

Eau Claire School Board Minutes

Monday, January 7, 2019

Generated by Patti Iverson

Members present

Lori Bica, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Charles Vue

1. REGULAR MEETING - CALL TO ORDER

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Luginbill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No one signed up to address the Board.

3. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

3.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hardebeck shared the Board's calendar of upcoming events.

Dr. Hardebeck congratulated Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School for receiving a \$96,800 grant from Wisconsin Fast Forward Teacher Training and Development. This will allow four Montessori teachers to complete a two-year training program in Montessori curriculum and instruction techniques and eight paraprofessionals to attend a three-day Montessori assistant training.

Dr. Hardebeck was excited to announce that a partnership program has been launched between Chippewa Valley Technical College and the ECASD which will allow high school students to graduate with an associate degree in business management. The Business Management Academy is a four-year program that will be offered to high school freshmen at both North and Memorial starting next school year. This program is free to ECASD students and equates to a savings of \$11,200, which is the current tuition for the business management program at CVTC. Dr. Hardebeck highlighted the work that Jim Schmitt, Drew Seveland, and Dave Oldenberg accomplished for this project.

3.2 Board President's Report

President Luginbill recognized the Memorial Madrigals, who performed at the Governor's Inauguration event. He said they represented the District very well.

Mr. Luginbill announced the upcoming School Board election. There are four candidates running for three open seats: Aaron Harder, Eric Torres, Tim Nordin, and Erica Zerr. Commissioner Chris Hambuch-Boyle will not run for reelection.

Abby Green was recognized for serving as the North Student Representative to the Board for the first semester. Her twin sister, Molly Green, will serve for the second semester. President Luginbill thanked her for her service and said he looked forward to her continued engagement with the Board.

4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Gwen Heywood said the Show Choir season has kicked off along with winter sports. The Student Council conducted its Toys for Tots and Clothing Drive, which was very successful.

Abby Green said that finals will be held as the semester ends on January 18, 2019. Abby thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve on the School Board. She said it was a wonderful learning experience.

5. OTHER REPORTS

5.1 School Board Committee Reports

Eric Torres said that the Policy & Governance Committee didn't meet formally because there was not a quorum. Several recommendations were received for the concussion policy from Jeanne Brown who drafted the original policy. Those will be shared with District staff to incorporate into the final draft of the policy.

5.2 Legislative Update

Legislative Liaison Eric Torres did not have a legislative report.

6. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Motion by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, second by Lori Bica, to approve the following Consent Resolution Items:

- Minutes of Closed Session - December 11, 2018
- Minutes of December 17, 2018
- Minutes of Closed Session - December 17, 2018
- Human Resources - Employment Report
- Head Start Grant Approval
- Approve 2019-20 School Calendar
- Third Cash Advance on Line of Credit
- Fourth Cash Advance on Line of Credit
- Renew McKinley Charter School Contract

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Charles Vue

7. INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTION(S)

7.1 2019-2020 Schools/Programs Not Available for Open Enrollment for Regular Education and Special Education Students

Kim Koller, Executive Director of Administration, said that state law requires that school districts must identify schools, grade levels, or educational programs not available for the purpose of open enrollment by January 31. Due to limited capacity it was determined that the Northstar Arctic Zone would have no seats available for 2019-20. It was noted that the performance agreement for the Arctic Zone also indicates that students outside the District are not eligible to attend.

In determining space availability, criteria may be determined by staffing capacity limit including the number of services pupils may need. Based on the criteria, it was recommended that no spaces would be available for open enrollment for:

- PreK 1 cluster site
- Elementary 4 cluster sites
- Middle School 1 cluster site
- High School 2 cluster sites

Ms. Koller said the nonresident district assigns open enrollment students to schools. The following indicates the space availability recommended for 2019-20 based on staffing capacity:

- PreK 20 community sites open
- Elementary 13 schools open
- Middle School 3 schools open
- High School 2 schools open

