

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

September 25, 2023

CONVENE

Board President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Deanna Wiatt, 7-12th Gr. Principal Rick Dobbs, ECH-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson, Finance Administrator Casey Pfaff. Board Members present: Terry Blaken, Becky Whalen, Kim Sacia, Geoff Rozek, Shane Zeman & Kathy Dunn. All who were present then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Public notice and Approval of Agenda was recognized.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Fall is definitely here as we are enjoying this weather that is coming with it. Fall football has three wins under their belt, and we hope to have another win this Friday against Alma-Pepin. Girls volleyball is making up a game tonight at Blair-Taylor but will be playing here tomorrow night against Independence-Gilmanton. They also play Whitehall on Thursday, so they have a very busy schedule.

Twice this month, school board members had professional development with Dr. Fran Finco. We learned how each of us brings different strengths to the board, and have set some goals for me to work on this year. It was interesting how all of us had similar thoughts on the areas of work I should focus on during my first year, which includes visibility in the school and community and working with the School Board to use data to create continuous improvement plans as well as dig deeper into how to enhance student growth.

I attended Spanferkel for the first time. It was amazing how many people my husband and I actually knew there. What a fun time! I have also attended the La Crosse County Broadband Committee meeting and a portion of the Jackson County Committee meeting. It continues to be a struggle to get broadband in our area, but we are at least on the radar. Mike Hesse and Dennis Jacobsen are with me on the La Crosse Board.

Alison Boudry invited me in to talk to her marketing class this month. I introduced a magazine idea that her students are going to be working on to send out to our community in June to showcase what we do in our district. I think it is a great opportunity to show our community members what happens within the walls of our students. This is a new idea, so hopefully, we can get it to come to fruition at the end of the year. What a great teacher and group of students!

A shout-out to our Director of Special Education, Marie Sonsalla. She has had a variety of different scenarios happening all at once this year. She is very knowledgeable in her area of expertise and always puts the needs of the student and their families first, all while navigating the Wisconsin law, which we all know can be very difficult to understand at times. Thank you for being a part of our team, Marie!

Casey, Dan, and I have been meeting weekly with Market & Johnson and Rural Valley Architects to finalize plans around the FEMA building. Next week, we are hoping the plans will be completed, and Market & Johnson can begin to draw up the estimate in the next few weeks. This will all go to Jordan Buss, who will submit the FEMA grant application on our behalf. Once these stages are complete, we will send out information to the community to identify ways they would like to use the building if we receive the grant and decide as a district if we are going to move forward with plans.

This past week, I had the opportunity to attend the State Convention for Superintendents. Some of my highlights were listening to Donyall Dickey about "Promoting Student Achievement through Common Instructional Language and Tools." I actually attended two of his sessions and ordered his book to read in the near future. There is an update with Act 20 from DPI, which is something we will be watching closely. They are going to tell us what screener we will be using for 4K-3 students, explain what PD our staff will need to have in the lower grades, as well as guidance on the ELA curriculum districts can use. This information will be coming out no later than January. Last but not least, I always attended the Budgeting and Planning sessions in light of our annual meeting coming up next month. Thank you for allowing me to attend this convention and supporting my own professional development.

CONNECTION WITH THE COMMUNITY

1. **Correspondence:** None.
2. **Public Comment:** None.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Minutes from the previous month's Regular Board Meeting:** Motion by Zeman, second by Sacia, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried 6-0.
2. **Finance:** Review of the expenditures and receipts through August. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$384,578.79. Motion carried 6-0.
3. **Personnel Report:** Motion by Blaken, second by Whalen to approve the following resignations, retirement and hiring. Motion carried 6-0:

Resignations:

Paraprofessional: Tina Braun and Jennifer Zolper. Jennifer will continue as a transport aide but resigns as a classroom paraprofessional.

Junior High Assistant Volleyball Coach: Marissa Edmison

Retirement: Custodian Tammy Simonson effective December 31, 2023.

Hiring:

Surround Care Coordinator: Marissa Edmison

Paraprofessionals: Calette Lockington, Lauren Koss, Amber Williams, Stacie Hadley, Isabelle Eichelt.

Mock Trial Advisor: Jeff Woodward

Academic Decathlon Coach: Chloe Ohlfs

Assistant Junior High Volleyball Coach: Josie Waldera

Custodial: Randy Johnson (2nd shift)

DISCUSS AND/OR TAKE ACTION

1. **AMVETS Bench & Trees in Memory of Coats Family:** Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to approve placement of the bench and trees. Motion carried 6-0.
2. **Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) Annual Report:** Motion by Rozek, second by Dunn to accept the CPI Annual Report. Motion carried 6-0.
3. **Discuss All Day 4K Program:** Board approved the request by Superintendent Wiatt to explore the options of offering a full day, 4K program in the future.
4. **First Reading of Policy 834-Public & Community Use of District Property**

CLOSED SESSION

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." Motion made by Zeman, second by roll call vote to adjourn at 6:38 p.m. Motion by Zeman, second by Whalen to reconvene to Open Session at 8:01 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Zeman, second by Whalen to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes