

I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, March 15, 2021 was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chair Feldt. Board members present: Feldt, Thompson, Burns, Schulz, H. Guetzkow, Danielson and J.Guetzkow. Absent: None. Administration team members present: Superintendent Schuler, HS Principal Hennen, ES Principal Pauly, SPED Director Gronseth, Activities Director Szymanski, Community Ed Director Bender. Absent: MS Principal Guertin, Teaching and Learning Director Arndt, Director of Information and Learning Technology Monsaas-Daly.

II. **Visitor requests and consideration of agenda.** MMS (Motion made and Seconded by) H. Guetzkow and Schulz to approve the agenda as presented. Passes 7-0.

**III. Consent Agenda**

MMS Thompson and Burns to approve the following consent agenda items: Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 22, 2021; Personnel consent agenda; Business consent agenda; and Enrollment. Passes 7-0.

[February 2021 Disbursements](#) - \$1,946,033.54

Wire Payment #s - 48457, 48526, 48549, 48552-48558, 48562-48564, 48634, 48635, 48637, 48645-48651, 48565-48558, 48562-48564, 48634, 48635, 48637, 48645-48651, 48656-48665, 48749

Check #s - 58264-58415

Misc Payroll - \$181.76

**IV. Recognitions/ Presentations/Showcase**

HS Principal Hennen introduced WM Mock Trial participants Anja Gilbert and Maris Heun. Ms. Gilbert and Ms. Heun presented information about Mock Trial and their experience this year. They also demonstrated direct examinations. Their WM team had the opportunity to compete this year virtually at state and received 2 All State awards for Best Witness (Maris Heun) and attorney (Dominick Buehler) They are hoping that next year they will be able to compete in their usual location - the Wright County District Courthouse in Buffalo, MN.

**V. Action Items –**

A. Superintendent Schuler highlighted some of the policies that required a bit more re-write or revision based on MSBA redlined versions. MMS Burns and J.Guetzkow to approve the first reading of District Policies 500 series and Policies 601, 607 and 607.1. Passes 7-0.

- [Policy 501](#) SCHOOL WEAPONS POLICY
- [Policy 502](#) SEARCH OF STUDENT LOCKERS, DESKS, PERSONAL POSSESSIONS AND STUDENT'S PERSON
- [Policy 503](#) STUDENT ATTENDANCE
- [Policy 504](#) STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE
- [Policy 505](#) DISTRIBUTION OF NON SCHOOL-SPONSORED MATERIALS ON SCHOOL PREMISES BY STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES
- [Policy 506](#) STUDENT DISCIPLINE
- [Policy 507](#) CORPORAL PUNISHMENT
- [Policy 508](#) EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR FOR CERTAIN STUDENTS WITH IEPs
- [Policy 509](#) ENROLLMENT OF NON RESIDENT STUDENTS
- [Policy 510](#) SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
- [Policy 511](#) STUDENT FUNDRAISING

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|------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">Policy 512</a>   | SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES                                    |
| <a href="#">Policy 513</a>   | STUDENT PROMOTION, RETENTION AND PROGRAM DESIGN   |
| <a href="#">Policy 514</a>   | BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY   |
| <a href="#">Policy 515</a>   | PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS   |
| <a href="#">Policy 516</a>   | STUDENT MEDICATION  |
| <a href="#">Policy 517</a>   | STUDENT RECRUITING  |
| <a href="#">Policy 518</a>   | DNR/DNI ORDERS  |
| <a href="#">Policy 519</a>   | INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY OUTSIDE AGENCIES  |
| <a href="#">Policy 520</a>   | STUDENT SURVEYS   |
| <a href="#">Policy 521</a>   | STUDENT DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM                                 |
| <a href="#">Policy 522</a>   | TITLE IX SEX NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY   |
| <a href="#">Policy 523</a>   | POLICIES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE  |
| <a href="#">Policy 524</a>   | INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY   |
| <a href="#">Policy 525</a>   | VIOLENCE PREVENTION   |
| <a href="#">Policy 526</a>   | HAZING PROHIBITION  |
| <a href="#">Policy 527</a>   | STUDENT USE AND PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES; PATROLS, INSPECTIONS AND SEARCHES            |
| <a href="#">Policy 528</a>   | STUDENT PARENTAL, FAMILY AND MARITAL STATUS NONDISCRIMINATION                           |
| <a href="#">Policy 529</a>   | STAFF NOTIFICATION OF VIOLENT BEHAVIOR BY STUDENTS                                      |
| <a href="#">Policy 530</a>   | IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS   |
| <a href="#">Policy 531</a>   | THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  |
| <a href="#">Policy 532</a>   | USE OF PEACE OFFICERS AND CRISIS TEAMS TO REMOVE STUDENTS WITH IEPs FROM SCHOOL GROUNDS |
| <a href="#">Policy 533</a>   | WELLNESS  |
| <a href="#">Policy 534</a>   | UNPAID MEAL CHARGES   |
| <a href="#">Policy 601</a>   | SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION GOALS  |
| <a href="#">Policy 607</a>   | ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS  |
| <a href="#">Policy 607.1</a> | EARLY ENTRANCE INTO KINDERGARTEN  |

- B. ICS representative Chris Rear introduced Todd Larson from the Cuningham group to present the Bond Referendum Stadium Concession Building Project. Questions were taken and answered. ICS representative Chris Rear then presented the Resolution for Approval of the Watertown-Mayer bond Referendum Stadium Concession Building Project. MMS Thompson and Danielson to Approve Resolution. Passes 7-0.