Motion by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, second by Aaron Harder, to approve that the following schools or programs be closed to Open Enrollment for the 2019-20 school year: Northstar Arctic Zone and Special Education 1:1 supervision/instruction/services/supports for: PreK (1 cluster site), elementary (4 cluster sites), middle school (1 cluster site), and high school (2 cluster sites). The following sites will have space available in 2019-20 based on staffing capacity: Pre-K at 20 community sites; 13 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 2 high schools.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Charles Vue

8. ADJOURN TO COMMITTEE

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9.1 Update from the Equity Review Committee for Athletics and Facility Use for Community Groups

Kim Koller, Executive Director of Administration spoke on behalf of the Equity Committee for Athletics and Facility Use. The purpose of the committee was for identifying issues of equity, access, and consistency in athletic programs and related facility use and to make a recommendation to the Board.

The co-chairs of the committee, Bob Kron and Lynette Hesse, were introduced. They shared information on the committee's work on community use of ECASD facilities. Mr. Kron explained that during committee meetings, there were some recurring themes around sub-standard customer service and the unintended consequences of a well-intended policy. Ms. Hesse added that the group met from September to December, and it was a very collaborative effort. Their first recommendation was to create two separate exhibits: one for community use and another for ECASD events. Mr. Kron said that tonight they were sharing the committee's recommendation for the community aspect of activities and events. The recommendations for the ECASD events would come forward at another meeting.

The committee decided to focus on customer service, dates of availability, and alignment with District Policy 830 – Use of School Facilities.

The committee looked at SchoolDude, the current software used to make facility reservations in the District. It includes a limited package although there are options to have expanded functionality. The committee found several issues with this software, including limited sorting or filtering by the type of space needed, wait lists not being accessible to others, and notifications of cancellations. It was recommended that a committee be formed to review reservation software options for improved customer experiences. Mr. Luginbill felt this was something the current group could look at as it relates to access.

The committee also looked at increasing customer service in the areas of the contract, cancellation policy, and scrimmages.

Currently, contracts are non-transferrable. The committee recommended that the contracts may be transferred within an organization and that they not be transferable to another organization.

The current practice with the cancellation policy is to give five business days' notice regardless of the time of the event. There currently is a \$10 cancellation fee for each date cancelled without five days' notice. The committee recommended that for events scheduled during standard operating hours of the facility, a notice of one business day shall be given. For events scheduled outside of standard operating hours, a notice of five business days' notice shall be given.

Scrimmages, tournaments, and/or competitions are only allowed currently for Class 4, 5, and 6 activities and require separate applications. The committee recommended that events between teams within the same organization could occur

during any rented time.

The committee recommended that the District follow its current practice of closing all District facilities on the ten holidays observed in the District for community use of facilities.

Policy 830 says that the highest priority shall be assigned for ECASD school purposes followed by groups that are not under the definition of school purposes but provide activities for school-age children. Class 3 is for activities organized by, and under the jurisdiction of, the Eau Claire Parks and Recreation Department that are comprised primarily of adults of the ECASD. Class 4 is for activities of organizations that are comprised primarily of students of the ECASD. The committee recommended that the agreement with Parks and Recreation be updated to align with Policy 830 and reflect the current level of shared services.

It was noted that there are many things outside of the scope of the committee that could be considered such as the fee schedule. The committee thought a fee schedule was cost prohibitive, especially on weekends. They asked for a comparison study for facility use fees in surrounding areas. The committee also felt there was a public perception that ECASD puts hurdles in place for facility use, while other districts remove hurdles.

The Board thanked the committee and Mrs. Kim Koller for leading the group. They will take the recommendations made by the committee into consideration.

It was pointed out by some Board members that there could be a potential source of revenue by using facilities during holidays. This will be explored further. The presentation by the committee on facility use for ECASD activities will also discuss facility use on holidays.

9.2 Human Growth & Development Curriculum Update

Dave Oldenberg, Director of Academic Services, and Stephanie Rowe, Health Education Instructor, shared an overview of the District's Human Growth and Development (HGD) program. The District has seven health educators. The characteristics of a successful health education program in Wisconsin were reviewed along with the District's vertical progression of life skills. In addition, the Wisconsin and National Health Education Standards were reviewed.

