

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School District of Mauston**

DATE: Monday, December 16, 2013
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: District Administrative Office
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948
MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Fox, Zilisch, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: Kryka

1. Board Vice-President Carrie Buss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken; six members responded to roll call (Kryka/absent).
2. Mrs. Buss led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.
3. **Public Comments:** The chairperson called for public comments. Isaiah Pesce addressed the board concerning the school district's head lice policy.

Reports:

4. **Mauston High School FFA:** Charitee Seebecker reported on the successful fruit, cheese and sausage sale; sales topped more than \$20,000. MHS has been chosen to host a State officers training this winter.
5. **Administrative Reports:** Members of the Leadership Team updated the board on work that is underway in the buildings regarding the Educator Effectiveness project. Director of Teaching and Learning Lynda Oleinik noted the "Educator Effectiveness Project Timeline" for the Mauston district (Ref. Exhib.#1). District business manager Julie Lankey-Smallwood reviewed the budget development process, emphasizing several factors that impact the final district budget.
6. **Wisconsin Interscholastic Horsemanship Association:** Mikayla Honnold, Alli Kidd, Mariah Teske and Mikayla Teske spoke to the Board about their experiences this year competing in the WIHA for Mauston School District. One additional member, Alexis Lenorud, was not able to be present. Coach Darren Honnold also spoke to the Board about the team's achievements, including being crowned Division C State Champions.
7. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Christine M. Weymouth reported on her recent attendance at the SLATE technology conference. She noted that the deadline for filing candidacy forms for election to the Mauston School Board is Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. She reminded the Board that a special meeting is being planned for Monday, January 6, 2014 to continue facility discussions.

Consent Agenda:

8. Motion by Fox/Zilisch to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6/0, whereby the following items were approved:
 - a. Approval of School Board Minutes:
 - i. Monday, November 18, 2013 – Regular School Board Meeting
 - ii. Monday, December 2, 2013 – Special School Board Meeting
 - b. Approve Payment of Monthly Vouchers totaling \$1,101,548.22.

Pending Action

9. Motion by Rogers/Buss to approve the retirement resignation of Randy Fabian, technology education instructor and athletic director for the district, after 33.5 years of service. The Board members expressed appreciation to Mr. Fabian for all he has done for the school district during his years of service. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.
10. The Board conducted the first reading of Board Policy 363.2 – Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety for Students.
11. Motion by Rogers/Vinopal to approve the Mauston High School 2015 Spanish Trip to Costa Rica. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.

12. The Board reviewed resolutions that will be presented to the Delegate Assembly at the Wisconsin State Education Convention in January, 2014. Board Delegate Carrie Buss asked the Board members to contact her if they have strong opinions about any issues involved in the pending resolutions. No Board action was taken.
13. Motion by Zilisch/Vinopal to approve the donation of \$500 from Edward Jones & Co., (Kiril Kustief) for the Olson Middle School Challenge Scape student trip. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.
14. Motion by Zilisch/Berkos to approve the donation of \$1,197.00 from the Mauston High School Class of 2013 to the George and Cookie Braund Memorial Fund. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.
15. Motion by Zilisch/Vinopal to approve the donation of \$1,023.75 from the Grayside and West Side Elementary PTC to purchase T-shirts for the elementary holiday programs. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.
16. Motion by Zilisch/Berkos to adjourn to executive/closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c): "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; and (e) "Deliberating or negotiating ...whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session;" [Review and Possible Renewal of Administrative Contracts, The Board may take action as appropriate and necessary in closed session, and thereafter entertain a motion to reconvene in open session.] A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 6/0. The meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:05 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
Mauston Board of Education**

DATE: Monday, December 16, 2013
TIME: 8:10 P.M.
PLACE: District Administrative Office
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Fox, Zilisch, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: Kryka

1. Mrs. Buss called the closed session to order at 8:10 p.m. Six members were present.
2. The board discussed administrative contracts. No action was taken.
3. Motion by Fox/Zilisch to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School District of Mauston**

DATE: Thursday, January 16, 2014
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: District Administrative Office
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Kryka, Zilisch, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: Fox

1. Board Vice-President Carrie Buss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Six members attended the meeting.
2. Superintendent Christine Weymouth briefly described the topics and direction planned for the meeting, including the ongoing review of district facilities, including building capacities, space use, enrollment, and the potential consolidation of one or more school buildings. She emphasized the importance of involving community and staff in gathering information and ideas, as well as for the board to receive input from district citizens. Dr. Weymouth introduced representatives from Bray Associates, Clint Selle and Matt Wolfert, who have been working with the facilities study that was commissioned by the Board in 2013.

