



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

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

A. Call to order: President VanLaanen called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm

B. Roll call:

Board Members Present: VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke
 Board Members Excused: all present
 School Choice Advisory Representative: Matthew Rotter
 Other Present: Kurt Weyers, Keith Lucius, Tammy Nicholson, Andy Bake, Kaitlin Tauriainen, Pete Marto, Nick Senger, Michael Heim, Kathy O'Brien

C. Declaration of quorum: Quorum present

D. Pledge of allegiance: The pledge was recited

E. Adoption of Agenda: Moved Vyskocil, seconded by Garrigan to adopt the agenda as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

F. Announcement of executive session:

In accordance with W.S. 19.85(1) (c) an executive session is being held for the consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (*Employment*)

G. Citizens and/or delegations:

1. Public Forum: no issues presented

H. Consent Agenda: Moved by VanDeKreeke seconded by Vyskocil to approve Consent Agenda items 1-5 as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022
2. The schedule of checks written 06/07/21 to 07/06/21
3. Staffing: hirings, resignations, retirements, leave of absences
4. There were 34 co-curriculars presented for approval
5. Board financial reports for May

I. Superintendent's Report

- **AHS State Honors Choir:** On Tuesday, June 14th, I had the pleasure of attending the State WSMA Honor Choir concert held at the Weidner Center at UWGB. Participating in this prestigious event were five Ashwaubenon High School students. Those students are Hannah Payne, Aren Damayo, Luke Calaway, Tyler Casper, and Zach Stenson. There are many tryouts and auditions to participate in this wonderful honor. A huge congratulations to our five students and their Choir Director Kristen Pfluger.
- **Cooking Competition:** As I mentioned last month at the school board meeting, each year the School Nutrition Association of Wisconsin holds an annual conference for any and all school nutrition staff. This year, [Fork Farms](#) came together with NextGen [FirstTasteTV](#) to host their first ever live cooking competition. On Wednesday morning, June 22nd, I had the honor to watch one of our very own

Ashwaubenon School District's head chef's, Lois Ludwig and 8th grade student, Christopher Schmitz, compete in the competition. The event was held at the KI Convention Center. Both Lois and Christopher did an amazing job representing our school district.

- **Summer School:** Summer School ended as well as it started. Summer school 2022 has been a huge success. As mentioned previously, we had over 1,300 students participate in summer school. The majority of our students attended enrichment or support classes at Parkview Middle School, with our getting ready for 4k and 5k classes happening at Cormier. We were very excited to once again house the summer school classes for 4k and 5k at Cormier. Great work by summer school leaders: Andy Bake, Doug Pieschek, Brian Carter, Kris Hucek, Michael Heim, Cassie Schneider, and Nick Senger.
- **Board Retreat Thursday and Friday:** Just a reminder about our board retreat on Thursday and Friday evenings at the Ashwaubenon Community Center. Thursday will be from 5:00-9:00, and Friday will be from 4:00-8:00 pm.

J. Discussion/Presentation Items:

K. Action Items:

1. **Food Service Resolution:** Tauriainen presented Assembly Bill AB805 to the school board. She explained that the bill does not have any financial or staffing burden on the district but instead places it on the state. The bill would allow free meals for all students in the state of Wisconsin. It would encourage parents to complete the free/reduced meal application so federal reimbursement is maximized. The state would assume the remaining cost of feeding all children. Tauriainen met with Representative Shelton to learn more about AB805. Shelton is asking school boards to consider adopting a resolution in support of AB805.
 - The bill has not gone anywhere because state legislature assumed the federal government would take care of it. Tauriainen state that having public support would help bring it to the attention of the state legislature.
 - The funding for school meals is ending with the start of the 2022-23 school year. The district is working to get all those eligible for free/reduced meals to complete the necessary paperwork.
 - It was felt that it would be better for the resolution to have the entire board's support versus only part of the board.
 - Tauriainen stated that under this bill, private schools would also qualify for free meals.
 - The students that are in most need of the services provided by this bill are those that miss the reduced meal financial cut off by a few dollars.
 - The board inquired if there is way to determine who needs assistance versus using the blanket approach the bill takes. Tauriainen stated that it is very important that we do not single out any child. If they feel they being are singled out, they will not eat.
 - Lucius stated that some families will not or cannot pay for meals. He stated that there has been a reduction of behavior occurrences when students are fed. They come to class ready to learn.
 - Older students are afraid to be singled out. They do not want their parents to complete the F/R application and will instead go without eating.
 - There is a concern that by offering everyone help from the government we are perpetuating future generations of people seeking government support. Tauriainen stated that we do not charge students for textbooks so why are we expecting them to pay for meals. Some felt that providing meals is not a requirement of education.
 - Some felt this is bigger than offering free meals. What is the district doing to reduce shaming for those that may be on F/R meals?
 - The district takes personal pride in doing everything it can to keep a student's lunch status confidential. We do not take meals away or offer a different meal for those students that are overdrawn. Optimists have been a great help to the district with their donations to help pay down overdrawn accounts. Lucius stated that we are one of the leaders in this area.

