

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
May 20, 2014

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Linda Gratz at 12:00 p.m. Members present were Ms. Barbara Herrmann, Mr. Dave Longmeyer, Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Karen Rohrer, Ms. Catherine Shallue, Mr. Keith Shaw, and Ms. Linda Gratz. Also present were Superintendent Marcia Flaherty and Board secretary Rebecca McLafferty.

Superintendent Flaherty and Board President Gratz relayed preliminary survey results, noting that detailed results will be presented by Bill Foster of School Perceptions at the May 27 noon meeting.

Of 19,800 surveys, there are currently about 2,657 complete, with a few results still being entered. Our survey results clearly met or exceeded expectations, showing strong support for the district. It was noted that 55% of surveys completed were by Manitowoc Public School District graduates; 18% of surveys completed were from persons 65+ years of age.

Topics included general respondent information, cost-saving options, budget planning, funding options, communications, and overall satisfaction.

In regard to cost-saving option questions answered as “undecided”, Barbara Herrmann asked if School Perceptions could break down the “undecided” answer population by age group. An analysis might allow the district to do an educational campaign.

It was noted that 78% of parent survey-takers preferred to receive MPSD information via emails; 52% of non-parents preferred the Herald Times Reporter; 46% of parents preferred the District website. Also notable was 74% satisfaction (combining strongly agree and agree) that MPSD is doing a great job of preparing students for success. Written comments will be examined at a later date, in order to maintain the focus on educating the public regarding funding.

At 12:37 p.m., motion was made by Keith Shaw, seconded by Karen Rohrer, and unanimously carried by roll call vote (7-0), to convene in closed session for the purpose of discussing and identifying School District collective bargaining strategy for all employees of the Manitowoc Public School District, as authorized pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

(The Board adjourned from closed session at 1:19 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca McLafferty, Secretary

Linda Gratz
Board President

