

School Board Meeting Wrap Up

January 2022

Meeting Opening

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call- Board Members Ben Wynn, Danielle Bailey, Tomika Vukovic, and Andrew Franklin were present at this meeting.

C. Executive Session- Board met in closed executive session to hear a formal complaint from a family.

D. Reconvene in Open Session

E. Agenda Approval- Agenda was approved unanimously.



2. Celebrations

A. Thank You's - The district thanked Emily JonesBerg, Program Manager at Rogers Behavioral Health, who is working Pro Bono with our Social Worker, Denise Davis and Carla Pennington-Cross to facilitate the Compassion Resiliency Workshop.

B. PTO & Foundation Update - PTO Updates: The Sock Hop will happen sometime in the Spring, when an event can be planned for outdoors. PTO is also working to set up an indoor spring run.

Foundation Updates: Spring Fling is May 13th at the Bavarian Beerhaus. They're in need of Volunteers! They're also in need of sponsors and auction items. Also, they would like to put together a teacher talent auction table for the Spring Fling. Contact Carla Pennington-Cross if you're interested.

Fundraising efforts will support the district's purchase of an all-accessible van with a wheelchair lift, teacher grants, and the family emergency fund.

C. School Spotlight - Mrs. Murali presented some updates about our Glen Hills scholars. The district received 2 DPI grants, one which gave 25 students from 5th-8th grade the chance to take a 9 week online higher level reading/writing program. The other grant gave 25 BIPOC girls the opportunity to work on a Herstory curriculum to build upon leadership skills- more about this work will be shared with the Board down the road.

Other updates include: The 8th grade girls team won Wisconsin Future City Champions again! Third time in a row. The models will be showcased at the next board meeting. And they are headed to the regional competition next. Stem Fair is coming up and will showcase all grades and what they've learned, including future city, robotics, and more. It will take place on February 15th from 6-7pm.

The board enjoyed and was thoroughly impressed by a presentation from the 9 scholars who participated in the higher level reading/writing online program: *Juliana Franklin, Nyla Deans, Zhana Wright, Elizur Roberts, Nakayla Deans, Elena Johnson, Isaac Lippow, Henry Berenze, Vincent Blazrina, Oliver Whelan, and Emilio Nieto-Moreno*. Students learned about issues within various topics such as Climate Change & Going Green, Equal Pay, Healthcare, Water Pollution, Equity in Education & Curriculum, and Mental Health. They presented on what they learned and some of the ideas they came up with to address various problems within their topic areas. Some of the students, flexing their sharpened advocacy skills, also spoke to their desire for the return of resource period, and stated that they were grateful for Mrs. Murali's help and the opportunity, but they would've loved to have been able to complete the work while they were at school. The presentation can be viewed on Youtube by copying and pasting this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQrPI-7xZ8k>

The board thanked Mrs. Murali for her leadership on these projects, and also encouraged the students to continue their impressive work around advocacy and problem solving for some of these pressing issues, and let them know they were happy to be resources for them anytime or support their work however they could. Cheers to Mrs. Murali and all of the Glen Hills Scholars who presented to the board!



3. New Business

A. WASB Policy Work - The School Board discussed an approved working with WASB to do a Policy Quick Check and subscribing to WASB Policy Resource Guide, which involves WASB reviewing all of the schools policies and making recommendations about which policies need to be updated to align with current statutory law, what needs to be added, and suggesting updates via its Policy Resource Guide. Administration felt this was a good first step in addressing the policy work the districts needs to do, as it will help us prioritize which policies need to be addressed first. Once WASB has a chance to review

our policies, they will be able to give us a timeline for receiving their report. It's likely that this would be done in time for the district to start doing a lot of our policy work at the beginning of summer.

B. 2022-23 Holiday and Staff Calendar - Administration proposed changes for the 2022-2023 School Calendar to include weekly early release days on Wednesdays. Early release days were discussed at a previous curriculum meeting, and that conversation centered on a need for professional development (PD) and collaboration among teachers, paras and teachers, teachers across schools, and the possibility of building in some of that time through early release days.

