

Minutes for Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
To Be Held in the District Board Room
1055 Griffiths Lane
Ashwaubenon WI 54304
(Phone: 920.492.2900)

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

6:30 pm

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- A. Call to order:** Board Clerk Vyskocil called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

- B. Roll call:**
 - Board Members Present: Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke (remote)
 - Board Members Excused: VanLaanen
 - School Choice Advisory Representative: Matthew Rotter
 - Other Present: Kurt Weyers, Keith Lucius, Tammy Nicholson, Andy Bake, Tom Schmitt, Nick Senger, Dirk Ribbens, Heidi Lassila, Brian Carter, Tom Schmitt, Nick Senger, Jason Fisch, Kris Hucek, Doug Pieschek, Michael Heim, Pete Marto

- C. Declaration of quorum:** Quorum present

- D. Pledge of allegiance:** The pledge was recited

- E. Adoption of Agenda:** Action Item J2 – Professional Staff Handbook Update was pulled from the agenda. Moved Garrigan, seconded by VandeWalle to pull Action Item J2 and adopt the agenda as presented. Aye 4 (Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0

- F. Citizens and/or delegations:**
 - 1. Public Forum** – Any citizen and/or delegations: no topics presented

- G. Consent Agenda:** Moved VandeWalle, seconded by Garrigan to approve Consent Agenda items 1-7 as presented. Aye 4 (Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0
 - 1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023
 - 2. Minutes of the executive session meeting held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023
 - 3. Staffing: hirings, resignations, retirements, leave of absences
 - 4. The schedule of checks written 01/31/23 to 03/06/23
 - 5. The schedule of referendum checks written 01/31/23 to 03/06/23
 - 6. There were 2 co-curriculars approved
 - 7. Budget Financial Reports for January

- H. Superintendent’s Report - Staff/Student Recognition**
 - **AHS DECA:** The Ashwaubenon DECA chapter has implemented a new initiative this year to promote marketing while creating a fun atmosphere at some home sporting events at Ashwaubenon High School. Juniors, Lily Urbanek and Lexi Volk, have designed a seven-month sports marketing campaign entitled “Pump Up the Jags”, which has included fun halftime and quarter activities at football games and crowd involvement events during halftime of the boys’ basketball games. Most events have included a local sponsor who provided a prize or a game that got the student/fan section involved. In addition, the DECA

chapter had some special events: A Miracle Minute to support the Wounded Warrior Foundation, a raffle for four Packers tickets, and a MacBook giveaway.

The DECA students had the opportunity to learn and apply event management skills, marketing, coordination of activities between the school, community, and students, and sponsor relations. They were so pleased that the local business community provided such strong support of this project. In total, Urbanek and Volk implemented 22 sports marketing events that aligned with 16 different businesses.

Lexi and Lily will be sharing their efforts from the “Pump Up the Jags” sports marketing campaign at the DECA State Career Development Conference, where their campaign, a twenty page marketing paper, and their presentation will be shared with business and marketing professionals.

- **Referendum Update:** We held our third informational meeting at Pioneer Elementary on Wednesday, February 22nd. Despite the weather we had 10 residents in attendance. Keith and I also did a podcast with Local and Vocal Green Bay and an interview with NBC 26 for the upcoming referendum. We feel that all of this has been a great opportunity to clarify for all residents, staff, and families. Remember our Community Information session coming up on Wednesday, March 22, at 6:00 at Cormier Early Learning Center.
- **Strategic Plan Update:** On Wednesday, March 1st, Thursday, March 2nd, and Saturday, March 4th we held our Community Conversation with over 100 stakeholders. I can't say thank you loud enough for this tremendous group of people and their efforts to help organize and plan our future together over 12 hours of engaging conversations and activities. It is now our job to take that feedback and insight to put together our ASD Strategic Plan for the next five years. We plan on putting one year goals in the plan originally to help keep our strategic plan fluid and fresh. Our action steps will be for what we plan to accomplish over the next year and then meet monthly to make sure we are on track. Our goal is to present this Strategic Plan to the board and community next August or September.
- **Jaguar Excellence Awards:** For the month of February I had the pleasure of handing out 83 Jaguar Excellence awards to our staff. It is always great to hand these out in person. I spent some time handling several out to our APPL staff who continue to do great work for our youngest students in our community. The first five months have been a great way to recognize so many staff members by their colleagues. We have already 712 Jaguar Excellence awards winners this school year.
- **Golden Apple Nominations:** Last month I announced that three Teachers of Distinction were selected from the Ashwaubenon School District. They were Taylor Ratzburg - Kindergarten grade teacher at Pioneer, Amanda Paul - 2nd grade teacher at Valley View, and Michael Smits - Science teacher at Parkview Middle School. This is out of over 3,000 teachers nominated across Brown County. We are extremely excited to announce that Michael Smits a Science Team at Parkview Middle School was recognized as a winner of the coveted Golden Apple. All three staff members will be recognized at the 30th annual Golden Apple Awards ceremony on April 19, 2023 at the Lambeau Field Atrium.
- **AHS Athletics - Nick Senger:**
 - AHS Nordic Ski Team
 - AHS State Boys Swimming
 - AHS State Wrestling

I. Discussion/Presentation Items:

1. **2020 Referendum Projects Update:** Schmitt provided an update/wrap-up of the 2020 Referendum projects.
 - The original referendum was approved for \$10,050,000.

