

- I. The regular meeting of the Watertown-Mayer School Board in the Watertown City Hall on Monday, June 23, 2025 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, MS Principal Guertin, ES Principal O'Connell, SPED Director Peyton, Director of Teaching & Learning Vieau, and Activities Director Szymanski. Absent: CE Director Dimmler.
Public Comments: No public comments at this time.
- II. **Visitor requests and consideration of the agenda.** MMS (Motion made and Seconded by) Danielson and Neaton to approve the agenda as presented. Passes 7-0.
- III. **Consent Agenda**
Chair Feldt noted that there were several contracts in the Personnel Consent Agenda including the new Community Education Director, however, that this hiring is contingent on Mr. Dalton receiving a variance from the Board of Administrators and completing the 125 hours of coursework to get his license reinstated. MMS Onell and Burns to approve the following consent agenda items: Regular Board Meeting minutes of May 19, 2025; Personnel Consent Agenda; and Business Consent Agenda. Passes 7-0. Vice Chair Burns commended the teachers bargaining group for their efforts in helping to make this a smooth process. Ed MN representative Ed Rundell reciprocated the sentiments.
- IV. **Recognitions/ Presentations/ Showcase:**
Activities Director Paul Szymanski recognized Paige Erickson for being the WM Girls Golf participant who qualified and competed in State competition. Trap Coach Stacy Guetzkow recognized his 3 participants who qualified and competed in State competition: Malori Derner, Eric Skahaug, and Ryan Lange. Director Szymanski then gave a presentation reviewing the Athletics & Activity programming from this 2024-2025 school year.
- V. **Action Items -**
- A. MMS Feldt and Danielson to approve Resolution 25.23 to accept donations, contributions, & fundraising received so far in the month of June. Passes 7-0.
 - B. MMS Schulz and Guetzkow to approve the second and final read of Policies 899 and 1001. Passes 7-0.
 - C. MMS Burns and Schulz to approve the SW Metro Long Term Facility Maintenance Resolution 25.24. Passes 7-0.
 - D. MMS Feldt and Onell to approve the SW Metro Safe Schools Resolution 25.25. Passes 7-0.
 - E. MMS Danielson & Guetzkow to approve the FY25 Revised Budget:

	REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Fund 1	\$21,729,219	\$22,164,038
Fund 2	\$1,113,685	\$1,228,685
Fund 4	\$2,403,064	\$2,401,575

Fund 6	\$43,801	\$4,569,895
Fund 7	\$4,868,490	\$4,509,245
TOTAL	\$30,158,259	\$34,821,705

Passes 7-0.

- F. MMS Burns and Neaton to approve the FY26 Proposed Budget:

	REVENUES	EXPENDITURES
Fund 1	\$21,597,765	\$21,597,765
Fund 2	\$1,193,543	\$1,275,331
Fund 4	\$2,338,608	\$2,412,840
Fund 6	\$30,000	\$1,697,757
Fund 7	\$4,818,954	\$4,667,006
TOTAL	\$29,978,870	\$31,734,914

Passes 7-0.

- G. MMS Burns and Danielson to approve the WM Long Term Facility Maintenance Plan. Passes 7-0.
- H. MMS Onell and Schulz to approve both the Insurance Contract or Renewal (MIST) and Work Comp. Contract. Passes 7-0.
- I. MMS Burns and Feldt to approve the Food Service Contract with Taher for the 2025-2026 school year. Passes 7-0. Noted is that this contract can be renewed for 4 years after approval based on the bid.
- J. MMS Neaton and Guetzkow to approve Heather Heun as the District Official with Authority (IOWA) Resolution 25.26 for the 2025-2026 school year. Passes 7-0.
- K. MMS Feldt and Danielson to approve the MSHSL Resolution 25.27 continuing membership with the Minnesota State High School League. Passes 7-0.
- L. MMS Danielson and Neaton to approve the Elementary, Middle, and High School Handbooks for the 2025-2026 school year. Passes 7-0.
- M. MMSGuetzkow and Schulz to approve tenure status for ES teacher Leah Jakel and HS counselor Logan Spitzer. Passes 7-0.

