

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Independent School District No. 820

Sebeka, MN 56477

Regular meeting April 12, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center. The following members were in attendance: Nathan Erickson, Kayla Frame, Charles Funk, Rodney Huttunen, Eric Nelson, and JoAnn Olson. Absent: Russell Johnson. Also present were Superintendent Dave Fjeldheim; Principal Amie Westberg (arrived at 6:26 p.m.); Business Manager Holly Paulson; staff members Becky Pierson and Melissa Koch (arrived at 7:07 p.m.); and Review Messenger Reporter Roy Rudderforth.

Funk moved, Nelson seconded to approve the agenda with the additions of 7.5.6 Approve Alicia Strayer as Kindergarten teacher for school year 2021-2022 and 9.4 Approve transportation for the Senior Class trip to Sky Zone in Fargo. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Holly Paulson reported on ESSER I Funds in the remaining amount of \$11,133.44 have been received and we have accepted the grant for ESSER II funds of \$554,392.98 for FY2021; Spring activities contracts and wage statements have been completed and given to employees; Title I budget has been revised and approved; Health Insurance virtual bid opening was held on March 29th and received a 7% increase with PEIP on all plans; had a virtual meeting with Amanda Hanson of National Insurance Services regarding our Group Term Life, Long Term Disability and Dental Insurance and noted that there would not be an increase in Group Term Life and Long Term Disability which are paid by the school district; and an increase of \$7 per covered individual in the Delta Dental Plan which is entirely covered by employees; and attended a virtual meeting with CMERDC regarding the American Rescue Plan Act noting that there were some minor changes to COBRA and leaves due to Covid-19.

Activities Director Jon Lillquist's report included Spring sports numbers showing Baseball grades 9-12 have 13 players and grades 6-8 have 20 players; Golf - Sebeka has 1 golfer and Menahga has 27; Softball grades 9-12 have 15 players and grades 6-8 have 16 players; and Track 7-12 has 39 participants with 17 from Sebeka and 22 from Menahga.

Principal Westberg reported on MCA testing noting that Math in grades 3-8 & 11th will test April 12th - 16th; Reading in grades 3-8 & 10 will test April 19th - 23rd; Science in grades 5,8, & 10 will test April 26th - 30th; Kindergarten picnic was held on the evening of April 12th with 25 students and their families attending; Elementary classes are setting up field trips for the month of May; Spring music concerts will be held on the following dates: Band - grades 9-12 will be held on April 30th; Choir - grades 7-12 will be held on May 3rd and Elementary Band and Elementary music and Junior High band will be held on May 5th throughout the day; and noted that Mrs. Kern is working on schedules for next year.

Superintendent Fjeldheim reported on end of the school year for students and staff; Prom was held on Saturday, April 10th; spring sports have started and games are underway; and is hoping to hold graduation in the new gym providing no further restrictions are put in place regarding Covid; Co-curricular activities will have their state and national competitions via zoom; 3rd graders submitted a letter along with petitions from grades K-6 in regards to new playground equipment and requested looking into upgrading our school playground equipment; will be interviewing for a Transportation Director/Mechanic on Friday, April 16th; noted that there have been a few roof leaks in the new building and there has been issues with the mural adhesive letting loose and noted that the company will be back in a couple of weeks to address this concern; and working on completing the rest of the staff evaluations.

Under Discussion Items, Mr. Fjeldheim reviewed information regarding the ESSER II and ESSER III federal stimulus programs noting that these funds can be used for anything from adding positions, retaining positions to help maintain operations and address any learning loss as evaluated by the district. Suggestions were made to create another section of 2nd grade again, an interventionist position in the elementary to help out in grades K-3 focusing on reading and math, and create a Math/Science Interventionist position in the secondary and to also help with the new science curriculum in the elementary. In other discussion items, Mr. Fjeldheim noted that nearly all students are currently in-person with only a few students doing distance learning and he will continue the early out on Fridays due to staff having to make accommodations for the distance learners. He also reviewed some current legislative updates for the next biennium.

Nelson moved, Funk seconded to approve the following consent agenda items: regular meeting minutes from the March 8th meeting; Treasurer and Investment report for April; monthly bills totaling \$616,355.30; assignment of Matthew Adams as a Secondary English Instructor for the 2021-2022 school year; assignment of Meghan Adams as a Secondary Special Education Instructor for the 2021-2022 school year; assignment of Nicole Walker as a Secondary Special Education Instructor for the

2021-2022 school year; assignment of Alicia Strayer as a Kindergarten teacher for the 2021-2022 school year; assignment of Kendra Wattenhofer as Co-Prom Advisor; assignment of Emily Crabb as Junior High Softball Coach; and K-12 enrollment at 453 students. Motion carried unanimously.

Nelson moved, Frame seconded to approve to advertise and fill the positions for an elementary and secondary Interventionist and utilizing ESSER funds to pay these positions. Motion carried unanimously.

Nelson moved, Olson seconded to approve utilizing the ESSER II and ESSER III stimulus funds for expenditures addressing learning loss, maintain teaching positions, enhance learning opportunities, additional support for summer school positions and transportation and support student academic progress. Motion carried unanimously.

Funk moved, Nelson seconded to approve a resolution accepting donations in the amount of \$300 from the Wadena VFW for scholarships, \$9,500 from Tom and Kyle Schulz for scholarships and \$1,000 from WCTA for Targeted Services. The following members voted in favor: Erickson, Frame, Funk, Huttunen, Nelson, Olson; Absent: Johnson; voted against: none; therefore the resolution was duly adopted.

Erickson moved, Olson seconded to approve transportation for the senior class trip to Sky Zone in Fargo on May 19th. Motion carried unanimously.

Olson moved, Erickson seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

JoAnn Olson
Clerk of Sebeka School District