- Bake stated that in meeting with Representative Gallagher this past year, the state and federal government both see that this is an issue but they both feel it is the other's responsibility to take care of it. Tauriainen stated that feeding children is a statewide issue.
- Some felt that we should not necessarily be handing out free things; but in this case, there is value in the classroom when students are fed.
- Tauriainen explained the 30-day grace period for completing a F/R application and how it worked in the past. Since there were free meals last year and less applications completed as a result, the 30-day grace period will not be available for those that did not complete a form last year. They could find themselves very quickly with a large overdrawn balance. Tauriainen and her team are working hard to get as many families as possible to complete this form.

Moved by Garrigan, seconded by Vyskocil to approve the support of the Food Service Resolution as presented. Aye 3 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan), Nay 2 (VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke). Motion carried 3:2.

2. **Elementary Social Studies Curriculum Adoption:** Bake presented the 5k – grade 5 Social Studies Curriculum for board approval. Social Studies is one of those subjects that is always changing. The elementary curriculum team met and reviewed the current materials, new materials, State and essential standards and available resources. As a result, they are recommending the following for board approval:
 - Grades 2, 3 and 5 – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's *Into Social Studies*.
 - Grades 5K, 1 and 4 – *Wisconsin Our State Our Story* materials from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Instead of a textbook, this is based on a literacy collection from various book resources and magazines that make it easier to update and make changes from grade to grade to meet Wisconsin State Standards.
 - The board like the idea of the magazines and found that they would be more engaging for students.
 - Bake thanked Sheryl Stathas for all of the work she put into finding books that were the right fit for the curriculum.
 - The board thanked the team for all the work involved and the challenges they faced.

Moved by Vyskocil, seconded by Garrigan to adopt Elementary Social Studies Curriculum as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

3. **Standards Used to Guide Learning in the District:** Bake stated that per state statute, the board is required to review and approve the district's Academic Standards used for Math, Reading, Science, Writing, Geography and History. This must be completed at the first board meeting of the school year. The standards also need to be shared with parents and guardians of students enrolled in the district. This is done through the district's website. The district uses the guidance of Wisconsin Model Academic Standards, National Standards and National Guidelines in its Academic Standards.

Moved by Vyskocil, seconded by VanDeKreeke to adopt the standards used to guide learning in the district as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

4. **Referendum Survey:** Lucius explained the reasons for a possible referendum in April of 2023.
 - The State Budget for 21-22-23 did not include an increase in per pupil aid, revenue limit or other resources that increased the budget. The State Budget has not gone up with inflation.
 - Future funding is unknown at this time. We could continue to see no increase resulting in future teacher layoffs.
 - In order to protect ourselves, the district is recommending a 5-year nonrecurring referendum for operational expenses. This additional revenue limit authority would only be used if the State doesn't provide an increase in school funding. The increase, if provided, would need to cover inflation of 4.7% for this year and a possible 8% for next year.

