

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, December 18, 2023 was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chair Hunter Feldt. Board members present: Feldt, Burns, Danielson, Schulz, Guetzkow, Neaton, and Onell. Board members absent: None. Administrative team members present: Superintendent Schuler, HS Principal Hennen, ES Principal O'Connell, CE Director Dimmler, Director of Teaching & Learning Vieau, and SPED Director Peyton, and Activities Director Szymanski. Absent: MS Principal Guertin.
- 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 7-0.
- III. **Consent Agenda**  
MMS Burns and Onell to approve the following consent agenda items:  
Regular Board Meeting of November 27, 2023; Personnel Consent Agenda which includes the 23-25 Teacher Contract and 23-25 Activities Director Contract; and Business Consent Agenda. Passes 7-0
- IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**  
Mr. Najjar presented program updates to the board for the choral program and the multiple activities they are involved in. The board recognized and thanked Mr. Najjar and his students for their contributions as well as the Chamber Choir's performance at the beginning of the meeting.  
Mr. Szymanski recognized several other students:  
All-State Girls Soccer: Ava Heun & Lyndsey Penegor  
All-State Boys Soccer: Eli Hamberger  
ExCEL Nominees: Addie Leuthner & Lonne Gilbert  
Triple 'A' Representatives: Lyndsey Penegor & Jack Jewison
- V. **Action Items -**
  - A. MMS Feldt and Guetzkow to approve the second and final read of district policy  
**Policy 503** STUDENT ATTENDANCE  
Passes 7-0.
  - B. MMS Burns and Schulz to approve the first read of district policy  
**Policy 606.5** LIBRARY MATERIALS  
Passes 7-0.
  - C. MMS Danielson and Guetzkow to pass the Resolution to Combine Polling Places (Resolution 24.11). Passes 7-0.
  - D. MMS Feldt and Burns to pass acknowledgement of donations, contributions, & fundraising (Resolution 24.12). Passes 7-0.
  - D. MMS Guetzkow and Danielson to approve the second read of the Watertown-Mayer 2024-2025 School Year Calendar. Passes 7-0.
- VI. **Review/ Information Items -**
  - A. ICS representative Chris Ziemer gave updates on the continued projects in the district. The greenhouse has now had electrical work and the heaters

have arrived and are waiting for installation. The pool is under construction with the installation of a new filtration system and is making good progress. The parking lot bid process has begun with a pre-bid walkthrough scheduled on January 3, 2024 with bid opening being January 11, 2023. This project is still on track to begin starting in June and for completion by the end of August. Over the winter break many contractors will be in the building in the HS and MS - tearing up the flooring of the main level of the MS and continuing work in the pool area with final touch ups in the MS/ pool locker room showers.

- B. Superintendent Schuler gave a strategic directions update. In December, he plans on addressing the strategic direction of financial stewardship.

VII. **Administrative Reports -**

HS Principal Hennen reported that the counselors recently administered a survey to high school students. Of the 220 respondents, 96% stated that they could identify at least one adult working at the school who they felt cared about them or wanted them to succeed, 90% stated they felt seen and valued, and 97% stated they had at least one other classmate who they felt cared about them or wanted them to succeed. Adding to the survey this year was a request to give an example of how a staff member showed that they cared about them or their well-being - 170 students gave an example. Mr. Hennen is giving this feedback to staff as well so that everyone has a better understanding of how they impact the students.

Superintendent Schuler gave MS Principal Guertin's report: in November they gave a survey to students centered around the areas of connectedness and safety - 86% of the MS students participated. Of the 86%, 82% stated that they felt connected to at least one teacher and 87% stated that they feel safe at school. The building team as a whole continues to work towards their goal of having 85% of all MS students score at least a 65% on the spring Fastbridge assessment in reading and math. The MS student council recently collected 152 toys for distribution through Bremer bank, and the WM PTO is still looking for donations and volunteers for their Family BINGO night to be held on January 27th- dinner starts at 5 PM with BINGO following from 6-8 PM.

ES Principal O'Connell reported that the ES second Royal Recognition ceremony will be Wednesday afternoon and the theme focuses on emotion management. All week long the ES has done a spirit week dressing in different themes and the staff and students have enjoyed it so far. January 11th is the Kindergarten Roundup event starting at 4:30 PM and February is I Love to Read Month and the theme is Story Laboratory (STEAM/ Science theme).

CE Director Dimmer reported that fall activities are wrapping up this week with the Winter/ Spring activities starting up with registration beginning January 3rd. On January 25th, they will be hosting their Open House for Young Royals Preschool and Kids' Company Child Care.

Activities Director Szymanski reported that right now there are two advisor/ coaching positions open: Girls Soccer and Clay Target. They have recently hired an internal candidate for Robotics, Nick DeNomme who has volunteered with this program for many years. Ninety percent of the fall schedule for 2024 is complete

and in January we should hear back about the MSHSL A and B grants and if we were awarded. Winter sports is up and running and all teams so far have started with good success.

Superintendent Schuler reported again on the upcoming Kindergarten Roundup being hosted earlier this year and noted that this will be the Class of 2037. Mr. Schuler reported that the new updated website is hoping to launch officially on January 22nd and he is hoping to discuss/ show more in January - he thanked Brittany Misuraca who has been working tirelessly on this project. He also thanked Mr. Rundell and Ms. Raiter for taking extra time to clean up the teacher's contract which needed language updates and other clerical clean up. Superintendent Schuler reported that there will be a substantial refresh in the pool area and this is moving along nicely, and he thanked Vice Chair Burns for his extra work on the greenhouse to get this project where it needs to be so it can be utilized in the time frame intended.

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

Chair Feldt reported on the Community Education Advisory Committee and that this committee is excited for the new parking lot project and pool project. Clerk Danielson reported that the next Marketing & Communication Committee is set to meet on January 17th, and Vice Chair Burns reported that their next paraprofessional negotiations meeting is scheduled for January 4th.

MMS Danielson and Burns to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM and was duly passed.

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Chair

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Clerk