

School Board Meeting Minutes

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #912

MILACA, MINNESOTA 56353

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 6:30 pm

Area Learning Center Meeting Space

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 912, Milaca, Minnesota was held at the Milaca Area Learning Center meeting space on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 for the purpose of discussing Board business.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Jeff Larson.

Upon roll call the following members were present: Brandon Baker, Jere Day, Jeff Larson, Sarah Ploeger, Bryan Rensenbrink, Aimee Struffert. Those absent: T. Quaintance. Superintendent Tim Truebenbach was also present. T. Quaintance arrived at 7:14 p.m.

Changes to Agenda:

VII. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- F. Approval of the 2017-2019 Principal Contract (strike)
- G. Approval of the MOU with the Principal Unit (strike)
- H. Approval of the 2019-2021 Principal Contract (strike)

X. Items of Information and/or Discussion Only

- A. Enrollment - correction

Motion by B. Rensenbrink, second by A. Struffert, to approve the agenda with the above changes. Motion carried.

Public Forum

No one spoke at Public Forum.

Committee Reports

J. Larson reported six Board Members and the Superintendent attended the MSBA Leadership Conference.

Presentations

Rob Brown, from Nexus Solutions, presented on the community facility survey results and provided new project concept designs based on feedback from the Town Hall discussions.

According to those surveyed, only 29% closely followed the project discussions. Discussions included Town Hall meetings and newspaper articles. However, respondents also felt that the District did well including the community in project discussions (53%). Over 50% of respondents also felt that projects being considered are beneficial to students and staff and fair to local taxpayers. Fifty eight percent were in favor of some tax increase, with an average increase of \$5.36/month for a bond and \$4.91/month for an operating levy.

Respondents were in favor of enhancing and expanding career and technical education space (\$1.1MM - 71% support, 20% oppose) and a deferred maintenance bond (\$3.8MM bond - 73% support, 18% oppose). The reasons to support the career and technical education space included: need to improve spaces, education is important, and cost was reasonable. The reasons to support a deferred maintenance bond included: facility needs the maintenance and the cost was reasonable. When asked about specific projects, the majority of respondents were not in favor of an auditorium (\$8.5MM bond - 54% oppose, 38% support), field house (\$20.5MM bond - 64% oppose, 27% support), or ball field relocation (\$2.2MM bond - 53% oppose, 36% support). Relocation of the ball fields would be necessary with an auditorium/field house addition. The reasons for not supporting these projects include: belief district spending on these projects would be a poor decision, costs too high, taxes too high, and spending should be on education first. The reasons in support of these projects include: good for the community, need to improve spaces, and education is important.

In addition to the survey results, Nexus presented updated design concepts incorporating feedback from the Town Hall discussion. Concept A included an auditorium with seating for 800, a three-station field house with an elevated walking track, fitness center, and community room. Concept B included features from concept A, with the exception of a four-station field house and more seating for players/spectators. Concept C included a four-station field house with a ground level walking track, fitness center, and community room, but no auditorium. Concept D added an auditorium to concept C and would require moving the tennis courts inside the field house. The updated Career Tech concept included an added cooler to the botany classroom, reconfigured and added taxidermy space, added storage room in the Agricultural classroom, added a Fab Lab, and connecting a project bay to the construction trades space to fit 5 sheds.

Nexus asked for comments from the Board. J. Larson asked for demographics of those surveyed. Nexus did not have that data at the time of the presentation. J. Larson commented without a demographic breakdown the Board could not disregard the auditorium, field house, and ball field projects since there is a lot of public support not showing in the survey results.

B. Baker requested Nexus to develop a concept with more career tech space. B. Rensenbrink supported that request since survey results show community support for the career tech space bond. He believes the district may need to explore what the community wants in this area.

Consent Agenda

Motion by J. Day, second by A. Struffert, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

- Approval of the minutes from the December 18, 2017 Regular Meeting and the January 8, 2018 Reorganizational Meeting
- Approval of checks numbers 644691, 644768 through 644922, and wire transfers
- Approval of the transfers from PMA to First National: \$500,000 on 12/5/17, \$600,000 on 12/15/17; and from Liquid Assets to First National: \$10,254 on 12/20/17, \$200,000 on 12/20/17, \$500,000 on 12/28/17
- Hire Amanda Buss, Paraprofessional, 19.5 hours/week, \$12.80/hour, effective January 2, 2018
- Hire Trisha Trammel, Long Term Substitute for Allie Klaphake, BA, Step 1, 1.0 FTE, \$9,822.23, effective February 26 – May 3, 2018
- Hire Leslie Ploeger, Long Term Substitute for Mike Sorenson, BA, Step 1, 1.0 FTE, \$208.98/day, effective January 2, 2018 with end date to be determined
- Hire Sandra McGraw, Cleaner Class I (replacing Randy Heath), 40 hours/week, \$11.40/hour, effective January 22, 2018
- Lane Change
 - o Jeremy Grant, BA+20 to BA+30, \$43,138.50
 - o Cody Farrand, BA+20 to BA+30, \$41,633.50
 - o Karen Beckman, MA to MA+10, \$62,177 contingent upon receiving official transcripts
 - o Aaron Samuel, BA+20 to BA+30, \$44,642.50
 - o Brent Jergens, BA+20 to BA+30, \$47,652.50
 - o Rachel Arens, MA+10 to MA+20, \$63,027
- Third Reading and Approval of Policies: Policy 402 – Disability Non Discrimination Policy, Policy 406 – Public and Private Personnel Data, Policy 416 – Drug and Alcohol Testing, Policy 417 – Chemical Use and Abuse, Policy 418 – Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School, Policy 420 – Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions, Policy 427 – Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers

The consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Principals/Directors/Coordinators Report

The High School Principal thanked the community, staff, and students who provided support in face of a tragic event. He also reported on the 18 Online program offered through the MN State University Moorhead for teachers to become qualified to teach college in the schools courses.

The Elementary Assistant Principal reported on implementing a paraprofessional evaluation process similar to the teacher evaluation system.

The Elementary Principal reported on developing Wolf Talk videos to support the development of effective instructional practices and on the January 15 Professional Development day.

The Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator provided a testing and technology/curriculum update.

The Assistant Principal of Student Activities provided activity comparisons between Granite Ridge Conference schools and recognized AAA Award winners Chloe Truebenbach and Dylan Ash.

The Community Education Director/Facilities Manager reported receiving a proposal for a grade 3-6 spring musical production and recognized Kathy Fitschen for her work with the Special Olympics and Give Me 5 programs.

The Business Manager was absent but provided a financial picture of the district for the Board to review.

Items on Which Board Discussion and Action is Requested

Motion by B. Baker, second by B. Rensenbrink, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Motion by A. Struffert, second by J. Day, to approve the resolution to fully fund special education services (Minnesota). Roll call vote. Those voted in favor: B. Baker, J. Day, J. Larson, S. Ploeger, T. Quaintance, B. Rensenbrink, A. Struffert. Those voted against: none. Motion carried.

Motion by A. Struffert, second by S. Ploeger, to approve the resolution to fully fund special education services (Federal). Roll call vote. Those voted in favor: B. Baker, J. Day, J. Larson, S. Ploeger, T. Quaintance, B. Rensenbrink, A. Struffert. Those voted against: none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the enrollment numbers.

Superintendent and Board Member Items

Superintendent Truebenbach reviewed how he is going to approach the calendar planning process with the new committee structure, reported he has been selected secretary to the Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce, reviewed Robert's Rules of Order for voting protocol, proposed establishing a regular monthly committee meeting schedule, and asked each Board Member to invite ten community members to the Public Hearing.

Superintendent Truebenbach thanked the staff and community for the support offered with the loss of a student.

J. Larson, on behalf of the Board, thanked the members of the Post Intervention Team for their response and supporting students and staff during the difficult loss of a student. T. Quaintance talked to a member of the family and they were appreciative of what all the staff and community did during that time.

J. Larson presented the 2018 Board committee structure. The committee assignments do not require Board vote.

J. Larson requested setting a mid-year meeting for Superintendent evaluation to review progress towards his goals.

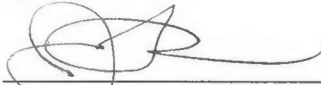
The Board reviewed the second reading of the following policies: Policy 506 – Student Discipline, Policy 508 – Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Programs, Policy 513 – Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design, Policy 532 – Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds.

The Board reviewed the Student Activities Accounts.

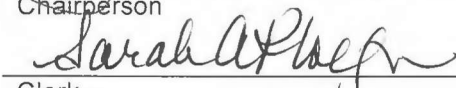
Motion by B. Baker, second by T. Quaintance, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairperson



Clerk

February 20, 2018

Date

February 20, 2018

Date