

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
June 19, 2024 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:30 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Amber De Rizzo, Mike Hornischer, Jacqueline Gremler, Ron Liberty, Nubs Ashbeck, Paul Proulx, Jon Smith, Brett Woller and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. Others Present: Shannon M. Murray, Superintendent; Dr. Kelley Strike, Director of Business Services; Amber Haluska, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education; Amanda Patterson, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Heather Soberg, Elementary Principal; Nick Wszalek, Director of Buildings & Grounds/Transportation; Christopher Hahn, Activities Director; Megan Kautzer, Elementary Principal; and one person from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no public comment.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board regarding: MAPS Spring Data - Literacy Together; School Forest Report; English Language Learners Report; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistant Act; Pupil Services; Food Service Participation Report; Business Services; Buildings & Grounds/Transportation; and, the Superintendent's Report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Finance/HR and Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committees.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Gremler to approve the AGR End-of-Year Report. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Gremler to approve the amended CESA 9 contract to include instructional coach services. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Proulx to approve the FY25 preliminary budget [as presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Hornischer to approve the Workers' Compensation policy with RAS [as presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Liberty to approve the continuation of the contracts with vendors and purchases [as presented](#) for the 2024-25 fiscal year with cost variances not to exceed the lower of 5% or \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Ashbeck to approve the contracted services provider of Kathy Koch-Engstrum, Educational Consulting for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students LLC, beginning the 24-25 school year paid through special education flow-through funding. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Gremler, second by Liberty to approve the purchase of Savvas My Perspectives for English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12 as the universal ELA resource for the next 6 school years, in the amount of \$134,119.50 to be paid from ESSER funds. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by De Rizzo, second by Hornischer to approve the updated version of the Activities Code of Conduct for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION by Smith, second by Liberty to purchase a replacement main breaker for Merrill High School from Schneider Electric, or one of their distributors, not to exceed \$88,235 per the [bid](#) provided. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Gremler to revise the administrator and professional staff compensation plan to include the Director of Human Resources position for 2024-2025 [as presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Ashbeck to approve the donation of practice jerseys for the Grades 9-12 Football Program in the amount of \$2,670.44 and a zone-blocking chute for the Middle School Football Program in the amount of \$2,860.00 both from the Merrill Silver M Club. Motion carried unanimously.

President Blake asked if anyone wanted anything pulled from the consent agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Hornischer to approve consent agenda items a through d, which includes minutes of the May 15, 2024 and May 22, 2024, meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,194,808.60; donations totaling \$1,205.00; and, the attached [personnel report](#), contingent upon release of contract for hirings and upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable. Motion carried with Woller and Smith abstaining from the approval of the May 15, 2024 minutes; and, Gremler abstaining from the approval of the May 22, 2024 minutes.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station

Future Meetings

- Safety Committee Meeting: Monday, June 24, 2024 @ 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Community Education Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room

President Blake called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1) (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations; and, 118.125 to discuss other matters involving student records and personal histories that, if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse effect on the reputations of the persons discussed. The purpose of the closed session is to review the pre-expulsion history chart. MOTION by Smith, second by Hornischer to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:15 p.m. - two minute break to get organized.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Gremler to adjourn at 6:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Ron Liberty
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder