

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, June 26, 2023 was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair Hunter Feldt. Board members present: Feldt, Burns, Schultz, Danielson, Guetzkow, Neaton, and Onell. Board members absent: None. Administrative team members present: Superintendent Schuler, HS Principal Hennen, MS Principal Guertin, ES Principal O'Connell, SPED Director Gronseth, CE Director Dimmler, Director of Teaching & Learning Vieau, and Activities Director Szymanski. Absent:None. One public comment was heard before the board regarding a concern about student coverage under the district's insurance policy.
- II. **Visitor requests and consideration of the agenda.** Visitor MMS (Motion made and Seconded by) Danielson and Guetzkow to approve the agenda as presented. Passes 7-0.
- III. **Consent Agenda**
MMS Burns and Schulz to approve the following consent agenda items:
Regular Board Meeting of May 22, 2023; Personnel Consent Agenda; Business Consent Agenda, and 2023-2024 School District Calendar Update. Passes 7-0.
- IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**
 - Activities Director Szymanski introduced Bethany Loether - coach of the Watertown-Mayer Girls Softball team. Coach Loether recognized those team members who were able to attend for their state qualifying team.
 - Activities Director Szymanski recognized Coach Loether for being named Section 5AA Coach of the Year for the second year in a row. Mr. Szymanski also recognized state track & field qualifier Mallory Czinano who was unable to attend.
 - Activities Director Szymanski introduced Kyle Och - coach of the Watertown-Mayer Boys Golf team. Coach Och recognized Luke Maas who finished in 9th place in the state for boys golf.
 - Activities Director Szymanski presented to the board his program review of the 22-23 school year. Director Szymanski informed the board of a new recognition category for those students who participate in 5 or more activities - the 'Royal High Five'. These students will be included in a visual banner like the current 'Triple Crown' recipients. Recommendations were made to Director Szymanski to include a different rating scale for some of the new questions added to the student athlete survey regarding emotional well-being and belonging.
- V. **Action Items -**
 - A. MMS Burns and Feldt to approve new Policy 516.5 and 516.5F for first and only reads due to new legislative requirements. Passes 7-0.
 - B. MMS Danielson and Onell to approve the first read of Policies 208, 102, 418, 419, 424, 425, 504, 506, 507, 509, 513, 514, 524, 532, 534, 601, 602, 603, 604, 613, 616, 618, 620, 621, 624, 708, 709, and 806. Passes 7-0.
 - C. MMS Danielson and Guetzkow to approve the Elementary School Parent/ Student Handbook, Watertown-Mayer Early Childhood Programs Family Handbook, and the Watertown-Mayer Child Care Family Handbook. Note: Lisa Neaton has to leave the meeting briefly from 6:47PM- 6:49 PM and was not available for vote. Passes 6-0.

- D. MMS Burns and Neaton to approve the FY23 Revised Budget:

2022-2023 Revised Budget

| | <u>Revenues</u> | <u>Expenditures</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fund 1 | \$19,934,447 | \$22,231,342 |
| Fund 2 | \$901,486 | \$932,860 |
| Fund 4 | \$2,159,689 | \$1,974,339 |
| Fund 6 | \$38,000 | \$3,500,000 |
| Fund 7 | <u>\$4,861,534</u> | <u>\$4,508,500</u> |
| Total | \$27,895,156 | \$33,147,041 |

- E. MMS Feldt and Guetzkow to approve the FY24 Preliminary Budget:

2023-2024 Budget

| | Revenues | Expenditures |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fund 1 | \$21,792,568 | \$20,700,915 |
| Fund 2 | \$869,644 | \$965,599 |
| Fund 4 | \$2,125,191 | \$2,036,134 |
| Fund 6 | \$8,000,000 | \$5,000,000 |
| Fund 7 | <u>\$4,886,942</u> | <u>\$4,761,500</u> |
| Total | \$37,674,345 | \$33,464,148 |

Passes 7-0.

- F. MMS Burns and Feldt to approve the Long Term Facility Maintenance Plan for Y24-FY34. Passes 7-0.
- G. MMS Onell and Schulz to approve the SW Metro Long Term Facility Maintenance Resolution. Passes 7-0.
- H. MMS Feldt and Danielson to approve the SW Metro Safe Schools Resolution. Passes 7-0.
- I. MMS Burns and Guetzkow to designate Heather Heun as the District Official with Authority. Passes 7-0.
- J. Superintendent Schuler played the MSHSL More than Membership Partnership Video as per required by MSHSL. MMS Guetzkow and Feldt to approve the MSHSL Resolution for the 2023-2024 school year. Passes 7-0.

