

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**Monday, December 11, 2023**

**HLWW High School Media Center**

The Monday, December 11, 2023 Regular School Board meeting of Independent School Dist. #2687 (Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted) was called to order at 6:31 pm. by Chairperson Heuer. After the pledge of allegiance, roll was taken with the following members present: Heuer, Koch, Borrell, Bravinder, Marketon, Mulvihill and Puncochar. Also present were Superintendent Nate Walbruch, Principals Stephanie Kuehn, Jim Schimelpfenig, and Jennifer Olson, and Board Secretary Marilyn Greeley.

**(Item IV)** Megan Tormanen, Business Manager, presented the truth in taxation information.

**(Item V)** Koch recommended approval of the agenda; Bravinder seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VI)** There were no questions or comments from visitors.

**(Item VII)** Borrell recommended approval of the consent agenda which included the November 13, 2023, Regular Board meeting minutes, bills, the monthly treasurer report, November enrollment, the FMLA leave extension request for **Emily Youngren** through the end of the 2023-24 school year; and the retirement of **Cindy Decker** as a health office paraprofessional effective January 12, 2024, the employment recommendation for **Raja Ellman** as a paraprofessional effective November 28, 2023, the additional winter coaching staff, and the communications of the Elementary Laker News, and Teaching Today fall 2023, Marketon seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. A)** Charlie Borrell gave a presentation from the class of 1973 about the bell project. With Borrell were classmates Wonda Brose, Mark Custer, and Carolyn Addicks. Borrell thanked the school board, his classmates, Jim Weninger and entire Ag Class, Dr. Kuehn and former Superintendent Sellner. Borrell reported the class of 1973 raised just over \$5,000 and the project only cost \$4,000 therefore the class is donating the remaining funds, \$1,012, to be used at a later date to help with the cost of maintenance.

**(Item VIII, Subd. B)** Superintendent Walbruch reported Kelly Klima, Special Education Supervisor, was not able to attend due to a family emergency. Walbruch stated he could review some Special Education information or we could have Klima report another time. The consensus of the board was to postpone the presentation until Klima was able to attend.

**(Item VIII, Subd. C)** Superintendent Walbruch and Principal Olson reviewed the request for an additional special education paraprofessional position.

Koch recommended approval of the additional special education paraprofessional position at Humphrey Elementary; Puncochar seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. D)** Bravinder recommended approval of the Final 2023 payable 2024 Levy Certification for \$6,038,539.95; Borrell seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. E)** Marketon recommended approving the resolution designating the Howard Lake City Hall, Waverly City Hall and Winsted City Hall as the school districts combined

polling place; Puncochar seconded; those in favor: Bravinder, Borrell, Koch, Puncochar, Mulvihill, Marketon and Heuer; opposed: none; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. F)** Noel Huggett, middle and high school registrar reviewed the state requirements information and asked the board to approve the request of requiring personal finance as a course for graduation, changing Physical Education 9 from a required class to PE 9-12 as a requirement for graduation and it would be a pre-requisite for students to take another course i.e. Lifetime Fitness, Strength & Conditioning, etc., and changing the name of American Government, to include citizenship and update the course name of Sociology to Sociology/Ethnic Studies.

Borrell expressed concern for the students who already have a plan in place for the 2024-25 school year and asked if there could be accommodations made. Bravinder indicated this would be a requirement for the graduating class of 2028.

Principal Kuehn indicated this has been an ongoing discussion; it is a simple name change not a change in content.

Marketon motioned to approve personal finance, the PE change, both name changes for American Government and Sociology; Mulvihill seconded; Koch expressed concern for the Wright Tech students, Borrell expressed concern for seniors; Huggett said some are college credit classes; Puncochar indicated if we can strongly recommend it; high school teacher George Montgomery said we could compromise and say either economics or finance just for next year; Heuer suggested the modification to compromise for the incoming seniors; the board members agreed; those in favor: Bravinder, Koch, Puncochar, Mulvihill, Marketon and Heuer; opposed: Borrell; passed by majority.

**(Item VIII, Subd. G)** Curriculum Director, Stephanie Kuehn, reviewed and recommended two new course proposals: Entrepreneurship and Spanish in the Workplace.

