

Regular Board Meeting
Independent School District 564 – Board of Education
January 25, 2021
6:00 p.m.
via ZOOM video conferencing

A Regular Meeting of Independent School District #564 Board of Education was held on Monday, January 25, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing. The following board members present were: Mike Spears, Wayne Nomeland, Michelle Westerman, Ryan Walseth, Misty Hempel, Chris Melbye and Craig Mattson.

Staff members present were: Melissa Bushy, Donita Stepan, Tanya Monson-Ek, Amber Lindgren, Sara Olson, Dale Rystad, Josh Watne, Katie Hahn, Danielle Schantz, Natasha Reiersen, Mike Wienen, Tony Greene and Scott Brekke.

Also present were: Paul Ihle, Ingrid Anderson, Abigail Flaagan, Kendal Rantanen, Dave Hill and Marlene Anderson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Misty Hempel to call the meeting to order and establish that a quorum is present. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Nomeland, Walseth, Hempel, Mattson, Melbye, Spears and Westerman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Misty Hempel and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the January 25, 2021 agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Mattson, Spears, Melbye, Westerman, Nomeland, Hempel, and Walseth. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Chris Melbye and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 Regular School Board Meeting as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Westerman, Spears, Walseth, Hempel, Mattson, Melbye, and Nomeland. 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. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Walseth, Hempel, Nomeland, Spears, Mattson, Melbye, and Westerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Superintendent's Report:

Shout out to Jason Hruby and Nicole Wienen for their work on the COVID vaccine as well as the FMS staff who have added to their workload as their site will be used to vaccinate. We are grateful and proud to be a part of this solution.

Superintendent Stepan also wanted to give a shout out to our local Public Health, MDH, the National Guard, MDE, Emergency Management and so many others. There were a lot of people in our community who were able to get vaccinated if they wanted it. 160 or so staff members had the option.

The COVID vaccine rollout went well. MN had over 13,000 people tested. FMS here in TRF is one of the nine pilot sites being offered in MN. 8 out of the 9 are located in a school district. We are proud to be part of the solution. Superintendent Stepan stated she is not sure if it will stay with us or if it will be moved. That is up to the others. Saliva testing for district staff began this week. All three sites tested a total of 14 staff members. The testing will be offered every other Friday with twenty four hour turnaround time.

Our COVID numbers and county case rate remain low, but are still higher than some areas.

Pre K- grade 2 students returned to full-time in-person learning on January 19. Grades 3-5 will return to full-time in-person learning on February 1. Secondary (6-12) students will remain Hybrid until they return to full-time in-person learning on February 16. However, Wednesday will continue to be a Flex Learning Day for secondary students through the remainder of the school year. We are still required to provide 30 minutes of prep time per day to teachers who provide distance learning. This is a chance for our teachers to connect with students who are behind and students who need additional support.

Committee Reports:

Michelle Westerman provided an update from the Transportation Committee meeting that was held on January 11, 2021.

Student Reports:

LHS Sophomores Kendal Rantanen and Ingrid Anderson, and LHS Junior Abigail Flaagan gave a brief update on distance learning and upcoming events at LHS.

Recognitions:

Presentations:

Natasha Reiersen and Paul Ihle provided an update from the TRF Education Foundation and what they have been up to and have accomplished in the last year.

Tanya Monson-Ek reviewed the 2020-2021 budget projections and YTD budget to actual expenditures.

Guaranteed & Viable Curriculum (*Strategic Direction A*):

Technology, Innovative Learning & Partnerships (*Strategic Direction B*):

Families (*Strategic Direction C*):

Safety (*Strategic Direction D*):

Workforce (*Strategic Direction E*):

- A. A motion was made by Michelle Westerman and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the Consent Agenda as amended per negotiated contract, salary, and benefits and an acceptable background check. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Nomeland, Westerman, Mattson, Hempel, Walseth, Melbye, and Spears. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

1. Approve the employment of **Desiree Giffen**, Kitchen Helper, CES, effective January 11, 2021.
2. Approve the employment of **Diane Rud**, Paraprofessional/Playground Aide, CES, effective January 19, 2021.
3. Approve the employment of **Andrea Volk**, Speech Language Pathologist, effective February 1, 2021.
4. Approve the assignment of **Teresa Holthusen**, Title I Paraprofessional, CES, effective January 19, 2021.
5. Accept the resignation of **Michelle Corbett**, Cleaner, effective January 27, 2021.
6. Accept the resignation of **Paige Corbet**, Cleaner, effective January 27, 2021.

B. A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the following mid-year lane changes effective February 1, 2021, for the following individuals per Article X. Employment Rates and Conditions, Section 10, Subd. 4 of the Master Agreement with the Thief River Falls Education Association. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Walseth, Nomeland, Westerman, Hempel, Melbye, Spears, and Mattson. Motion carried unanimously.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
1.	Katie Engevik	BA20 Lane/Step 6	MA Lane/Step 6
2.	Dalia Englund	MA Lane/Step3	MA10 Lane/Step 3
3.	Katie Hahn	MA Lane/Step 14	MA10 Lane/Step 14
4.	Bryce Lingen	MA Lane/Step top	MA10 Lane/Step top
5.	Alexandra Lovejoy	BA20 Lane/Step 3	MA Lane/Step 3
6.	Matthew McGlynn	BA30 Lane/Step 16	MA Lane/Step 16
7.	Elizabeth Quick	MA20 Lane/Step top	MA30 Lane/Step top
8.	Dale Rystad	BA10 Lane/Step 8	BA20 Lane/Step 8
9.	Danielle Schantz	MA Lane/Step 14	MA10 Lane/Step 14
10.	Jason Schuster	MA20 Lane/Step top	MA30 Lane/Step top
11.	Joshua Watne	MA Lane/Step 7	MA10 Lane/Step 7

C. A motion was made by Chris Melbye and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the following Mid-Year Step Increment changes effective February 1, 2021, per Article X, section 17 of the negotiated TRFEA Master Agreement. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Nomeland, Hempel, Melbye, Spears, Mattson, Walseth and Westerman. Motion carried unanimously.

Finances (Strategic Direction F):

A. A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Misty Hempel to approve the submission of the 2021 Pay Equity Implementation Report as on file with the District Human Resource Office to MN Management and Budget as required by the Local Government Pay Equity Act and MN Statutes. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted in favor of: Spears, Melbye, Hempel, Nomeland, Westerman, Mattson and Walseth. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Items:

A. Policies:

1. **MSBA 403 Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees** policy was reviewed. This is a new policy which needs to be presented to the board three times (reading, review and approval). This policy will be up for approval at the February 8, 2021 board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

/s/
Wayne Nomeland, Chair

/s/
Mike Spears, Clerk

