

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
Manitowoc Board of Education  
March 10, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Linda Gratz at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Ms. Barbara Herrmann, Mr. Dave Longmeyer, Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Karen Rohrer, Mr. Keith Shaw, and Ms. Linda Gratz. Also present were Superintendent Marcia Flaherty and Board secretary Rebecca McLafferty.  
Member absent: Ms. Catherine Shallue

The meeting began with Board members logging in to BoardBook, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Dave Longmeyer, and unanimously carried (6-0), to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015, regular meeting and the February 24, 2015, special meeting.

Board President Linda Gratz acknowledged correspondence received from "Taxpayer" regarding failed referendum suggestions; and correspondence from former MPSD employee Leyla Sanyer of 102 Holiday Court, Verona, WI 53593, in support of music education.

Madison Principal Michael Dunlap and Jefferson Principal Barbara Hooper introduced students and staff who presented the School Board with 100<sup>th</sup> birthday centennial photographs for each school.

Catherine Shallue arrived at 7:05 p.m.

A presentation was made by Jackson Elementary School's student-led service organization, K-Kids, to the School Board. Faculty advisor Shari Lipski gave background on the organization and introduced students.

Franklin Elementary School fifth grade student Joey O'Connor and his mother, Tammy O'Connor, both of 334 Hoover Street, Whitelaw, WI, spoke in support of the district's band program, Excel, DARE, IB and other opportunities offered to MPSD students. Sarah Murphy of 906 Flambeau Street, Manitowoc, representing the Music Parents Association of Manitowoc, spoke in support of choir, band, and orchestra. Mary Madison of 1634 Atlanta Circle, Manitowoc, parent of music student and owner of Mad About Music, spoke in support of music and education.

Karen Rohrer, Chairperson of the Finance & Budget Committee, reported on the February 19, 2015, meeting. The Committee approved the following policies to be brought forward to the full Board for a first read: 6111 Administration of Grant Programs; 6146 Post Issuance Tax Exempt Bond Compliance; 6230 Budget Hearing; 7230 Gifts, Grants, and Bequests; 7540.02 District Web Page; 7540.03 Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety; 7540.04

Staff Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety; 8145 Annual Reports; 8500 Food Service; and 8540 Vending Machines. During the committee meeting, Director Ken Mischler shared information on Governor Walker's State Budget proposal and presented information on the 2015-16 budget. No formal action was taken on the budget. On motion brought from committee, the first read of the above-stated policies was unanimously approved (7-0).

Keith Shaw, Chairperson of the Curriculum Committee, reported on the February 24, 2015, meeting.

- The Committee voted to bring the Wilson 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Washington DC and Gettysburg on June 12-15, 2016, to the full Board for approval. It was noted that Washington Junior High 9<sup>th</sup> grade students have been invited to participate in this trip. On motion brought from Committee, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the Washington DC and Gettysburg trip as presented.
- The Committee also voted to bring the National Japan Bowl trip to Chevy Chase, Maryland, on April 9-10, 2015, to the full Board for approval. On motion brought from Committee, the National Japan Bowl trip was unanimously (7-0) approved as presented.
- The Committee discussed financial aspects of the proposed Lincoln High music trip to London, England in June 2017. It was decided that no action would be taken on this trip until further discussion on anticipating 2017 costs, availability of all students having financial means to afford this trip, and the overlap of students participating in a foreign language trip instead of band trip to Europe during high school years. Superintendent Flaherty stated that music parents will be surveyed to obtain feedback on their interest, support, and value for this field trip. The Committee will bring this trip proposal back to the full board after additional information is obtained.
- Director Debby Shimanek indicated that the district contracted with Pearson to market the Lighthouse Learning Academy as a blended learning opportunity for students that are MPSD families either attending another district through open enrollment or home schooling for 2015-16.

Dave Nickels, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, reported on the February 26, 2015, meeting. The committee approved a motion to bring prescription co-pays and out of pocket prescription maximums to the full Board for approval. On motion from committee, the Board unanimously (7-0) approved the prescription co-pays and out of pocket prescription maximums as presented. The committee also reviewed the superintendent job description, superintendent contract, and Policy 1240 Evaluation of the Superintendent. It was agreed that the superintendent contract would be discussed further at the March 24 Board meeting.

In the absence of Director of Business Services Ken Mischler, the payment of vouchers was presented by Superintendent Marcia Flaherty. A motion was made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Dave Longmeyer, and unanimously (7-0) carried to approve voucher #538 totalling \$2,061,540.32, and voucher #541 totalling \$3,358,232.89, for a total of \$5,419,773.21. Also presented was the financial report for the month ending February 28, 2015.

Director of Human Resources Andrea Holschbach presented the Personnel Report consisting of recommended approval of eight retirements, recommended approval of four resignations, and recommended approval of eight extra-curricular contracts. On motion made by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Keith Shaw, the Personnel Report was unanimously (7-0) approved as presented.

Superintendent Marcia Flaherty acknowledged the Health Insurance Comparison that Director Ken Mischler prepared in response to Board request. The comparison listed five schools larger than Manitowoc and five school just smaller than Manitowoc, as well as districts in the area who responded to the survey.

Superintendent Flaherty gave a brief informational campaign update, indicating that town hall meetings are in progress, as well as informal meetings at the public library and the YMCA.

Superintendent Flaherty acknowledged Human Resources Director Andrea Holschbach who will leave her position effective June 30, 2015. The position will be posted and the application process started with current administration, to be finalized when the new Superintendent can be involved. In answer to Board inquiry, Holschbach replied that the salary range for the position is already approved by the Board. The Board will consider the hire for approval in conjunction with the Personnel Report as is routinely done.

Superintendent Flaherty gave a “Budget Update and Referendum Review”, noting that this is the last Board meeting until after the referendum vote. Her presentation highlighted costs over the last 5 years and declining federal funding which have resulted in the district’s \$6.2 million in cuts over the last 3 years. Also highlighted were changes in benefits, funding priorities, the State biennial budget proposal, fund balance, and a list of potential reductions if the referendum fails to pass. In answer to Board request, Superintendent Flaherty stated that the presentation will be included in her weekly update and placed on the district website.

Second read of the following policies, originally from the Curriculum Committee, were heard: 2221 Special Observation Days; 2421 Career and Technical Education Program; 2510 Adoption of Textbooks; 2521 Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment; 2623 Student Assessment; 2700 Annual District Report; 5451.02 Technical Excellence Higher Education Scholarships; 5516 Student Hazing; 5830 Student Fundraising; and 8510 Wellness. Motion was made by Barbara Herrmann, seconded by Keith Shaw, and unanimously approved (7-0) to approve the second read of the above-stated policies.

Second read of the following policies, originally from the Personnel Committee, were heard: 1630.01/3430.01/4430.01 Family and Medical Leave of Absence; 3217/4217/7217 Weapons; 3220 Staff Evaluation and Educator Effectiveness; and 4330 Grievance Procedure. Motion was made by Dave Nickels, seconded by Dave Longmeyer, to approve the second read of the above-stated policies as presented. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Keith Shaw updated the Board on the superintendent search process. The application screening process closed with 30+ applicants. Ray & Associates will meet with the Board on March 24 to

review 15 candidate applications, complete with video profiles. Shaw also reported that invitations to participate on the April 8 interview panels will be sent out soon. The final interviews will be held April 8.

On motion by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Catherine Shallue, the Board unanimously (7-0) selected as Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 12:00 noon for the reorganizational meeting.

On motion by Karen Rohrer, seconded by Catherine Shallue, motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca McLafferty, Secretary

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Linda Gratz  
Board President