VI. Review/ Information Items:

- A. Dr. Jeff Horton introduced himself as the new Superintendent of SW Metro and gave updates regarding the strategic work they are doing for the eleven school districts they serve. Questions were asked and answered.
- B. Superintendent Schuler gave an overview of the strategic plan survey results from both the parent and staff survey. Noted was to include open-ended comments next year in this survey to get additional information as to the "why's" of their feedback as well as changing the colors of the pie graphs presented.
- C. Chair Feldt went over the Superintendent Evaluation process and noted that there would be a closed meeting after the regular meeting in July to conduct the Superintendent evaluation.

VII. Administrative Reports

HS Principal Hennen reported that they have had 10 students participate in summer school this year. He is still looking for a long-term substitute for an English teacher and the new HS Admin. Asst. Becky Lahr has joined the HS office team. Mr. Hennen noted that graduation was a huge success with over 1,100 people in attendance and that all but 2 HS staff were also in attendance. He noted that at this time, he is finalizing some scheduling issues, but, overall, is in great shape for the 25-26 school year..

MS Principal Guertin reported that he is looking to fill a vacancy for the MS counselor position, and is still looking for 1 more LTS for a teacher. Mr. Guertin gave many end-of-the-year highlights and thanked the WMMS PTO group for their sponsorship of the 8th grade celebration. Mr. Guertin also pointed out the Americanism Award given to Adrianna Goetz as well as the two 8th grade students chosen for Students of the Year: Lydia Haller and Marin Lobbestael. Mr. Guertin also acknowledged the 7th grade Wax Museum event this year as a great success and the desire to make this an annual event.

ES Principal O'Connell highlighted the end-of-the-year Celebration of Learning held on May 22nd to showcase students' successes, and the unveiling of the cooperative mural all students created as some of its highlights. Ms. O'Connell shared that the PTO-sponsored Ninja Warrior event for track and field day was a huge success and the students and staff are looking forward to doing it again in the future. June 11th will mark a full-day professional development day for the new Arts & Letters curriculum and they are excited to host 73 incoming Kindergarten -4th grade students for the extended school year to help protect the gains made this year for students. Superintendent Schuler noted that Ms. O'Connell recently presented her capstone on the Science of Reading specifically for Kindergarten students at the U of MN as part of her Principal's Academy. Mr. Schuler noted that she gave a great presentation and that the response from colleagues regarding her strategies in changing stats was dynamic..

Superintendent Schuler introduced the new Community Education Director, Tim Dalton. Mr. Dalton noted that he has worked in Community Education in four different districts and was attracted to WM for its quality in programming, the umbrella of programming options. Mr. Dalton looks forward to building on this already successful program.

Teaching and Learning Director Joe Vieau gave a recap of the tremendous growth based on recent FAST data completed in 2024-2025. Mr. Vieau noted that he is not allowed to share MCA data until late August, but notes that he should be able to report some great news when the full reports come out.

Superintendent Schuler recognized Lisa Raiter for her 15 years of service to the district. Superintendent Schuler noted that Ms. Raiter has put the school in a great financial position. Board members noted her value in working with them to better understand the financials of the district, and putting WM in a good fiscal position moving forward. All noted that Ms. Raiter will be missed and wished her well in her retirement..

VIII. Board Member Reports

Chair Feldt gave a verbal report on the Finance Committee, Vice Chair Burns reported on recent negotiation meetings with food service and custodial groups and noted more dates will be set soon. Treasurer Schulz reported on the activities of the SW Metro Board and thanked Dr. Horton for coming to the meeting this evening.

IX. Adjournment

MMS Danielson and Schulz to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM and was duly passed.

Chair

Clerk

07.28.25
Date