

Regular Board Meeting
Independent School District 564 – Board of Education
November 22, 2021
6:00 p.m.
DSC Board Room

A Public Meeting was held on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 5:30 pm in the DSC board room to review the 2020-21 World's Best Workforce Plan. Sara Olson, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Technology was available for questions. Comments were opened to the public. No comments were received.

A Regular Meeting of Independent School District #564 Board of Education was held Monday, November 22, 2021 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the DSC Board Room. The following board members were present: Mike Spears, Misty Hempel, Michelle Westerman, Ryan Walseth, Wayne Nomeland, Chris Melbye, and Craig Mattson.
Members absent: None.

Staff members present were: Melissa Bushy, Scott Brekke, Sara Olson, Amber Lindgren, Patrick Marolt, and Tanya Monson-Ek.

Also present were: Stephanie Walseth, Tracee Bruggeman, Jillian Niebaur, Marlene Anderson, and Dave Hill.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Chair Wayne Nomeland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Clerk Mike Spears confirmed that a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the November 22, 2021 agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. .

A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2021 School Board Work Session as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Chris Melbye and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the bills as submitted and on file in the School District Business Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Superintendent's Report:

Congratulations to Holly Ward who is now our Director of Learner Support Services as her variance has been approved for the remainder of this school year.

School Board members start thinking about the annual MSBA conference taking place in Minneapolis January 13 & 14, 2022. There appears to be a lot of great learning opportunities for you. Reach out to Melissa if you would like to go.

Just a reminder that any COVID related decisions are not easy decisions to make. We have to think about our students and staff safety as well as our likelihood of being able to manage. If and when we decide to move to a

Level 3, it will mean that masks will be required in school as well as after school activities. We will continue to watch the numbers.

Committee Reports:

Student Reports:

LHS Seniors, Daniella Niebuhr and Kaden Mostrom, were in attendance and provided an update on upcoming events at Lincoln High School.

Recognitions:

- A. Recognize the donation from Trinity Lutheran Church to the Prowler Pantry totaling \$575.
- B. Recognize the donation from Matthew & Emily Knutson to Prowler Girls Hockey totaling \$500.
- C. Recognize the donation from Fraternal Order of Eagles to Prowler Girls Hockey totaling \$3,800.
- D. Congratulations to LHS Junior, Kendal Rantanen, on advancing to State with a second place finish in the 100 backstroke. We had third place finishes from LHS Junior, Maren Espe, in the 100 breaststroke and the 200 free relay.

Presentations:

Tracee Bruggeman, Brady Martz & Associates, presented the 2020-21 audit report.

Real World Authentic Opportunities:

Voice and Choice:

Equitable Experiences:

Safety (Strategic Direction D):

Staff Growth:

- A. A motion was made by Michelle Westerman and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the Consent Agenda and as appropriate, per negotiated contract, salary and benefits and an acceptable background check. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

- 1. Approve the assignment of **Joshua Watne**, Interim Dean of Students, FMS, effective November 29, 2021 - June 6, 2022.
- 2. Approve the assignment of **Maria Gonzalez**, Head Cook, LHS, effective December 1, 2021.
- 3. Approve the employment of **Katarina Milbridge**, Special Education Paraprofessional, effective November 10, 2021.
- 4. Approve the employment of **Leah Kainz**, Special Education Paraprofessional, effective November 22, 2021.
- 5. Approve the employment of **Solymer Hernandez**, Kitchen Helper, CES, effective November 9, 2021.
- 6. Approve the employment of **Joseph Hermreck**, Technical Tutor, effective November 15, 2021 - June 3, 2022.
- 7. Approve the employment of **Derek Lian**, Cleaner, effective November 2, 2021.
- 8. Approve the employment of **Austin Fellman**, Latch Key Student Assistant, effective November 8, 2021.

9. Approve the employment of **Jada Jimenez**, Latch Key Student Assistant, effective November 8, 2021.
 10. Approve the employment of **Alecia Forst**, Latch Key Student Assistant, effective November 8, 2021.
 11. Accept the resignation of **Isabella Ek**, Lifeguard, effective November 9, 2021.
 12. Accept the resignation of **Jane Thibert**, Assistant Technology Coordinator, effective November 26, 2021.
 13. Accept the resignation of **Peggy Lawrence**, Special Education Paraprofessional, effective November 24, 2021.
 14. Approve the termination of **Courtney Sherga**, Paraprofessional, effective November 22, 2021.
- B. A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Ryan Walseth to approve the Resolution to eliminate the following position, effective November 29, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
1. Assistant Technology Coordinator (1.0 FTE)
- C. A motion was made by Chris Melbye and seconded by Mike Spears to establish and post for the following positions: Motion carried unanimously.
1. District Technology Integrationist
Effective Date: November 29, 2021
Location: District Wide
 - a. 1.0 FTE
- D. A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Chris Melbye to approve the 2021-23 Master Agreement with the Thief River Falls Principals' Association as negotiated. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. A motion was made by Misty Hempel and seconded by Craig Mattson to approve the employment of the following Targeted Services Positions: Motion carried unanimously.
1. **Targeted Services - CES (November 8, 2021 - March 7, 2022)**
 - a. One (1) Coordinator - Up to 75 hours - Ken Wiggs
 - b. Up to 12 (12) Gr. 1-5 Teachers - Up to 50 hours each - Rachel Anderson, Leslie Rogalla, Megan Largis, Chelsey Sorvig, Jill Johnson, Marcy Helling, Karlyn Norlin, Paula Praska, Susan Finger, Denice Nelson, Julie D. Olson, and Rhonda Johnson
 - c. Up to Three (3) Paraprofessionals - Up to 50 hours each - Jodi Anderson, Marcia Peterson, and Kristy Hanson

Strong Fiscal Management:

- A. A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Chris Melbye to approve the Thief River Falls Public Schools ISD 564 2020-21 Audited Financial Statements as presented by Brady Martz & Associates. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. A motion was made by Chris Melbye and seconded by Mike Spears to authorize publication of the "District Revenues and Expenditures Budget for FY 2021 and FY 2022" in The Times as indicated in the appendix. Motion carried unanimously.

C. A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Craig Mattson to approve a 60 month copier and printer lease agreement with Marco, Inc. for a cost of \$5,923.76 per month. Motion carried unanimously.

D. A motion was made by Michelle Westerman and seconded by Ryan Walseth to approve the Resolution to accept the donations received for the benefit of the district as designated. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Items:

A. Policies:

1. A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the renewal of the following policies w/ changes: Motion carried unanimously.
 - a. **MSBA 413 Harassment and Violence** policy
 - b. **MSBA 501 School Weapons** policy
 - c. **MSBA 503 Student Attendance** policy

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Michelle Westerman and seconded by Mike Spears at 6:59 pm to enter into a closed session to review the mid-year Superintendent Evaluation. Motion carried unanimously.

The Thief River Falls School Board went into closed session on 11-22-2021 for an informal mid-year evaluation on Superintendent Donita Stepan.

This was an opportunity for the board and Supt. Stepan to sit down and discuss ways for her to get into the district buildings more frequently. By doing so this would help her build relationships with staff within the district.

Supt. Stepan reported that since the referendum is now over she has found more time to get out to visit the buildings. She will welcome this opportunity as she wants to have positive relationships with the employees of the district. She stated the first year in the district was difficult because of the attention of COVID.

Board chair Nomeland adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm.

**/s/
Wayne Nomeland, Chair**

**/s/
Mike Spears, Clerk**