

Eau Claire School Board Agenda

Monday, April 15, 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

Dan Wilson, employee representative to the Clairemont Center Advisory Board, shared the preliminary results of the employee survey about the District's off-site clinic. The large majority of respondents said they use the clinic at least annually and that they would recommend the center to a friend or family member. He said the Holistic Insurance Committee has worked hard to encourage staff to take better care of themselves and to utilize the Clairmont Center for their health care needs. He encouraged the Board to choose Option B for the staff health care plan.

Gail Halmstad highlighted Chris Hambuch-Boyle's career in ECASD and her tenure as a School Board member. She was recognized in *Volume One* as a women leader in Eau Claire. Ms. Halmstad said Ms. Hambuch-Boyle has been a tireless advocate for fair funding and was instrumental in producing a video to explain the funding formula in Wisconsin during the last ECASD referendum. Chris also worked on drafting the voucher transparency bill with Representative Dana Wachs. Ms. Halmstad said the work that Ms. Hambuch-Boyle has done for the District will have a lasting impact on early childhood education and she thanked her for her incredible service by being a voice for our young children.

Nathan Anderson said his family bought land in 2005 because it was in the ECASD. When his wife voted in the last referendum, she was told they didn't live in the ECASD. They found out that everyone around them was in the ECASD but they live on a small square that is in the Eleva-Strum School District. Her oldest child had already been attending Memorial, so they open enrolled him and then his brother when he entered high school. Their daughter was enrolled at South for sixth and seventh grade and then went to Crestview for eighth grade. When they wanted to enroll her as a freshman at Memorial, they were told that all open enrolled students must now go to North. He asked the Board if a concession could be made as the bus to Memorial goes right by their house.

Jennie Arcand Johnston expressed support of the Eau Claire Virtual School. She homeschools her children and she felt this option could expand her child's learning experiences. She felt the virtual school would continue the District's vision to

prepare all students for success in a way that students learn best.

Missie Crisp spoke in favor of the virtual school proposal. She said she assists homeschool families by offering tutoring and mentoring. Many of these family feel the traditional model doesn't fit for them; however, many feel that ECASD is known for its high standards and exceptional programs. She feels the virtual school would provide another option for students who might feel they are falling through the cracks.

Ben Holmen recognized Chris Hambuch-Boyle for her service to the District for over 40 years. He felt the updated recommendation from the Demographic Trends Committee is virtually unchanged and didn't see any signs of the community input that was received. He felt the proposal was moving more students than necessary and that suggested alternatives from community members should be investigated.

3. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

3.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hardebeck reviewed the Board's upcoming schedule of events.

3.2 Board President's Report

President Luginbill recognized Chris Hambuch-Boyle for her tireless efforts to serve the District and School Board. He presented her with a plaque and flowers and thanked her for her commitment to the District.

Mr. Luginbill said citizens can still submit testimony to the Joint Finance Committee regarding the state's budget proposal. Opinions or comments can be sent by email to budgetcomments@leglis.gov. Chris Hambuch-Boyle said that people will be available to assist community members in writing testimony or recording videos to send to the JFC on April 24, 2019 at the ECAE office at 2004 Highland Avenue.

4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Gwen Heywood said that AP testing is approaching. She also shared information about Memorial's upcoming blood drive. She said it represents a culture created at Memorial to give back to the community, and the impact is far reaching.

Molly Green said that North seniors are presenting their capstone projects, juniors are receiving their ACT scores and the Deca Mall has kicked off. She also noted that AP tests will soon be taken and that graduation is right around the corner.

5. OTHER REPORTS

5.1 School Board Committee Reports

The Policy and Governance Committee met and had a productive discussion about the LEAP Committee. That information will be shared with LEAP and a report will be coming to the full Board from LEAP soon.

The Budget Development Committee discussed the District's health insurance options and reviewed feedback from the Holistic Committee. They also received the completed annual audit from Clifton Larson Allen. The audit is conducted to confirm the compliance and correctness of the District's financial record keeping. The auditors presented their findings and determined that the District was in total compliance across all areas. Mr. Harder thanked Abby Johnson and Dr. Hardebeck for their work to achieve this result. He expressed gratitude to the financial team.