Jennica Westfahl, Director of Teaching and Learning, presented on some of the reasons for the proposal: including that the most effective PD engages teams of teachers, so really this gets at helping all students, and PD is needed to onboard our staff and retain our staff. Our district has struggled around PD, especially when thinking about our elementary teachers who do not have the same amount of prep time as our middle school teachers. Teachers right now have about 30 minutes a day for collaboration or development, which makes it nearly impossible for teachers to meet, and takes away from their planning time, as well. We also really want as a district to develop Professional Learning Communities, and early release would also support Partner District work, and vertical work among our elementary and middle school teachers.

Early Release Days have been really successful in other districts - such as Elm Brook, Menomonee Falls, Shorewood.

Per the Administration, we would still meet required hours and minutes of instruction, and we still have time built in for a couple of snow days. Some weeks would not have early release, based on already having days off for holidays, etc.

Board Members asked about family concerns around pick ups on early days, scheduling work, daycare, etc, and what supports the district could offer. Board Members also asked about how this would impact the K4 program, whether potential future changes to start times would impact the schedule, and the impact to teaching, and for more specific information on the impact on instructional minutes. The Administration is looking into possible supports such as after school care and still considering how early release would work for the K4 program. The item was tabled to be brought back to the board at its next board meeting on February 16th. It will also be discussed at the February Curriculum Committee Meeting (February 2nd at 5:45 pm)

C. 2023-24 Proposed Holiday Calendar - Changes to the 2023-2024 holiday calendar were proposed to the board, so that the district can align our breaks with partner districts. And, so that school will start after Labor Day (instead of before), which is really the biggest change, as the district has heard from families this would be more convenient and preferential. The board discussed and approved the changes to the holiday calendar.

D. Open Enrollment Declaration of Seats - The Administration made its recommendation for the number of open enrollment seats to the board. The Board approved the districts recommendation of the following open seats -10 for K5, 8 for 1st grade, 2 for 2nd grade, 2 for 3rd grade, and 5 for 7th grade.

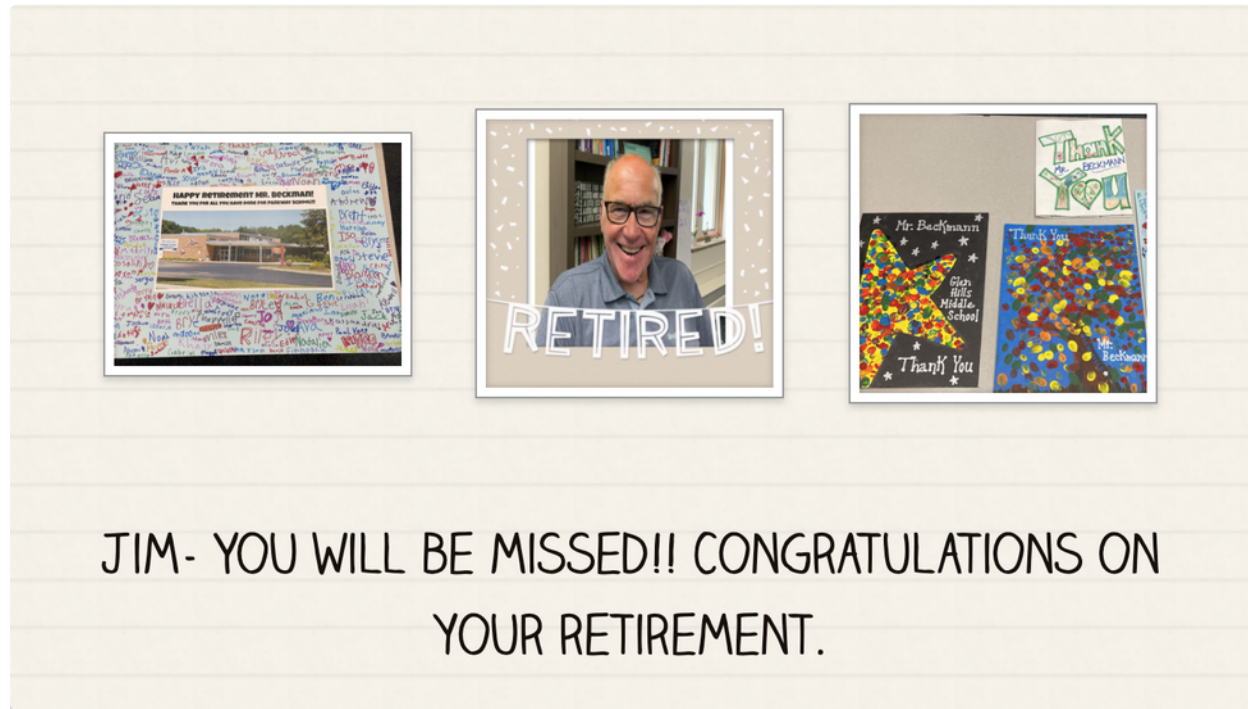
E. Approval of Black History Month Resolution - The Board read aloud its Resolution (which can be found in the agenda for the meeting on Board Docs) to formally recognize February 2022 as Black History Month in our district. Updates on Black History Month (BHM) Activities in the district will be given at the February Curriculum meeting on February 2nd at 5:45 pm, and the district will communicate through its normal channels various opportunities for students and families to participate in BHM events.