Puncochar recommends approval of two new course proposals: Entrepreneurship and Spanish in the Workplace; Koch seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. H)** Heuer reported there are two ways to apply for school board committees this year; fillable form or a google form. Heuer asked members to complete either one by January 5, 2024.

**(Item VIII, Subd. I)** Borrell recommended approval of the resolution accepting donations; Marketon seconded; those in favor: Marketon, Mulvihill, Puncochar, Koch, Borrell, Bravinder and Heuer; those opposed: none; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. J)** Heuer indicated because the meeting is early in January 2024 she proposed to change the dates to Wednesday January 17, and work session a week later-January 29th.

Puncochar motioned to approve the schedule changes for the regular board meeting on January 17 and the work session January 29; Bravinder seconded; passed unanimously.

**(Item VIII, Subd. K)** Superintendent Walbruch reviewed the strategic planning process.

**(Item IX, Subd. A)** Superintendent Walbruch reported:

- We have made phone calls, letters, and handwritten notes to those in the community for their support of the levy.
- Our family is all here, and we are more embedded in the community, attending events and joining the Winsted winter parade.
- We are working on the budget with the levy dollars, but those do not come until the next school year.
- There are many strings attached to the budget aids and we are required to pass it along to our coops.
- We have been awarded an achievement and integration grant and we are working with Lester Prairie Schools on the grant.
- I am still working on the entry plan.

**(Item IX, Subd. B)** Principal Olson reported:

- The holiday season is upon us.
- Last week I attended MESPA, our administration organization, and we are asking legislators to be principal for a day on January 9, 2024

Principal Schimelpfenig reported:

- The band concert was last week, choir concert will be tomorrow
- The late start teachers worked on PLC work
- December 19<sup>th</sup> we are holding cookies and coco fundraiser for our Food for Kidz program, and the band and choirs will be performing in the commons.
- We are currently short two paras at the middle school

Principal Kuehn reported:

- We've had several positive student and staff acknowledgements
- The FFA blood drive generated 65 units of blood.
- The students of the month are receiving a fast pass to the front of the lunch line.

**(Item IX, Subd. C)** Bravinder reported the Wright Tech Center met with area superintendents, they are deficit spending, and the wall should be paid off in about two years.

Puncochar reported MAWSECO just finished their audit, and they also have the same finding of segregation of duties, and they are adjusting billing cycles to be able to have funds more accessible for cash flow.

**(Item IX, Subd. D)** Upcoming Board Member Event Appearances:

Middle School Choir Concert-December 12 @ 7pm

High School Choir Concert-December 14 @ 7pm

Humphrey Elementary 3 & 4 grade program-February 15 @ 1 & 7pm Laker Theater

High School Pops Choir Concert-March 5 @ 8pm

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, December 11, 2023**

Page 4

Winsted Elementary 1 & 2 grade program-March 14 @ 1 & 7pm Laker Theater  
Students of Excellence-April 24-Resource Training @ 4:30pm Bravinder  
Spring Play-April 26-27 @ 7-9pm  
Humphrey Elementary 1 & 2 grade program-May 2 @ 1 & 7pm Laker Theater  
High School Band Concert May 8 @ 7pm  
Middle School Band Concert May 9 @ 7pm  
High School Choir Concert May 15 @ 7pm  
Middle School Band Concert May 16 @ 7pm  
Humphrey Elementary Kindergarten Program May 21 @ 6pm-Laker Theater  
Winsted Elementary Kindergarten Program May 21 @ 7:15pm-Laker Theater  
Graduation June 2

**(Item X) Next Meeting Dates:**

**Regular Board Meeting-Wednesday January 17, 2024 6:30 pm HLWW HS Media Center**  
**Work Session Meeting- January 29, 2024 6:30 pm HLWW HS Media Center**

**(Item XI) Items for next meeting**

Regular Meeting:

- Bill Reader for January- Bravinder
- 2024 Organizational Meeting
- Approve School Board Committee Assignments
- Approve Resolution for reduction in curriculum, program and Staff
- Department Report-February-School Nurse
- Department Report-January-Sped-K Klima
- Recognition's
- Leave/Resignations/Retirements
- Employment Recommendations
- Approve First Reading of Policies
- Approve Treasurer Report-January, April, July, October
- Review/Approve 2024-25 School Calendar

Heuer adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Koch, Clerk