

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, October 23, 2023 was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Hunter Feldt. Board members present: Feldt, Burns, Schulz, Guetzkow, Danielson, Neaton, and Onell. Board members absent: None. Administrative team members present: Superintendent Schuler, HS Principal Hennen, MS Principal Guertin, ES Principal O'Connell, CE Director Dimmler, Director of Teaching & Learning Vieau, and Activities Director Szymanski. Absent: SPED Director Peyton.
- II. **Visitor requests and consideration of the agenda.** Visitor MMS (Motion made and Seconded by) Danielson and Neaton to approve the agenda as presented. Passes 6-0.
- III. **Consent Agenda**
MMS Burns and Onell to approve the following consent agenda items: Special Session/ Public Hearing of September 25, 2023, Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2023; Personnel Consent Agenda; and Business Consent Agenda. Passes 7-0.
- IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**
Lynn 'Frau' Hendricks, WM high school German teacher presented to the board the German students visiting for the next 2 weeks as part of their GAPP exchange program. Host students introduced their visiting German student and questions were asked and answered.

School improvement Plans were presented by Amy Dimmler (CLC), Katie O'Connell (ES), Nick Guertin (MS), and Bob Hennen (HS).
- V. **Action Items -**
 - A. A Baker Tilly representative gave an overview of the recent sale of bonds. Five bids were received and the rate came in lower than anticipated. MMS Burns and Schulz to approve Resolution 24.07 Ratifying the Issuance of Sale of General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds, Series 2023S. Passes 7-0.
 - B. MMS Danielson and Guetzkow to pass acknowledgement of donations, contributions, & fundraising (Resolution 24.08). Passes 7-0.
 - C. MMS Guetzkow and Onell to approve the health/ dental insurance renewal. Passes 7-0.
 - D. Teaching & Learning Director Vieau presented re: the 2023-2024 district teaching & learning goals giving an overview of goals in the areas of personal development, curriculum, and instruction. MMS Feldt and Burns to approve the 2023-2024 district teaching & learning goals. Passes 7-0.
 - E. MMS Burns and Danielson to approve the MSHSL foundation application for grant for student participation. Passes 7-0.
- VI. **Review/ Information Items -**
 - A. Superintendent Schuler gave an update regarding the ongoing projects. The greenhouse project has officially started with hopes of this being fully operational by late December of this year. The pool filtration system upgrades will go out to bid in the coming weeks with a due date of November 16th and acceptance date of November 27th for completion target date being mid-February. The parking lot bids will be going out in early 2024 with

the award date being January 22, 2024 for construction to start in early June.

- B. Superintendent Schuler gave a strategic directions update. In October, he shared the spring learner outcomes to parents. In November, he plans on discussing financial stewardship. Recently he gave a State of the Schools presentation to the Mayer City Council and also hosted the Watertown Chamber for their monthly meeting with a WM CTE tour following. Superintendent Schuler is planning on sending out an all staff communication regarding the strategic plan's progress in these first 2 months as well.

VII. **Administrative Reports -**

Activities Director Szymanski reported that fall numbers for participation were down by 7, but these numbers are still up 9 from 2 years ago. Volleyball celebrated being named Co-Conference Wright County Conference West Champions -- this is the 99th in school history. November 16-18th will be the musical, 'Seussical', and they are currently gearing up for winter activities.

Superintendent Schuler reported that 65 school districts across Minnesota are going out for a bond referendum this year, the highest number since 2017. In our neighboring communities, HLWW is asking to increase their per pupil amount to \$600 per pupil, Mound Westonka is asking for 93 million to upgrade facilities, security and field upgrades. Superintendent Schuler also noted that on Wednesday Watertown-Mayer would be attending the Leaders in Educational Excellent (LEEA) banquet in St. Cloud to recognize Bekah Wagner-Minar, Angela Eick-Eliason, Melinda Young, and Nick Urban. We will be recognizing them at the November board meeting.

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

Vice Chair Burns reported regarding the upcoming teacher negotiation dates and that paraprofessional negotiations are coming up soon as well. Director Guetzkow reported on the WMEF Casino Royale success with raising over \$30,000 for Watertown-Mayer scholarships and grants. Clerk Danielson reported that the Marketing and Communication committee will be meeting this week and Treasurer Schulz reported that there will be a Southwest Metro meeting as well this week.

- IX. Recess was declared by Chair Feldt for the purpose to discuss negotiation strategies at 7:09 PM.

- X. Recess was ended and Closed session declared by Chair Feldt at 7:15 PM

- XI. Chair Feldt declared the end of the closed session at 7:39 PM.

MMS Danielson and Neaton to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 PM and was duly passed.

Chair

Clerk