VI. Review/ Information Items -

- A. Superintendent Schuler presented updated Bond Referendum Project updates as ICS representative Chris Ziemer was unable to attend. Chris Ziemer will be taking over the project from Chris Rear who is on a leave of absence. Major projects underway are getting the sprinkler lines repaired from construction and getting the current pump system up and running to supply the sprinkler lines for the fields. At this time, only the Varsity Softball field lines are operational. The Greenhouse project is continuing with hopes that it will be up and running by the beginning of the school year as there have been some timing delays because of permitting delays. The middle school carpeting will all be replaced in August before the school year and there is continued progress being made regarding the marmoleum flooring in the middle school. Superintendent Schuler is hopeful that he will have a better update in July on this specific issue.
- B. Superintendent Schuler and Teaching & Learning Director Vieau gave a presentation re: the MTSS Year Two review. ES Interventionist Michelle Shaw

and ESL Teacher Holly Pfeiffer also commented on the positive investment received by providing LETRS training and its positive impact specifically in targeting 4th grade and Kindergarten students. Overall, the impact has been positive across the board and they look forward to even more resources for the ES and MS for the 23-24 school year.

VII. **Administrative Reports -**

HS Principal Hennen discussed current activities and credit recovery currently happening at the high school. There continues to be a SPED opening at the high school as well as a parochial school counselor opening. Mr. Hennen discussed the survey given to Seniors with a 60-70% overall positive return rate, and thanked the many people who made this year's graduation ceremony in the stadium such a success. Mr. Hennen anticipates that there will be many more future outdoor graduation ceremonies because of the success of this year.

MS Principal Guertin reported a smooth end of the school year as well with the weather cooperating to enjoy many end of year field trips and a very successful 8th grad graduation party sponsored by the MS PTO. Mr. Guertin reported that summer school is currently happening serving a little over 30 students. There are still 3 paraprofessional openings as well as a MS SPED teacher still open. Principal Guertin is excited about the new exploratory courses that will be offered next school year as well as the new STEM program and continuing their MTSS and PBIS initiatives.

CE Director Dimmler reported that the Community Education Catalog received Honorable Mention for Publications and Digital Media recently from NSPRA. Programming is well underway and they are looking forward to LETRS training for their Early Childhood Staff in the fall.

ES Principal O'Connell presented on the improvements made in the building as a result of their theme of "Flipping the Triangle" for those students in the highest need category. Huge strides were made this year and she thanked the hard work of her staff for these results. Principal O'Connell announced that the ES received a SHIP grant to implement Playworks curriculum for indoor and outdoor recess - part of this program utilizes 4th grade students as junior recess mentors. Principal O'Connell encouraged everyone to nominate WM groups for the Sun Patriot's 'Best of Carver County' - open for nominations now until June 29th. The WM ES PTO has been nominated. Voting will begin in August.

Teaching & Learning Director Vieau reported that the English Language Arts chose IXL for their curriculum starting this year as well as 'Turn It In' which not only can identify plagiarism, but also usage of AI in writing. Science has chosen Savvas for biology and chemistry curriculum at the high school which ties in nicely with the CIS curriculum. Director Vieau also reported that the FAST assessment data resulted in better than expected results and he will be able to share the MCA data with the board in the fall as it is not yet officially released.

SPED Director Gronseth thanked the board for her last 3 years as Director as this is her last board meeting. Director Gronseth shared the district needs as previously stated by some of her colleagues: paras are needed at the ES and MS; MS SPED

teacher, HS SPED teacher, and another SLP position in the ES. As there are currently no applicants for the SLP position, she acknowledged that the district may need to consider virtual services for this one position. Director Gronseth reported that all teachers who address literacy have been trained in the Sonday system as well as other interventions for reading, and the MS/HS staff will have an opportunity to attend a LINKS training in the fall which targets working with students with autism. Director Gronseth has met with the new SPED Director, Rande Peyton once and will be meeting with her again to help with the transition.

Superintendent Schuler reported that he attended the Resource & Training legislative update in St. Cloud today along with Teaching & Learning Director Vieau. There is much to unpack with all the legislative changes with some of the bigger pieces being the unemployment piece which will eventually have a significant impact for districts as well as the paid medical leave. At this time, 22 WM employees made up of food service, secretarial and paraprofessional staff have applied, however, there is a determination process that happens as part of this process as well. The new Read Act is another piece that will impact learning as the state looks to ensure literacy measures are being met at all grade levels, not just at certain grade levels. Superintendent Schuler reported that there is some talk about reimbursement for schools who adopt and implement MTSS initiatives and he is proud of the fact that WM is ahead of most schools in this area.

VIII. Board Member Reports or open comments by School Board Directors -

Jim Burns noted the tentative dates of negotiations for several different union groups. Treasurer Erika Schulz gave a verbal report regarding an upcoming SW Metro retreat happening in July. Clerk Danielson and Director Guetzkow gave a verbal report regarding a recent Marketing and Communications subcommittee meeting. Chair Feldt gave a verbal update regarding the recent Finance meeting to go over many of the action items presented regarding budgetary issues and reminded board members to fill out and return the evaluations re: Superintendent Schuler in preparation for the closed meeting session happening after the regular school board meeting on July 24, 2023.

MMS Danielson and Neaton to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM and was duly passed.

Chair

Clerk