4. Consent Agenda -

Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

A. Approval of Financials

B. Approval of Minutes



5. Discussion

A. Talent Development Update- Director of Teaching and Learning, Jennica Westfahl, gave an update to the board about progress being made in our planning with CESA-1 around the gifted and talented (G&T) program. The work being done is based off of our G&T audit, feedback from staff, and Mrs. Murali, our Gifted and Talented Coordinator, as well as, observations from our CESA facilitator. The current phase of work is focused on the handbook and creating a vision statement. One of the goals of this work is creating a new handbook for staff and one for caregivers. They are currently working on a vision statement, which will be shared with staff and feedback will be solicited and reviewed. The vision statement will then be shared with the Curriculum Committee. Timeline for the additional work in this area was reviewed with the board. All work is being done with an eye toward the G&T audit and making sure we are addressing concerns from the audit and any compliance issues. Updates will be shared with the Curriculum Committee as progress continues, as well as, the final products and outcomes of this work with the School Board in June. There was some discussion around the elimination of the resource hour, and the administration stated that a scheduling committee is currently reviewing how to optimize scheduling at the middle school, and recommendations on that will be presented to the board at a later meeting, as well.

B. DAP Survey Results and Planning - District Administrator Weiss gave an overview of the survey results for the "Development Assets Profile: Strengths and Supports in the lives of Glen Hills Middle School Students 2021-2022" and planning to the board. This was done in partnership with partner districts, who began the survey last year and plan to do it annually. Our district began it this year. The survey offers unique and complementary information on youth, highlights the perspectives of young

people themselves, and builds on two decades of research which have developed key assets that are critical for positive outcomes for young people from different backgrounds and situations.

Approximately 304 students completed the survey in grades 4-8. Students took the test during SEL classes over an entire week. A handful of folks opted out, some missed due to absence, for others we don't know why they weren't completed. The presentation on the results of the survey can be found in the agenda for this meeting on board docs.

Administrator Weiss has already met with the other districts to discuss the results, and data was similar for other districts. She felt very encouraged by the results of the survey and shared some of the data from the actual questions of the survey. For example, one of the questions was: I have parents who try to help me succeed and 92% of students answered very often or almost always, which was in line with data showing that the support piece from families in our district was really strong for students.