The LEAP Committee had a brief update from the LEAP Ambassador about the Arctic Zone. They also completed policy work, which was presented to the Policy & Governance Committee. They also heard a short proposal from the INDE group and LEAP recommended that they give a presentation to the entire Board in the near future.

Mr. Luginbill had a meeting with the County Board Chair about reestablishing the Joint Commission on Shared Services. They will be requesting that this group begin meeting again in the next few months.

5.2 Legislative Update

Eric Torres reiterated the importance of citizens advocating for more funds for public schools. He said he could forward the link to upload written commentary or a video to the JFC. He also reported that a listening session was held recently in Eau Claire by the UW System for Task Force for Advancing School Teachers in Wisconsin. He spoke about the need to join efforts with districts like ours to develop teacher residency programs to create pathways to the profession of teaching such as the Grow Your Own Program.

6. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

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

- Minutes of April 1, 2019
- Minutes of Closed Session - March 25, 2019
- Financial Report - March 2019
- Gifts in the amount of \$11,684.74 for the period of March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019
- Payment of all bills in the amount of \$11,089,078.47 and net payroll in the amount of \$5,494,667.53 for the period of March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019.
- Human Resources - Employment Report
- Approve School Safety Plan

- Approve Carl Perkins Administration 66.0301 Contract with School District of Fall Creek
- Approve School Board Self-Evaluation Objectives
- Approve 2019-20 Dental Insurance Plan
- Preliminary Notice of Non-Renewal of Teachers with Limited Term Contracts
- Resolution Recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Approve Alternate OPEB Employee Engagement Committee Member
- Revisions to Policy 342.5 - Title I Program

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 Approve 2019-20 Health Insurance Plan

Bill Heinz from Associated Benefits and Risk Consulting reviewed the health plan renewal options the Board was asked to consider. He shared the pros and cons of each of the four options and shared the recommendation of Option B from the Holistic Committee. The Budget Development Committee recommended Option C for the Board's approval.

Motion by Aaron Harder, second by Laurie Klinkhammer, to approve Option C for the 2019-20 health insurance plan for staff.

Motion carried

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

7.2 Eau Claire Virtual Charter School Contract

Jim Schmitt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, and Shannyn Pinkert, President of the Eau Claire Virtual School, shared a timeline that was revised since the last presentation. Mr. Schmitt said if approved, the contract would be submitted to DPI for approval and that it would be for a pilot for the 2019-20 school year with 28 spots available. A lottery would take place on June 3, 2019 and non-district residents would be able to apply to the pilot if any spots remain after June 3rd through open enrollment.

Shannyn Pinkert reviewed the purpose of the virtual school. She said that this charter school would help the District stay relevant and forward thinking by providing different options for students. She shared the changes made to the contract that was initially shared with the Board based on feedback received.

The virtual school model for Years 1 and 2 were reviewed along with estimates of potential revenue increases.

Motion by Aaron Harder, second by Lori Bica, to approve the contract for Eau Claire Virtual Charter School pilot for 28 students in grades 6-12 including an amendment to Page 10, Article 8 to add socio-economic to the title.

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 Demographic Trends & Facility Planning Committee Updates & Recommendations

Kim Koller, Executive Director of Administration, and Phil Lyons, Chair of the Demographic Trends and Facility Planning Committee, shared information about feedback received at the seven public listening sessions and recommendations from the committee.

Mr. Lyons reviewed the three options that were shared with the Board previously. He also discussed information that was shared with community members at the listening sessions such as maps that showed elementary school capacities; confirmed building developments in the city; challenges with redrawing boundaries; seats remaining at each school to bring them to 90% and 100% capacity; and discussions about 4K programming at the District, state, and federal level.

