

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, January 22, 2024 was called to order at 6:00 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, MS Principal Guertin, CE Director Dimmler, Director of Teaching & Learning Vieau, and SPED Director Peyton, and Activities Director Szymanski. Absent: ES Principal O'Connell.
- 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 Guetzkow to approve the following consent agenda items: Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023; Truth in Taxation Meeting of December 18, 2023; Special Session Reorganizational Meeting of January 8, 2024; Personnel Consent Agenda; and Business Consent Agenda. Passes 7-0
- IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**
Ms. Brittany Misuraca (Technology Integrationist) presented to the board the highlights of the new district website which launched today. The current website's platform was no longer going to be supported and, after looking at the options available, Finalsite was chosen. Questions about the new site were asked and answered by members of the board.
- V. **Action Items -**
 - A. MMS Feldt and Schulz to approve the first and only read of district policy
 - Policy [506](#) STUDENT DISCIPLINE
 - Policy [506F](#) POLICY 506 FORM
 - Policy [722](#) PUBLIC DATA AND DATA SUBJECT REQUESTS
 - Policy [722F](#) DATA REQUEST FORM
 - Policy [806](#) CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY
 - Policy [509](#) ENROLLMENT OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS
 - Policy [510](#) SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
 - Policy [511](#) STUDENT FUNDRAISING
 - Policy [512](#) SCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATION AND ACTIVITIES
 - Policy [513](#) STUDENT PROMOTION, RETENTION AND PROGRAM DESIGN

 - Policy [514](#) BULLYING PROHIBITION
 - Policy [410](#) FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE POLICY
 - Policy [413F](#) HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE FORM
 - Policy [414](#) MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD NEGLECT OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE

 - Policy [414F](#) POLICY 414 FORM
 - Policy [415](#) MANDATED REPORTING OF MALTREATMENT OF VULNERABLE ADULTS
 - B. MMS Burns and Neaton to approve the first read of district policy
 - Policy [413](#) HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

Passes 7-0.

Passes 7-0.

- C. MMS Feldt and Guetzkow to approve the second and final read of district policy

Policy [606.5](#) LIBRARY MATERIALS

Passes 7-0.

- D. MMS Onell and Schulz to approve Resolution 24.13 acknowledgement of donation, contributions, and fundraising. Passes 7-0.
- E. MMS Danielson and Burns to approve Resolution 24.14 directing Administration to make recommendations for adjustments in Curriculum Programs and Staffing for the 24-25 school year. Passes 7-0.
- F. MMS Burns and Guetzkow to approve Resolution 24.15 to award bid for Work Scope #1 to New Look Contracting and to award bid for Work Scope #2 to Killmer Electric. Noted: Both bids were favorable bids below budget. Passes 7-0.

VI. **Review/ Information Items:**

- A. Chris Ziemer from ICS gave an update on several projects. The greenhouse is up for inspection for occupancy soon and concrete work is set for spring. Currently, the pool filtration update has a couple of potential delays: 1. A part is needed that is not currently available- they are problem-solving to see if the part can be made. The Minnesota plumbing department did come out and approve piping, so the deck drain piping can now be installed. 2. They have yet to hear back as to when an inspector will be available -- once this is inspected and approved, then they will be able to start filling the pool again - they are hopeful to get this information this week. The Middle School flooring is scheduled to finish removal over spring break - they will then revisit the product to put back on with planned installation in June. Superintendent Schuler noted that seven people were trained re: how to use the controls of the greenhouse. He is hopeful that a Mother's Day plant sale from the greenhouse can still take place.
- B. Superintendent Schuler gave his monthly Strategic Plan update. This month, his communication will be about 'Communication'. Supt. Schuler's update for families will not only be about the vision card, but the improved communication from each building as well as social media and our newly updated website. Supt. Schuler has also shared his Strategic Plan Highlight newsletter with staff, highlighting what each building has been working on to meet the district's strategic commitments.

VII. **Administrative Reports**

HS Principal Hennen reported that they are starting registration for the 24-25 school year next week. They have scheduled to meet with 8th grade students and parents and will be meeting with each current high school grade level to work on their schedules for next year. There will be 11 new class offerings next year. Mr. Hennen also reported that Mr. Jaszczak applied for a grant through Resource Training and received the full amount of \$15,000. This will go towards the purchase of a screen-print machine to have an opportunity for students to facilitate, operate, and run screen printing. This project would be supervised by some staff, but would be totally student-run. He is hopeful that this course/ program can be up and running by 4th quarter this year.

MS Principal Guertin reported that they are working with staff on their interactions with students and building stronger connections. MS staff has been hard at work regarding academic goals and it is paying off with their students' results. MS leadership has been having a conversation regarding student homework. Leadership is working hard on evaluating how they use flex time, instruction time, and intervention time with the goal to have each student complete their responsibilities during the day with little to no homework. Principal Guertin discussed several needs for long-term subs due to staff having children- as of the meeting there is a need for 1 more long-term sub - all other position vacancies have been filled. Mr. Guertin will be starting to work with the incoming 4th graders and current middle school students regarding registering for next year in late February. Principal Guertin encouraged everyone to attend the WMMS PTO's annual Family BINGO night on Saturday, January 27th.

Superintendent Schuler gave a verbal update on behalf of ES Principal O'Connell. The winter testing data for reading and math for all students has been amazing. Noted specifically is the 2nd grade who has already surpassed their SPRING goals! January 11th, was Kindergarten Roundup with over 57 families attending and the ES and they are looking forward to February's I Love to Read Month. The theme this year is 'Story Laboratory'. They will wrap up the month with an I Love to Read Family Night on February 29th from 4-6 PM hosted by WMES PTO and the Lions Club.

CE Director Dimmler reported that they are excited to host their Open House for both the Young Royals preschool and for Kids' Company/ Caring Hands on January 25th from 4:30-6:00 PM. They are excited to offer a 4 day-a-week full day option next year. The staff at the CLC is getting ready to wrap-up their LETRS training. Winter registration opened up on January 8th and over 144 people and 124 users registered in about a week's time. Ms. Dimmler is currently looking over the WM Facilities Handbook and hopes to present for board approval soon. Dates to note are Feb. 13th for the Advisory Committee Meeting, Feb. 21st to send out 'asks' for the CE Summer Catalog.

Teacher & Learning Director Vieau presented to the board the Winter FAST assessment highlights. There was larger than expected growth in grades K-8 with the highest ever growth rates in reading (grades K and 2nd) and Math (7th and 8th). In reading, grades K, 1, 2, 5 & 7 outperformed the 6-year average growth rate; and in math, grades K, 3, 5, 7 & 8 also outperformed the 6-year average growth rate. Additionally, the 4 and 5 year olds evaluated in Young Royals increased their top two categories by 41% from fall to winter data. Overall, the current growth is exciting and a direct reflection of the work being done by the staff and students!

SPED Director Peyton discussed the escalation of mental health needs within the Special Education department, she found it necessary to post openings for a paraprofessional in both the ES and HS. Faced with a shortage of Setting IV programs, they have taken the initiative to establish tailored interventions in each of the schools, and are doing everything they can to create a comprehensive onboarding process for those staff who are working with EBD and level III students. They are working on developing the extended year programming and have finalized the dates this will occur: The weeks of July 8, 15, 22nd and July 29th running 4 days a week from 8:30 AM-11:30 AM each day. Director Peyton asks for people to mark February 15th for the Watertown-Mayer Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) from 5:30-6:30 PM.

Superintendent Schuler reported that he asked Beth Bottenfield from Taher to give some mid-year updates regarding the number of students taking breakfast and lunch this year as the standard lunch is free to all this school year. Supt. Schuler reported that there has been an increase from previous years with the number of students taking breakfast averaging 458/ day and the number of students taking lunch averaging 1,186/ day. Of the 73 days of school in session so far, there have been 33,505 breakfasts and 86,631 lunches served. Superintendent Schuler then went through a powerpoint presentation given to him by Ms. Bottenfield to highlight those things happening in food service this year so far.

VIII. **Board Member Reports**

Chair Feldt reported on his recent participation at the MSBS Leadership Conference and Facilities meetings. Vice Chair Burns reported on the upcoming Personnel Committee meeting dates, Clerk Danielson reported on the most recent Policy Committee meeting as well as the recent Marketing & Communication Meeting. Treasurer Schulz reported on the recent events with the SW Metro Intermediate Board.

MMS Danielson and Schulz to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM and was duly passed.

Chair

Clerk