Next steps for the administration include: a Student Services Planning Meeting, Student Services Teams from all four districts will meet in February to create action plans running from February to June, districts will develop an action plan with counselors, psychologists and social workers, exploration of DAP resources, discussion around what supports and strategies can be given to teachers and staff to strengthen our priority areas, and there will be another team check-in in May/June. And, the goal would be to continue to work with this data and these goals in the fall.

There was visitor participation and discussion around sharing this information with families, which the administration said it planned to do after sharing with the board.

There was additional visitor participation and discussion around the low response rate of around 60 percent (304 out of 496), when it was available in the class room, and whether the vulnerable and challenged categories were underreported. The district agreed this was important part of the data to review and plan for, too. The District also felt that planning taking place based on the survey responses would support those who didn't take the survey, as well. There was also discussion around whether the approach the district was taking would be impactful, and if focusing on teachers and pedagogy was the correct approach, and concerns related to the districts limited resources around mental health, including the number of counselors in our district.

C. Buildings and Grounds Transition Plan - The Administration and board reviewed the transition plan for Jim Beckmann who is retiring from the district. Business Administrator Johnson will be assuming some of the managerial responsibilities of Mr. Beckmanns role, and other day to day activities have been delegated throughout the custodial staff. This is a transition plan for the next 5-6 months. This role and additional staff organization will be discussed down the line as part of The Administration also stated it would like to offer opportunities to our custodial staff to develop leadership skills and opportunities for career advancement.

The Board and Administration thanked Mr. Beckmann for his years of service to the district. Mr. Beckmann and the administration both said they felt comfortable with the current transition plan because of our district's amazing custodial team. Mr. Beckmann is extremely proud with what he and his team have been able to accomplish with 7 full time people, covering 3 buildings, 400,000 square feet and 38 acres of land. Mr. Beckmann will continue to support the district in whatever ways he can. The Administration presented some artwork and cards created by students to Mr. Beckmann. Lots of applause and gratitude was had for Mr. Beckmann and all that he has accomplished for our district.

D. Covid Updates- Numbers are available on our District Dashboard, and cases are going down for students and staff.

A survey for staff vaccination received 103 responses as of 1/19 (74% of staff), so Administration will send out another reminder to take the survey. 94% of staff have received two doses, and 80% percent of those are also boosted.

We have implemented new CDC guidelines around quarantine, so students and staff are missing less time for quarantine. Extracurriculars have resumed. Mrs. Weiss met with all extracurriculars to review mitigation measures, and those continue to be monitored and updated as needed.

E. Nicolet Partner Schools Update- Districts will tighten up sharing of district communications, so all the districts are aware of important updates shared with communities and families. If something rises to the level of being shared with all district families, the administrator will share it with other administrators so everyone can be made aware and accordingly.

Fox Point Bayside is holding a free CESA 1 substitute teacher training, which has space still. Information was shared out with principals. Anyone can contact Mrs. Weiss if they are interested in attending.

Mrs. Westfahl shared that she and other Directors are planning the February 21st partner districts day. They have a presenter coming, Shelley Moore, a National Speaker who will be giving a presentation: Supporting One, Supporting All: designing needs based support plans in classrooms, which are centered around evidence based inclusive practices and strategies to help educators plan for diverse classrooms. They are also doing Curriculum review, which is midstream in their ELA curriculum review. On January 6th they met and finalized primary outcomes for PE for K-12 curriculum. Next day of work will be on February 1st, and they will be addressing the Human Growth and Development curriculum- updating resources and looking at units across the district. In February they will meet review alignments of priority standards and outcomes.

6. Visitor Participation

A. Visitor Participation- NONE

7. Adjourn

1. Adjourn- Meeting was unanimously adjourned.

*Please note this wrap up is meant to be an overview of the school board meeting. It is intended to offer more substantive information than what is generally contained in Board Meeting Minutes. It will not cover every point made or discussion had; it is accurate to the best of my knowledge; and, it is an effort being made on behalf of the board to get relevant information out to our community. Comments and questions are always welcome.

Sincerely,
Danielle Bailey,
School Board Member, Communications Chair
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