Mr. Lyons said that during the listening sessions, parents raised concerns about how boundary changes or switching schools impact students. One of the listening sessions focused on this topic. Although academic achievement may dip the year a school closing or boundary change is announced, research shows that one year after moving to a new school, students who moved regain achievement levels that are equivalent to those who have not moved. This is true for students in general education as well as specialized programs.

Another concern raised by parents was the impact on social/emotional development. Mr. Lyons said that research shows that students' emotions and success of change will mirror those of adults. He said it would be important for adults to model emotional regulation for kids going through boundary changes. Relationships with teachers also play an essential role in the transition. Research shows it typically takes six weeks for children to feel their new school is home. If the transition takes longer than six months, students may need additional support.

Ms. Koller shared the most frequently asked questions raised during the listening sessions. A list with answers to those questions has been updated on the website periodically.

In the fall President Luginbill indicated that the Board would be interested in proposed solutions from community members. Several suggestions were made that fell into four different categories: building and repurposing schools, boundary changes, 4K ideas, and miscellaneous.

Mr. Lyons shared three options for the Board to consider. Option 1 was the initial recommendation brought to the Board, which included re-establishing elementary boundaries, addressing capacity issues at south side elementary schools, and developing a facility plan for conversion to 4K. Option 2 was the 2016 recommendation that the School Board rescinded which would address structural and capacity needs at Roosevelt, capacity issues at south side elementary schools and capacity issues at 4K. Option 3 was an option that a community member developed, which would re-establish elementary boundaries to meet guidelines, complete secure entrance and deferred maintenance at Roosevelt, address capacity issues at south side elementary schools, and address capacity issues at 4K. The Demographic Trends Committee recommended Option 3 beginning in 2020-21. Option 3 has a projected cost of \$31.5 million to \$35.5 million.

Mr. Lyons said the committee also requested that the School Board reclassify the Demographic Trends Committee as a standing committee of the Board and to assign two Board members to the committee.

Ms. Koller said the next steps for the committee include getting Board approval of the elementary facilities recommendation, determining the impact and planning for middle school boundaries, studying 4K and elementary expansion options to make a future recommendation to the Board, and awaiting appointment of School Board members to the committee. She felt the most pressing issue would be the reestablishment of elementary boundaries.

Mr. Lyons said that another proposal from a committee member has been brought forward. He has not seen it yet, but it was suggested that the citizen present her thoughts to the Demographic Trends Committee. A small work group will meet to review the new proposal from a community member and to see how it relates to Option 3.

Board members talked about adding a Board member back on the committee. he Policy & Governance Committee will be asked to consider revising Policy 185 – Board and District Committees.

9.2 Update from the Equity Review Committee for Athletics and Facility Use for ECASD Events

Kim Koller, Executive Director of Administration, and Lanette Hesse, Co-Chair of the Equity Review Committee for Athletics and Facility Use for ECASD Events, shared the recommendations of that committee's work as far as ECASD users.

Ms. Koller explained that on January 18, 2019 the committee presented its proposed modifications to the facility use agreement for community use. She said

that this presentation included the committee's recommendations for ECASD users. The committee defined ECASD activities as events which are provided by the school or by an organization whose primary purpose is to serve the school. This would include athletic teams or school clubs with an ECASD-approved advisor; PTO, PTA or Booster Clubs; ECASD alumni associations at the high schools; and sports camps provided "in season" by high school coaches.

Ms. Hesse said the committee's recommendations would align the agreement to current practice and would simplify the process in order to improve customer service and align policy and practice. The following recommendations were made:

- All camps and clinics shall follow the Facility Use for ECASD events.
- School-year camps/clinics shall be conducted during hours of scheduled custodial coverage or groups shall pay for the additional custodial overtime if held during times that custodians are not normally scheduled.
- All other guidelines for camps and clinics should be placed in the coaches' section of the Employee Handbook.
- An ECASD employee must be present at all practices or events. (This could include a custodian, contractual coaches, or advisors.) They shall stay until all students are picked up or have left campus.
- Events require administration or a designee present.