Ms. Rowe explained that the HGD program is just a portion of the entire health curriculum. The standards are woven together with life skills, which enhance students wherever they are.

Ms. Rowe reviewed the skills that are shared with students in fifth, seventh/eighth, and ninth grades.

There have been curriculum updates for the topics of gender identity, gender expression, sexual identity and orientation; contraception and how to access medical resources; and comparing and contrasting laws relating to parenting,

pregnancy, adoption, and abortion. Overall HGD enhances the entire program so it is systematic in how it reaches learners.

The health educators use strategies to deliver the curriculum that are interactive. They do problem solving and situations, small group collaboration, scenario analysis, role play, educational video clips and discussions, and culturally responsive practices.

Mr. Oldenberg explained how the District uses 'cross-cutting skills' to tie the curriculum to Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports (PBIS) as far as decision making, coping skills, bullying, etc. This assists in the social/emotional development of students and helps build relationships. The health teachers help develop skills in students based on the standards that cross-cut through the curriculum. When students can apply those standards outside the classroom, that is where you can measure PBIS. Ms. Rowe felt that the District's curriculum helps learners remain in Tier 1 instead of moving up to Tier 2 or 3.

Ms. Rowe said that interdisciplinary curriculum is ideal. At the middle level, social studies and health are tightly aligned so there is a weaving of content through those courses. She has read studies that show that having more connections for learners across the curriculum helps students understand and develop life skills. Unfortunately, there isn't enough time available to do that. Some Board members agreed that there should be more articulation across the curriculum. Ms. Rowe said that some colleagues want a deeper integration of content areas and standards and would be open to having an opportunity for that collaboration so that content can be more closely aligned and educators can support one another. Some feel, however, that there is so much content to deliver well that the integration loses its priority.

There was a discussion about the family component of the program in terms of letting families know what will be taught and how they can reinforce this in the home. Ms. Rowe said there are several different ways the District reaches out to families including a health education night for middle school families, contacts via Skyward to communicate what is being taught in the classrooms, frontloading assignments to families, and sharing interactive activities that students can complete with their families.

Both student representatives expressed praise for the program and especially for teaching about consent, safety, and responsibility.

9.3 2019-20 Budget Preview

Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, shared the 2019-20 budget projections. She began by looking at the operating fund balance. To meet the budget deficit in 2018-19, the District dipped below the auditor's recommendation of having between 20% and 30% of Fund 10 expenditures in the fund balance. That percentage is now 16.6%.

Ms. Johnson explained the 2019-20 revenue assumptions she will use to start building the budget. If everything stays the same as 2018-19 and the current law remains in place, the District will have a three-year average membership of 11,273 students and per pupil categorical aid will be reduced from \$654 to \$630, which equates to \$270,552 in reductions.

The 2018-19 deferred budget requests were shared, which totaled \$3,265,581. Several of these will likely be brought forward again in 2019-20 for consideration. Other items are also on the radar and the Budget Development Committee will review those.

There are several unknowns for next year's budget including the 2019 CPI increase, health and dental rates, the estimated cost of salary level changes, and the estimated cost of OPEB. The updated actuarial study will soon be finalized and will be presented to the Budget Development Committee and then to the full Board.

It was noted that the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding recently released its final report. It contains recommendations for school funding reforms in 13 different areas. There is hope being expressed across the state about possible changes being made in school funding to assist Districts.

The Board will continue to discuss ways to work on reducing the deficit as the 2019-20 budget is assembled.

9.4 Discussion and Possible First Reading of New Policy 453.12 - Concussion and Head Injury Management

President Luginbill said discussion on Policy 453.12 will be moved to a meeting in February to allow time to consider additional feedback that was received.

10. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was noted that the next School Board meeting conflicts with the Martin Luther King Remembrance Event in the community. The Board agreed to move the start time for the January 21, 2019 Board meeting to 4 p.m. A Work Session will be conducted along with a short business meeting.

11. ADJOURN

Motion by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, second by Lori Bica, to adjourn the regular meeting and reconvene in closed session. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Regular meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.