

**Eau Claire School Board**  
**Monday, May 20, 2019**  
*Generated by Patti Iverson*

**Members present**

Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Tim Nordin

**Members absent**

Lori Bica, Charles Vue

**1. REGULAR MEETING - CALL TO ORDER**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Torres 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**

Beth Ivankovic is a founding member of Special Education PTA (SEPTA) group for the ECASD. She said that every month the group meets at different schools in the District to discuss a variety of educational topics. SEPTA's goals for the group are education, advocacy, resources, and support. She thanked Mandy Van Vleet, Jim Schmitt, and Joe Luginbill for their support.

Karen Peikert said her involvement in SEPTA was to focus on inclusion. She said that children with special needs are often left behind and left out of events. They sit with other students with disabilities, ride on separate busses, and their social circle consists of students in their classroom. She asked if the District could do more. She said that SEPTA would like to become the first large Unified Champion School in the State of Wisconsin. This federally funded program is aimed at promoting social inclusion through intentionally planned and implemented activities affecting system-wide change. The three components of the program are inclusive youth leadership, whole school engagement, and unified sports. She asked the Board to consider the program and if interested, put it on the Board agenda and bring someone in from Special Olympics Wisconsin to describe the program in greater detail.

Shana Schmidt asked the Board to carefully consider the recommendation of the Demographic Trends & Facility Planning Committee. She said there are several issues that the public need to be aware of including the costs of up to \$14.5 million to address capacity issues for four-year-old kindergarten by including a new building for 4K. In addition, she said that although the Applied Population Laboratory study was referred to, it was completed in 2015 and didn't account for housing developments. She encouraged the Board to update the study. She was concerned that 185 students would have to be moved with the committee's boundary proposal while fewer than 30 students would be affected with the flexible boundary proposal. She asked the Board to adopt the community proposal. She also asked that the same process be used for schools across the District as overcrowding is addressed on the south side. Ms. Schmidt asked that the Board

consider grandfathering students so they can remain at the school they start at.

Mark Goings, ECAE President, brought to the Board's attention items that are included in the Employee Handbook modification agenda item starting on page 4 with the changes to the sick leave donation bank through the conclusion of the personal leave request procedures on page 6. He asked that the Board consider leaving the language as it is. The sick bank allows employees to help colleagues who may face an event year and gives them peace of mind. With regards to changes to personal days use, employees may not be able to take consecutive days off for special events. He suggested at the very least that employees be allowed to give 30 business days' notice ahead of the event.

### **3. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### **3.1 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Hardebeck reviewed the Board's upcoming events.

Dr. Hardebeck introduced Alexandra Beimborn, a junior at Memorial High School, who achieved a perfect ACT score. Nationwide, about 1 out of every 500 students obtains the perfect score. Dr. Hardebeck said the perfect score shows her dedication to academics, a willingness to learn, and an ability to apply what was taught. She congratulated Alexandra and thanked her parents for their support.

#### **3.2 Board President's Report**

President Torres shared his thoughts on the Board's future work including a vision-directed plan, balanced governance model, learning organizations, cultural responsiveness, and student learning.

### **4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Gwen Heywood thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Student Representative to the Board during the past year. She said it was an incredible learning experience and she will carry these lessons with her through college and beyond.

Molly Green also thanked the Board for the opportunity. She said she learned a lot during her experience.

Joe Luginbill recognized the outgoing Student Representatives Gwen Heywood, Molly Green, and Abby Green. He said it was good to have their perspective, and he thanked them for their service.

### **5. OTHER REPORTS**

#### **5.1 School Board Committee Reports**

The LEAP Committee finalized Policy 332, and the Board will be asked to share a first reading later in the meeting. LEAP also heard a proposal from the EauZone group, and the committee looks forward to moving them ahead in the process.

The Policy & Governance Committee met and have two policies that will be brought forward for Board consideration.

## **6. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA**

Motion by Joe Luginbill, second by Aaron Harder, to approve the following consent resolution items:

- Minutes of May 6, 2019
- Financial Report - April 2019
- 2018-19 Budget Adjustments
- Gifts in the amount of \$ 25,391.59 for the period of April 1, 2019 through April 30, 2019.
- Payment of all bills in the amount of \$ 12,117,756.84 and net payroll in the amount of \$ 3,534,423.51 for the period of April 1, 2019 through April 30, 2019.
- Human Resources - Employment Report
- 2019-20 WIAA Membership Approval
- Authorization to Executive Directors for Summer Months
- 2019-20 Meal Prices
- Revisions to Policy 447 - Student Discipline and Positive Behavior Interventions
- Revisions to Policy 443.5 - Student Use of Electronic Devices

Motion carried

Yes: Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Tim Nordin

## **7. INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTION(S)**

### **7.1 Appoint School Board Committee Assignments**

Motion by Laurie Klinkhammer, second by Joe Luginbill, to approve School Board Committee assignments as recommended.

Motion carried

Yes: Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Tim Nordin

### **7.2 Final Recommendations of Equity Committee for Athletics and Facility Use**

Motion by Joe Luginbill, second by Aaron Harder, to approve recommended changes to the Facility Use Agreement for Community Use and the Facility Use Agreement for ECASD Activities and Events.