Ms. Hesse said the committee spent a large amount of time discussing the holidays defined in the current agreement. Although they understood the intent of the policy, the practice had unintended consequences. She shared several examples of situations that occurred because teams were prohibited from practicing on actual or observed holidays. For example, some athletes rented community gyms and practiced unsupervised. In other situations, students couldn't practice on Labor or Memorial Day, but they could on Saturday or Sunday. The committee felt this detracted from family time as it broke up the opportunity to have a long family weekend. The suggested allowing evening practices on those two holidays.

The committee recommended that middle school coaches and advisors not schedule events on any of the defined District holidays. At the high school level they recommended the following changes to the Facility Use Agreement:

- 1) High school coaches and advisors may schedule events on the District-recognized holidays with the approval of the Athletic Director.
- 2) Coaches, advisors and Athletic Directors will take family time into consideration when scheduling practices and competitions on or around the recognized holidays.
- 3) A participant who prioritizes family over a school event scheduled on any of the recognized holidays shall not be penalized or punished (i.e. additional assignments/work or lessened playing time).

The committee also recommended smaller changes within the agreement to create alignment to current practices such as eliminating items such as "no food or drink is allowed in the gym" or "jackets, street shoes, and backpacks must be left in the hallway."

Ms. Koller said the committee would like the Board to finalize the agreement by verifying indemnification/insurance language and making any changes indicated by the Board. They also asked that Human Resources add the camp and clinic guidelines to the coaches' handbook. The new agreement could then be shared with impacted staff and be ready to implement.

Board members asked to have the recommendations from both proposals included in one document for their consideration and to have the deletions redlined and the additions highlighted.

The Board agreed to bring both proposals back for consideration and approval at a future meeting.

9.3 Revenue Committee Proposal # 3

Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, shared the Revenue Committee's third proposal related to the Amazon Associates Program. This program would use Amazon's simple linking tools to create a revenue stream for the District. The District could earn up to 10% in rebates from qualifying purchases. An Amazon "Smart Basket" could be created to do one-click shopping for each grade level school supply list.

The District would provide a link on the District's website, and anyone who clicks on that link and finishes a shopping session will help the District earn rebates for qualifying purchases. She showed a sample website link and the list of rebates that could be obtained. She also reviewed what a Smart Basket could look like noting that a standard school supply list could be created and parents could click on a link to have it filled or make changes to the list.

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

9.4 Discussion & Possible First Reading of Policy 491 - Children of Divorced/Separated Parents and Parents Not Sharing the Same Household

A first reading of Policy 491 was shared:

The District recognizes the importance of parent participation and involvement in the education of their children. When parents are involved in a legal action affecting the family such as divorce or legal separation, it is important for the District to have the information necessary to make appropriate decisions regarding their child(ren)'s educational program and parent involvement in the schools. The District shall maintain neutrality between parents who are or have been involved in a legal action affecting the family, unless otherwise directed by a court order or other legally binding document. It is the responsibility of the parents of students enrolled in the District to keep their child(ren)'s school informed of:

1. Any legal action affecting the family that may have an impact on parent involvement and participation in the schools; and
2. Any court order that may define or restrict a parent's rights in relation to children enrolled in the schools.

Each parent is individually responsible for observing his/her respective parenting rights, obligations, and restrictions in all of the parent's interactions with the District. If one parent believes the other parent is acting in a manner that is inconsistent with such rights, obligations, or restrictions, he/she needs to seek enforcement of applicable laws, court orders, and applicable agreements by involving law enforcement and/or the courts. Further if parents disagree with one another about their respective rights, obligations, or restrictions, it is the responsibility of the parents to obtain appropriate clarifications of, or modifications to, any applicable agreements or court orders through the family court system. No employee of the District shall knowingly disobey or disregard any provision of a Court Order relating to any child enrolled in the District.

Families of students enrolled in the District shall be informed of this policy via student and family handbooks or through other appropriate means as determined by the school administrator.

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

10. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

11. ADJOURN

Motion by Charles Vue, second by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.