## VI. Review/ Information Items:

- A. ICS representative, Chris Rear, introduced ICS representative Chris Vogel who will be presenting updates to the board for the remainder of the project. Bond Referendum Project Updates were given.
- B. Superintendent Schuler discussed Policy 535 - SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS. Currently, we do not have this policy. It was agreed that this is a policy in need of review and eventual adoption. The policy committee will review the MSBA suggested policy and compare it with other districts in the area to develop a first read to be presented to the board in May 2021 with a second reading in June 2021.
- C. Superintendent Schuler recapped the events that took place the weekend of March 5th with the new information from MDH regarding the COVID B.1.1.7. variant found in the eastern part of Carver county. Superintendent Schuler reported that as of this meeting time, we have no reported cases of COVID- 19 or the COVID B.1.1.7 variant. Board member Burns commended Superintendent Schuler and the Administrative team for their decision-making and continuing to keep students first.

All staff, coaches, and students were commended for their continued efforts to abide by guidelines to help keep our district numbers low.

## **VII. Administrative Reports**

Verbal administrative reports were presented.

HS Principal Hennen presented regarding the continued success in welcoming back all students. He reports students and staff have been compliant with expectations and being creative with space needing to be utilized amongst the construction process. The number of distance learners has decreased to 41 students and more and more students are coming back to in-person learning. Grades for students have also seen an improvement since returning to in-person learning. Prom is planned for April 24th. The Grand March will be done with post-prom being at Mall of America - more details are still being worked out. Senior students have been asked to give feedback regarding graduation - 70 students have responded and based on these responses, two priorities have been made: 1. to graduate with classmates and 2. to graduate in front of their families. 70% of the students who responded said they also would prefer to keep the original graduation date of May 21, 2021.

HS Principal Hennen then presented on MS Principal Guertin's behalf. He reported that staff are happy to have the students back to in-person learning. It has been determined that MS will host 5 weeks of summer school to help give an extra boost in the areas of reading and math. Summer school will potentially be spread out among the high school classrooms as well with the construction project happening this summer. MS is also working with Cuningham to see about obtaining wall coverings that are Watertown-Mayer inspired.

ES Principal Pauly reported that Kindergarten registration is exactly where it was at last spring with 69 students currently enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year. Secretaries are now in the process of calling families to check in on registration potential for the fall. Advertisements in the form of emails, postcards and Facebook posts have all been done. Principal Pauly stated that, at this time, most of the families that are currently distance-learning will be ready to come back next fall. She also reported that staff are really doing a big academic push right now to assess the data from their students and identify students regarding learning gaps and educational needs especially in grades K-2. Principal Pauly wanted to note that with the recent snowfall, staff and students have expressed appreciation for the new playground surface and that this has been a positive change to enjoy their outdoor time without worry or burden of mess.

CE Director Bender reported on recent CLC programs and activities - programs recently put on pause will be resuming on March 22nd. Next week the Community Education Summer brochure will be going out - all events are planned to be on site. Kids Company is now open for registration and the ECFE Subscription boxes will be expanded to be accessible by local daycares - each daycare can receive up to 6 kits. At this time, 97 children are registered for the Young Royals program.

Activities Director Szymanski reiterated much of Superintendent Schuler's comments regarding the scaled back attendance and teams for sports based on the new variant identified. However, the Varsity sports and activities are continuing to do well and were able to, in some instances, finish their season strong or are continuing to sections and even state competition. March 29th is the date set to start spring sports. Board members inquired about livestreaming the Section gymnastics competition scheduled for this Thursday as well as what the plan for track and field will be with the construction process coming up quickly. Activities Director Szymanski stated that he would be willing to see what the live streaming options might be and

that there have been talks with both Waconia and Delano regarding utilizing their track facilities while ours are under construction.

Superintendent Schuler reported that things are in line to begin negotiations with the Teacher's Association, Educational Support Professionals and Custodial Group. He also answered questions regarding the mobile wall in the auxiliary gym that is still not in working order. At this time, we are waiting for parts, however, this will not be a long-term solution and exploration will need to be made to find another viable option in the near future.

**VII. Discussion of issues or open comments by School Board Directors.**

Board member H. Guetzkow reported on the Watertown-Mayer Education Foundation. This group has developed a new website, and other social media avenues to find ways to promote this group as well as a push for alumni to consider donating to the scholarship fund. This year, the Foundation will be able to provide five \$1,000.00 scholarships sponsored by the Steelworkers Union.

Board member Danielson reported on the Teaching and Learning Committee. Currently, this committee is looking at a new Math curriculum for grades K-2 to match the curriculum currently in use in grades 3-8 as well as a new English/ Language Arts curriculum to use in the MS. Also discussion has taken place about not having typical physical education programs in the middle school, but instead focus more on health and wellness.

Treasurer Schulz noted that the SW Metro Board will be meeting Tuesday, March 16th and they hope to be able to tour the Dean Lakes facility in April. More information will be shared as it presents itself.

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

Regular Board Meeting                      Monday, April 26, 2021                      6:00 PM Watertown City Hall

VIII. MMS Danielson and Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM and was duly passed.

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Chair

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Clerk