- Construction costs were high and increasing at a great rate. The district came back to the board in March of 2021 for additional funding \$1,076,054 to complete the A/C projects. The total funding for the 2020 Referendum came to \$11,126,054.
- The total expenses that were incurred for the referendum projects were \$11,187,558. As a result of energy efficient upgrades from these projects, Focus on Energy rebates totals \$41,142. The 2020 referendum projects came in over budget at \$20,392 (0.18% overage percentage).
- Schmitt explained that typically project of this scale have a 10-15% contingency. These projects were completed with a contingency expense of 3.43%. Lucius stated lower than normal contingency is outstanding.
- The projects were all completed on time with no school time lost. This is a rarity with the supply chain issues and shortages experienced due to the pandemic. Social distancing was also an issue during these projects.
- Lucius recognized the outstanding work Schmitt did through value engineering and working with the architects and contractors. Schmitt thanked Joe Finger from Brander for all the time and work he gave to these projects. He also thanked Barb Doherty for capturing everything in the spreadsheet of information provided to the board.
- Schmitt explained that 3 out of the 5 building had the air handling equipment upgraded to be unipoint bipolar arenization (turns from Merv 10 to a Merv 13 filtration).
- The board thanked Schmitt for his hard work and stated everyone appreciates the air conditioned buildings.

2. **Natural Gas Contracting:** Schmitt explained that the district has contracted a fixed rate for its natural gas supply since 2004. This protects the district from large spikes/variances in natural gas costs. This also allows the district to predict and budget for its natural gas costs.

- While the high school, Valley View and Parkview contract for 80% of the annual usage, Cormier and Pioneer do not use enough natural gas to benefit from contracting.
- If the district uses less than the 80% volume, it is bought back at the current market rate.
- If the district uses more than the 80% volume, the district is billed for the excess volume at the current market rate.
- The district has very good pricing through October of 2028
- Schmitt explained how natural gas is contracted. He provided examples of the pros and cons of contracting natural gas.

J. Action Items:

1. **Early College Credit and Start College Now Requests:** Ribbens reminded everyone that every fall and spring he comes to the board with the Early College Credit and Start College Now requests. The requests being represented are for the fall of 2023. Requests are reviewed by the high school administrators and guidance staff. A majority of the requests for the fall are for the CNA program (partnership between NWTC/AHS/Woodside). Ribbens recommended the board approve the requests for the Early College Credits and Start Collage Now programs.

Moved Garrigan, seconded by VandeWalle to approve the Early College Credits and Start College Now requests as presented. Aye 4 (Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

2. **Professional Staff Handbook Update:** pulled from the agenda

3. **Care Solace:** Nicholson explained that the need for additional mental health services came through strong at the recent Community Conversation event. Nicholson presented the Care Solace service.

- This is a service that helps students, staff, and community members navigate through the system in order to obtain mental health services.

- Care Solace does not provide the actual mental health services but instead helps the individual find quality mental health or substance abuse treatment providers that fit their needs. They seek out services regardless of the persons coverage (i.e. private insurance, Medicare, and those without coverage).
- HSSD has used Care Solace for about 4 months. They have found it to be beneficial for students, families and community members.
- ASD, HSSD and DePere school district jointly requested DPI approve the use of Fund 80 to cover the cost of this service. Lucius is seeking permission from the auditors to run this expense through Fund 80. If the board approves Care Solace and it is run through Fund 80, it will result in an increase tax levy of .56 on a \$100,000 home. This would be worked into the 2023-24 school year budget and tax levy
- The cost of Care Solace would be \$4 per student x 3200 student - \$12,800 a year for 3 years OR \$4.75 a student x 3200 = \$15,200 for one year. Lucius and VanDeKreeke stated they are in favor of the 3 year commitment. Lucius felt that 1 year is not enough time to get the program up and running.
- Nicholson stressed that this is not the providing of free services. Care Solace is a program that helps to link students, families and community members to services that fit their personal and insurance/financial needs.
- How will this be rolled out? The district needs to sign the contract, receive all the information from Care Solace, and get the information to families, private schools, homeschooled families, and community members. The plan is to use social media, the website, school newsletters and the district newsletter to get the word out.
- This is a national program that is used by school districts throughout the country. It goes a long way to help the entire family and not just the student. They help provide as much assistance in seeking a provider as the individual needs (i.e. find a provider, make the appoint, complete the forms, etc.).

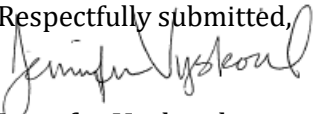
Moved VanDeKreeke, seconded by Garrigan to approve a 3 year contract with Care Solace pending approval from the auditors to run the cost through Fund 80 as presented. Aye 4 (Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

K. Board & Superintendent Communications:

L. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

- The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 12, 2023**, at 6:30 pm in the District Office.

M. Adjournment: Moved VandeWalle, seconded by Garrigan to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm. Aye 4 (Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

Respectfully submitted,

 Jennifer Vyskocil