is important and the back and forth is difficult. She said she would rather have healthy children at home, especially for the holidays. J. Lothian stated that all graphs show a trend going upward for COVID cases. He felt the district should stay with virtually learning through December 7th and he would like the Board to meet next week to discuss. He would rather be cautious than put people's lives in jeopardy. K. Nelson asked about the different districts in the area and Dr. White indicated most were meeting with their school boards.

P. Peyer/D. Woss motion and second to transition the Williams Bay School District schools to virtual learning and instruction from November 30, 2020 until December 4, 2021, with students and staff returning to face-to-face instruction on December 7, 2021, motion carried 5-0.

The Board will meet on December 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss and possibly act on extending virtual learning past December 4, 2020.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discuss the 2021-2022 School Calendar

Dr. White shared the proposed 2021-2022 school year calendar that has been shared with the administrative team, building leadership teams, and all staff. There were no questions at this time.

B. Discuss Virtual Learning Days on December 1 and 2

This item did not require any discussion based on previous board action during the meeting.

C. Discuss Revisions of Policies 110, 131, 151, 151.1, 166, 170, 171.2, 174, 175, 184, 185, 187, 222, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 241, 253.1, and 270.

Dr. White shared the proposed changes to the policies in the 100 and 200 series.

D. Facilities Update

Dr. White shared that Mr. Quinn has been meeting with cleaning companies to begin determining what services they can provide and to determine interest in bidding on our cleaning contract. Mr. Quinn and Dr. White will develop an RFP and send that out to providers in late January. Mr. Quinn shared he is testing out new lighting in the gym. D. Woss asked how the ventilation system was working and Mr. Quinn responded that it is working and he is trying to get the measurement instrument from the company

E. Discuss format and details of Listening Session with Staff

The Board will maintain social distancing and provide a virtual option for staff to attend. There was a discussion about postponing until January but most of the staff concerns center on COVID-19 and the districts response. Consequently, it was determined the session should be held in December. Dr. White will survey the staff to determine who will attend and then determine how to set up to best meet the needs of the Board and staff.

F. Discuss District Compensation of Regular and Long-Term Substitute Teachers

Dr. White shared that most districts pay around \$125 per day for substitutes and currently the Williams Bay School District pays a substitute \$110 per day. He indicated that the administrative will have a recommendation at the December meeting to increase the daily sub rate to \$125. He indicated there would be a recommendation to lower our daily long-term substitute rate to \$175 from \$275 as the district is currently way higher than area districts.

G. COVID-19 Update

Dr. White shared that staff is continuing to do a tremendous job and have all been very professional.

H. Discuss Possibility of Additional Meetings if Necessary

D. Ripple reiterated that the Board will meet on December 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss and possibly act on extending virtual learning past December 4, 2020.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VII. ADJOURN

At 8:00 pm, D. Woss/P. Peyer motion and second to adjourn the meeting, carried 5-0.