3. Mr. Wolfert reiterated that at this point, the board is engaging in a preliminary review of possible options for building and grade reconfigurations. If the board is not interested in any further discussions about closing buildings, then the next phase of the facilities study will focus on maintenance and repair, and the implementation of plans to deal with the needs that have been identified in the earlier portion of the study.
4. Mr. Selle reviewed six potential reconfiguration options (Ref. Exhibit #1/District File). He also distributed copies of building floor plans noting current usage.
5. The board members shared their initial opinions and questions about the options presented. Several factors were mentioned that will impact any future board decisions related to the efficient operation and management of district facilities:
 - a. Continuing reductions in state aid;
 - b. Effective use of space in existing buildings;
 - c. Educational programming and opportunities for students;
 - d. Ongoing high costs of maintaining and repairing buildings and equipment in aging building(s), (i.e., roofs, heating systems, plumbing, etc.)
6. There was general consensus that the board should explore further information and considerations involved in options for closing one or more school district buildings. Discussion points included:
 - a. Consideration of age and general condition of buildings;
 - b. Research information about potential savings in staffing costs;
 - c. Research information about potential savings in operational and maintenance costs;
 - d. Consideration of educational programming, including educational and co-curricular opportunities for students, and savings related to shared staffing;
 - e. Consideration of students' grades and ages, including scheduling, placing younger students in contact with older students;
 - f. Impact of consolidating buildings on development and use of educational technology; and
 - g. Information about plans and costs for remodeling and/or additions that would be required in order to consolidate students into a smaller number of buildings (including food service and special education program needs).
7. Bray Associates will work with district administrators to gather information for more specific requirements and costs related to the options that were identified as ones that the board would be most interested in discussing further (Ref. Options 4, 5, and 6/District File).
8. Dr. Weymouth reiterated the importance of communicating information to the staff and public, and receiving input from stakeholders all through the process of any major changes in district facility usage. No decisions will be made until all viable options have been fully considered and discussed.
9. Motion by Zilisch/Berkos to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried 6/0.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School District of Mauston**

DATE: Monday, January 20, 2014
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: District Administrative Office
 510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Kryka, Fox, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Zilisch

1. Board Vice-President Carrie Buss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken; six members were present.

2. The chairperson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.
3. There were no public comments.

Reports:

4. **Mauston High School FFA:** Amber Bellows and Craig Dallman reported for the MHS FFA. Several activities are being planned for FFA week, which will be February 17-21. They invited the public to attend the FFA Pancake Supper on February 18.
5. **MHS Key Club:** Alexis Walker and Micale Lunk reported to the Board for the Mauston High School Key Club. They reported that more than 50,000 lbs. of food were donated to the Mauston Community Food Pantry in the December food drive.
6. **Auditor's Report:** Natalie Rew and Erin Ezdon of Wegner CPAs presented a final report on the school district audit for the year ending June 30, 2013 (Ref. Exhibit #1, District File.) They commended Business Manager Julie Lankey-Smallwood and her staff for their excellent cooperation during the audit and noted the strengths of the district in several financial areas.
7. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Christine M. Weymouth reported on several district initiatives including the implementation of the AESOP substitute calling system, the submission of the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant application, and other highlights from student accomplishments.

Consent Agenda:

8. Finance Committee Chairperson requested that the approval of vouchers should be removed from the consent agenda, because the Finance Committee did not hold a meeting prior to the full board meeting.
9. Motion by Berkos/Vinopal to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda. Motion carried 6/0, whereby the following items were approved:
 - a. Approval of School Board Minutes for the Monday, December 16, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting; and Thursday, January 16, 2014 Special School Board Meeting; and
 - b. Approval of one (1) Youth Options application for a grade 12 student to take approved coursework at UW Baraboo.
10. Motion by Fox/Buss to approve the payment of monthly vouchers totaling \$760,628.64. Motion carried 6/0.

Pending Action

11. There were no resignations for approval.
12. Motion by Kryka/Buss to waive the third reading of Board Policy 363.2 – Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety for Students, and to approve the policy revision as presented by the Policy and Personnel Committee. Motion carried 6/0.
13. Superintendent Christine Weymouth presented information about the district's need to secure a new distance learning provider for the district. Our current network (SCING) will not be operational beginning next year. Motion by Vinopal/Kryka to approve the Northern Wisconsin Educational Communications System (NWECS) agreement for the 2013-2014 school year. Following discussion, motion carried 6/0.
14. Motion by Fox/Vinopal to approve securing a \$30,000 loan from the Bank of Mauston for the purchase of a new district sign on Grayside Avenue. The loan will be repaid by the Golden Eagle Athletic Booster Club. Business Manager Julie Lankey-Smallwood presented information about the district's past practices in securing loans at the request of the booster club, noting that the booster

club has always been diligent about repaying the loans on time, and in other cases ahead of schedule. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.

