

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, August 22, 2022 was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair Hunter Feldt. Board members present: Feldt, Thompson, Burns, Schultz, Danielson and J. Guetzkow. Board members absent: H. Guetzkow. 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, Activities Director Szymanski. Absent: None.

Public Comments:

Two speakers signed in to express their support of increasing the daily rate of reimbursement for substitute teachers if the bonus pay was eliminated.

- II. **Visitor requests and consideration of the agenda.** Visitor MMS (Motion made and Seconded by) Danielson and Schulz to approve the agenda as presented. Passes 6-0.

III. **Consent Agenda**

MMS Burns and Feldt to approve the following consent agenda items:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 25, 2022, Personnel consent agenda, and Business consent agenda. Passes 6-0

July 2022 Disbursements - \$1,889,231.34

Wire Payment #s - 51792-51796, 51821-51828, 51831, 51902, 51903, 51912-51934
Check # - 60879- 60966
Mis Payroll - \$753.60

IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**

None.

V. **Action Items -**

- A. MMS Danielson and Feldt to approve price of an adult or non-program adult meal for FY 2022-2023 of \$4.95 per MDE and their School Nutrition Programs requirement. Passes 6-0.
- B. Discussion regarding Substitute Teacher Rates. Vice Chair Thompson would like to know the budget impact if the rate is increased even more . Director Burns stated he still liked the incentive bonus pay as an option, but would want feedback from Lisa Raiter on the impact it would have on our current budget. MMS Burns and Thompson to approve substitute teacher rates to \$150 per day for any number of days and to revisit this issue again in September once Lisa Raiter can give some additional information. Passes 6-0.
- C. MMS Danielson and J. Guetzkow to approve the Watertown-Mayer Health and Safety Resolution for the 2022-2023 school year which includes the current Safe Learning Plan. Passes 6-0.
- D. MMS Felt and Burns to approve the 2022-2023 Superintendent Goals. Passes 6-0.

VI. **Review/ Information Items -**

- A. ICS Representative Chris Vogel updated the board regarding the progress of the current construction projects. MS flooring analysis is not yet complete. The new retractable auxiliary gym wall track was installed last week - wall should be installed soon. District office is almost complete with the final round of cleaning and punch items to complete as well as the new entry. Locker room project is still behind. Crews for these projects are working weekends, but have not made up timeframe ground as of now. New MS drive is now delayed because of an unanticipated change design - goal to be open and ready to use by September 22nd. Quarry Ave. is complete. Drawings are not yet back from Cunningham re: update to the ES entrance to mimic the MS system. Other questions were asked and answered.
- B. Chair Feldt gave a report of the annual review of Superintendent Schuler. Overall, his evaluation was a 3.4 out of 4. The Board continues to support Mr. Schuler and the overall development of ISD #111.
- C. Supt. Schuler reported that the current Strategic Roadmap ends at the end of this school year. After evaluation and conversations with consultants who advise, the current Strategic Roadmap will not need a complete overhaul, but rather an update. Three groups have been considered for helping to guide this process and a recommendation will be made at the September board Meeting.

VII. **Administrative Reports -**

HS Principal Hennen stated that they are fully staffed for the school year and are happy to have on board several new staffing including new Dean of Students Chris Behrens. HS schedules were made public today and 95% of all student requests were honored including 22 students in the new nursing class offered. August 31st is 9th grade open house.

MS Principal Guertin stated that they have had many staffing changes and, at this time, hope to get a long-term sub for the open science position. WEB orientation and open house for 5th grade will be happening on Wednesday with the 6-8th grade open house on the 31st. The middle school is continuing their work this year with 'The Royal Way' theme and Jenna Olson is the lead on these continued efforts. At this time, the plan is to use the new front entrance and office area for the first day of school.

ES Principal O'Connell reported that there is one open position yet at the elementary school, but the hope is that this position will be filled at the end of the week. The ES staff have been working during the summer on LETRS training and they look forward to the Royal Connections conferences happening on September 6th and 7th - this has been set and families can sign up now. The theme for the ES this year is 'Know Your Impact' and this theme will be carried through at every level of the ES building.

Teaching & Learning Director, Joe Vieau reported that new teacher orientation will begin this Wednesday and Thursday this week and that the MCA results are now on the MDE website. The district will continue to work on making improvements towards higher achievement. All staff are back for professional

development week on August 29th and there will be a kick-off with Jane Schuette with the theme of 'Building Your Brilliance' (managing stress) and also attorney Greg Madson will be coming out to discuss legal issues re: data privacy and usage of media. The second round of LETRS training will also begin on August 30th.

CE Director Dimmler reported the new hire of Grace Penke as the district's new facility director - she will be managing more of the gymnasium and outdoor facilities; Joyce Peterson will still be in charge of anything related to the PAC. On August 8th, the fall CE classes opened up and many classes are already full- several also have wait lists. At this time, they have 163 students enrolled in early childhood programs, and they currently have 113 children enrolled in preschool. Currently, there are 38 children enrolled in the licensed childcare and there are over 100 children ages 4 years to 12 year after school care. At this time, they have 10 infants enrolled in the Caring Hands infant care program with 10 on the waitlist.

SPED Director Gronseth reported that they completed a successful ESY program over the summer and they have started compensatory services that will continue into the school year. She reported that the school psychologist position is still unfilled with no applicants. Jenna Olson has graciously offered to combo her position for the ES and MS between Behavior Interventionist and school psychologist. The HS psychologist services will be contracted with a 3rd party virtually in hopes that a full time school psychologist can be hired before the end of the year. Emily Hibilink will be working with the ES staff regarding challenging student behaviors- training gen. ed. teachers on how to work more effectively with challenging behaviors in the classroom. MDE recently evaluated the SPED program and had "no findings" which is a great report/ review of the program.

Activities Director Szymanski reported that fall practices have started and the HS numbers are down by about 21 students, however, the MS participant numbers are up by 15 already. The turf field has been extremely valuable so far this year as the FB practice field has been unavailable and will be unavailable for use until the new road construction is finished. He complimented all coaches on their flexibility as the aux gym has not been available for use since the retractable wall is not yet in. He did report that the only real issue for fall sports is that they are short FB helmets. An order was placed in December 2021 for 12-14 helmets, but they are still not in. In the meantime, they have been able to use black helmets and face masks as back-up, but, for now, they will just have to be a different color. He is hoping that The ordered helmets will come in September.

Superintendent Schuler complimented the administrative team for their efforts in getting new staff and managing the resignations of staff. He reported that, for the first time in several years, the custodians are fully staffed. New teacher orientation is happening this week and he is grateful to have Dave Sloneker and Nikki McNeilly as tour guides for the Watertown and Mayer communities. Also, both Russ Runck and Associates and Nikki McNeilly generously donated lunch for both days of new teacher orientation. Superintendent Schuler acknowledge with sadness the passing of MS/ HS Social Worker Darla Parrague whose memorial service was today and that those impacted have been contacted and counselors are available for those

students and families who are impacted.

- VIII. **Board Member Reports or open comments by School Board Directors -**
Director Schulz reported re: SW Metro Intermediate Board - currently there is concern for enrollment. Currently there are only 100 students enrolled in the SW Metro e-learning program.
- IX. MMS Danielson and Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM and was duly passed.

Chair

Clerk