- With previous referendums, the school district surveyed the community to determine its support for a referendum. If the survey results show community support, the district would have a referendum on April's ballot.
 - It is important that the district educate/share/communicate with the community so they are aware of our needs. Good communication, community engagement and planning are key to the success of the referendum.
 - Using School Perceptions to survey the community will help the district determine if we should go to referendum.
 - The operations referendum would not be adding anything new. It would allow the district to continue to operate as normal.
 - The board would need to be united on the decision to go to referendum. They would also have to be on board with only using it if needed.
 - The board asked for an outline (similar to what was given for the last referendum) of what it will cost tax payers.
 - Would there be a question on the survey about it being recurring vs nonrecurring? Initial referendum would be proposed a nonrecurring. Future referendums could be proposed as recurring.
 - The board requested we ask for different amounts on the survey to see what the community is willing to support.
 - When is the mental health referendum complete? April 2025. Suggested making the 2023 referendum a 2-year nonrecurring referendum so that it would be done with the Mental Health referendum. Then the district could go to referendum again with both of these together.
 - Some felt that communication with the public is key and should include shaming those in the government that are putting the district in this position. Lucius stated that we need to stay apolitical and not make this a R/D topic. People will draw their own conclusions.
 - The board asked that they have the opportunity to review the survey questions prior to sharing it with the community.
 - The board asked that they have the opportunity to review/approve the final referendum question.
- Moved by Vyskocil, seconded by Garrigan to approve the hiring of School Perceptions for approximately \$10,000 to help determine the possibility of an operating referendum in April 2023 as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

5. **Transfer to Fund 46:** Lucius stated that the district's share of equalization aid is down for the 2021-22 school year. As a result, the district will lose state aid if we do not reduce its aidable costs for 21-22. This can be helped by transferring money to Fund 46. Lucius reminded the board the Fund 46 is the Capital Improvement Fund account. Money placed in this Fund can only be used for building projects. This Fund currently has a balance of \$400,000. Within this fund is a sub account for future field turf replacement. The group discussed whether \$200,000 was enough to transfer over. Lucius stated that depending on how everything works out, more can be transferred over; however, this would need to be transferred over with an effective date of June 30, 2022. He cautioned the group that once it is transferred over, it can only be used for building projects.

Moved by VanDeKreeke, seconded by Vyskocil to authorize the transfer of up to \$500,000 by Keith Lucius into Fund 46 effective June 30, 2022 as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

6. **Resolution Authorizing A One-Year Taxable Tax and Revenue Anticipation Revolving Line of Credit For Cash Flow Purposes In An Amount Not To Exceed \$9,000,000:** Lucius presented the recommendations for the cash-flow borrowing line of credit. The district is working with BankFirst to establish a revolving line of credit. The interest rate is fixed at 6.5%. As in the past, the money will only

be borrowed when needed and will be repaid as soon as the district receives tax/aid monies. The district is only charged interest on the money it borrows.

Moved by Garrigan, seconded by Vyskocil to approve the Resolution Authorizing A One-Year Taxable Tax and Revenue Anticipation Revolving Line of Credit For Cash Flow Purposes In An Amount Not To Exceed \$9,000,000 as presented. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

L. Board & Superintendent Communications:

M. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

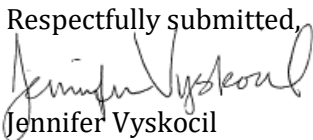
- Weyers recommended the August 10th board meeting be rescheduled for August 17th or 24th due to a conflict in scheduled with Jay VanLaanen, Kurt Weyers and Keith Lucius. Moved by Vyskocil, seconded by Garrigan to move the August 10, 2022 board meeting to August 17, 2022. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke), Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.
- The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 17, 2022**, at 6:30 pm the District Office; 1055 Griffiths Lane; Ashwaubenon, WI.

N. Adjournment to executive session:

In accordance with W.S. 19.85(1) (c) an executive session is being held for the consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (*Employment*)

Adjourn to closed session. Roll Call: VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke

- O. Adjournment:** Moved by VandeWalle, seconded by VanDeKreeke to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Aye 5 (VanLaanen, Vyskocil, Garrigan, VandeWalle, VanDeKreeke) Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Vyskocil