15. Motion by Rogers/Vinopal to approve the administrative recommendation for open enrollment space determinations for the 2014-15 school year. Dr. Weymouth explained the statutory requirement for this annual approval. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0 (Ref. Exhibit #2/District File).
16. Motion by Fox/Buss to approve the donation of \$1,000 from Dr. June Lewandoski, for use toward the expenses of the school district swimming pool. The board members expressed appreciation for the generous donation. Following discussion, the motion carried 6/0.
17. Motion by Kryka/Fox to adjourn to Executive/Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c): "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. [Review and Possible Renewal of Administrative Contract(s), The Board may take action as appropriate and necessary in closed session, and thereafter entertain a motion to reconvene in open session.] A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried; the meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:27 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Mauston Board of Education**

DATE: Thursday, February 13, 2014
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

PLACE: District Administrative Office
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Kryka, Fox, Zilisch, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: None

1. Vice-President Carrie Buss called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All members were present.
2. Motion by Berkos/Kryka to Adjourn to Executive/Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved." [Discuss Administrative Contract].
3. The meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:01 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School District of Mauston**

DATE: Monday, February 17, 2014
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: District Administrative Office
510 Grayside Avenue, Mauston WI 53948

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buss, Rogers, Kryka, Fox, Zilisch, Vinopal, Berkos
MEMBERS ABSENT: None

1. Board Vice-President Carrie Buss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken; seven members were present.
2. Mrs. Buss led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Public Comments:

3. Members and sponsors of the MHS Golden Eagle soccer team addressed the Board concerning funding. Those speaking in support of the school district providing financial support to the soccer teams included Denise Laridaen, Craig Dallman, Carson Laridaen, Katie Nelson and Bailey Jensen. Craig Dallman also read a letter of support from MHS alumni Brandon Nielson.

Student Reports:

4. Craig Dallman and Amber Bellows reported on FFA activities for the month of February, including the annual pancake supper, FFA sponsorship of the Sharing Supper, and student participation in the upcoming Career Development Events in Janesville on March 15.
5. Melissa Falagian reported on Key Club activities including PTC child care, and the club's assistance with Kids Corner at the Sharing Supper. She noted that Key Club elections will be held in March.
6. **Board Committee Reports:** Finance Committee Chairman Brian Fox reported that a generous donation was received from the Mauston Lions Club. Approximately \$265 worth of personal care supplies for needy students was donated and distributed to the school offices, the nurse's office, and to the needy student supplies. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Fox thanked the Lions Club for their support. Negotiations Committee Chairperson Carrie Buss reported that an initial discussion meeting had been held with members of the district support staff group.
7. **Administrative Reports:** Members of the Leadership Team shared building and program updates. Superintendent Christine Weymouth updated the Board on the district's ongoing facility study. Representatives from Bray Architects will meet with the Leadership Team on March 13 to discuss possible building configurations as related to educational and programming needs.

Pending Action:

8. Motion by Zilisch/Berkos to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 7/0, whereby the following items were approved:
 - a. Minutes of the February 17, 2014 Regular School Board Meeting.
 - b. Payment of district vouchers for a total of \$1,347,726.63.
9. The Board conducted the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy 522.8 Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety for Staff.
10. Motion by Vinopal/Zilisch to approve the donation of \$300 from the American Tennis Association to the Mauston High School Tennis program. The money will be used for score tablets for the boys and girls tennis programs. The board expressed appreciation for the donation. Following discussion, the motion carried 7/0.
11. Motion by Vinopal/Fox to approve the donation of \$1000 from the Mauston Kiwanis Club to the Mauston School District needy student fund. The board expressed appreciation for this generous donation. Following discussion, the motion carried 7/0.
12. Superintendent Weymouth presented an overview of the projected budget shortfall for the 2014-2015 school year, which at this date is approximately \$300,000. She noted that the district Leadership Team is considering many issues, programs, and potential areas of savings. Their goal is to build a balanced budget, with the fewest possible disruptions to the educational opportunities for our students. This is an ongoing process; and more details about projected budget reductions will be presented to the Board at the March Regular Board Meeting.
13. Motion by Fox/Zilisch to adjourn to Executive/Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved." [Discuss Administrative Contract]. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 7/0. The meeting adjourned to executive/closed session at 8:00 p.m.
14. The meeting reconvened in open session at 8:30 p.m.

15. Motion by Rogers/Kryka to approve the 2014-2015 employment agreement for elementary principal Scott Tower, as presented and discussed in closed session. The motion carried 7/0.
16. Motion by Zilisch/Berkos to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried 7/0 and the meeting adjourned.

Recorded by:

Melodye Jones, Recording Secretary; and RJ Rogers, Board Clerk