Motion carried

Yes: Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Tim Nordin

## **8. ADJOURN TO COMMITTEE**

## **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **9.1 Demographic Trends and Facility Planning Committee Recommendation**

Kim Koller, Executive Director of Administration, and Phil Lyons, Chair of the Demographic Trends and Facility Planning Committee, talked about the options that were shared with the full committee for further examination and discussion on May 16, 2019.

Phil Lyons said that on May 16 the committee reviewed the community proposal for flexible boundaries that was depicted on a map he shared. The committee had some conclusions on the community proposal:

#### **Benefits**

- Less than 30 students would be asked to switch schools in 2020-21
- School placement would be flexible at the time of enrollment
- Maintains Roosevelt as two-section school
- Provides options to relieve pressure at Lakeshore and Roosevelt when new families enroll
- Provides 4K site at Locust Lane for less cost than a new facility
- Creates enrollment paths within database with minimal cost to the District

#### **Challenges**

- Flexible enrollment would only be available at time of enrollment and limits the flexibility to balance enrollment after the initial assignment
- Transportation would cost about \$150,000 annually due to an estimated four additional bus routes
- It is estimated there would be ongoing clerical support costs of \$50,000 per year to manually assign enrollment for each house in flexible area, data clean up, and reporting
- Roosevelt could remain at or above 90% capacity

Mr. Lyons explained that portions of the two options are similar. Both call for \$2 million to \$3 million for a secure entrance and deferred maintenance at Roosevelt, and both call for an estimated \$16 million to \$18 million to address capacity issues for south side elementary schools. However, the proposals differ in two significant ways: the committee's proposal to re-establish elementary boundaries to meet the committee's guidelines would be cost neutral; the community proposal to provide flexible boundaries among schools would cost \$200,000 annually. The community proposal addresses some 4K capacity issues by using space at Locust Lane with costs estimated at \$150,000 to \$200,000 plus

additional needs to be determined. Given that the political landscape on 4K continues to change and shift and that Prairie Ridge has overcrowding problems, the cost for that proposal would still need to be investigated, which could be between \$13 million and \$14.5 million.

Mr. Lyons said that after careful consideration and a thoughtful discussion at the May 16 Demographic Trends Committee meeting, the committee voted nearly unanimously to reaffirm the previous recommendation of Option 3. The committee believes it meets the guidelines of the committee, provides a long-term and stable solution, and the Roosevelt portion of the proposal does not impact the annual operating budget of the District.

As far as next steps, the committee will await Board approval of an elementary facilities recommendation, determine the impact and plan for middle school boundaries, study 4K and elementary expansion options to make future recommendations to the Board, and await appointment of Board members to the committee.

#### Public Comment

Scott Holman said he has attended the Demographic Trends Committee meetings as well as the work group meeting. He questioned whether the transportation costs that were listed were worst case scenario, likely, or minimum costs to accomplish the goals of the committee. He felt the flexible boundary proposal would keep Roosevelt's enrollment at 85%.

### **9.2 2019-20 Employee Handbook Modifications**

Kay Marks, Executive Director of Human Resources, reviewed the 2019-20 Employee Handbook modifications as proposed by the Employee Relations Committee (ERC). She thanked the ERC for their work on the modifications. She noted that Building Improvement Committee meeting minutes are also reviewed to see if there are any patterns of issues that might be happening across the District that need to be reviewed.

The Board agreed to bring these modifications forward at the next Board meeting for approval.

### **9.3 Discussion & Possible First Reading of Policy 332 - Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP) Zones**

The Board shared a first reading of Policy 332 - LEAP Zones:

*It is the policy of the Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) to consider the establishment of LEAP Zones as approved by the School Board. LEAP Zones are ECASD certified staff initiatives that primarily function as embedded programs within ECASD schools and all applicable state requirements for public schools. The principal shall oversee the operational parameters of each LEAP Zone as defined by*

*a Performance Agreement. The LEAP Committee will review each LEAP Zone annually and provide a report to the School Board.*

*LEAP Zones shall follow the approved process and serve to provide an additional avenue to:*

- Increase student engagement in, and ownership of, learning.*
- Educate the whole child by using multiple measures to assess academic achievement and social/emotional growth.*
- Foster innovations that may see wider deployment in the universal program.*
- Appeal to educators who seek to investigate and implement additional research-based learning environments.*
- Achieve goals set forth by the School Improvement Plan and aligned with Policy 310 - Equitable Educational Opportunities for All Students Enrolled in ECASD.*

*All LEAP Zones shall be programs of choice—enrollment in any LEAP Zone shall always be optional for students and families. LEAP Zones shall be established and sustained in a positive climate of interdependence, collaboration, and ownership among all entities of the ECASD. The School Board, as the formal approver of LEAP Zones, recognizes LEAP Zones as programs initiated and implemented primarily by ECASD certified staff.*

The Board agreed to bring this item forward on the consent agenda at the next meeting.

## **10. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Tim Nordin requested that the approval of Demographic Trends & Facility Planning Committee recommendations be an individually considered resolution at the next meeting.

## **11. ADJOURN**

Motion by Laurie Klinkhammer, second by Joe Luginbill, to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Tim Nordin

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.