

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA
MENOMONIE, WISCONSIN
OCTOBER 26, 2020**

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Call to Order** – President David Styer called the meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the Menomonie Area to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020, in the boardroom of the Administrative Service Center at 215 Pine Avenue E in Menomonie, Wisconsin.
- B. Roll Call and Quorum** – Roll call showed eight board members present: Penny Burstad, Chris Freeman, Tanya Husby, Clint Moses, Amy Riddle-Swanson, Charlie Schneider, David Styer, and Tricia Thompson. James Swanson was absent. President Styer declared a quorum and noted that the meeting had been duly noticed. Administrators in attendance were Joe Zydowsky, Samantha Hoyt, Tonia Kowieski, Brain Seguin, Katie Krueger, and Leah Theder. Also in attendance were Recording Secretary Jamie Krista, and videographer Steve Hanson.
- C. Agenda Order and Approval/Revision** – The agenda was approved as presented.
- D. Recommendations and Commendations** - A board commendation was presented to Xeng Xiong for his heroic action responding to a recent house fire in Menomonie.
- E. Community Communications** - There were no community communications.
- F. Board Member/Superintendent Communications** – Board members reported on their participation in recent board- and community-related activities. District Administrator Zydowsky congratulated both the MHS cross county teams for advancing to the WIAA state competition.

II. ACTION AGENDA

- A. Action to Approve Adoption of 2020-2021 Budget** - Burstad made a motion, seconded by Moses, that the board approve the adoption of the 2020-2021 budget, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.
- B. Action to Approve Certification of 2020-2021 Tax Levy** - Schneider made a motion, seconded by Moses, that the board approve the certification of the 2020-2021 tax levy, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.
- C. Action to Approve Recognition of SDMA Students, Families, Staff, Administrative Team, District Administrator, and Menomonie Transportation for the Successful Reopening of SDMA Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic** - Burstad made a motion, seconded by Schneider, that the board approve the recognition of SDMA students, families, staff, administrative team, district administrator, and Menomonie Transportation for the successful reopening of SDMA schools during the COVID-19 pandemic, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.
- D. Action to Approve the Addition of Winter Sports and Activities into the SDMA Reopening Plan** - Schneider made a motion, seconded by Moses, that the board approve the addition of winter sports and activities into the SDMA reopening plan. After a lengthy discussion, Burstad called the question, seconded by Husby, to proceed with voting. The motion passed by a 6-2 roll call vote, with Freeman and Riddle-Swanson casting “nay” votes.
- E. Action to Approve 66.0301 Special Education Services Cooperative Agreement Between SDMA and the Chippewa Falls School District for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher** - Moses made a motion, seconded by Riddle-Swanson, that the board approve the 66.0301 special education services cooperative agreement between SDMA and the Chippewa Falls School District for Deaf/Hard of Hearing teacher, as presented. The motion passed by a 7-0-1 roll call vote, with Husby abstaining.
- F. Action to Approve 66.0301 Special Education Services Cooperative Agreement between SDMA and the Chippewa Falls School District for Instructor of the Visually Impaired** - Riddle-Swanson made a

motion, seconded by Freeman, that the board approve the 66.0301 special education services cooperative agreement between SDMA and the Chippewa Falls School District for an instructor of the visually impaired, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS/POLICY REVIEW

- A. **COVID-19 Report** – Dr. Zydowsky shared a report with the board that included information on the current COVID-19 pandemic. The Dunn County Health Department website continues to update current information on a daily basis. Dunn County currently has 1,017 confirmed cases, 841 of those cases have been released from quarantine. Tracking by Dunn County Health Services indicates the activity level for Dunn County is very high, with a burden level of 433, and the trend is stable. The SDMA has seen 34 student cases (MHS-21, MMS-8, and ELEM-5) and 9 staff cases this SDMA this school year. There are currently 12 active student cases and 5 active staff cases, so 22 student cases and 4 staff cases have recovered and been released from isolation. Zydowsky shared updated guidance from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and information about contact tracing protocol. It was reported that non-essential staff committee work has been put on hold due to large workloads for SDMA staff.
- B. **Act 185 Report** – The Board reviewed the report the district will be submitting to the state in accordance with Act 185.
- C. **Virtual Education Report** - The Board reviewed the virtual education report prepared by SDMA Director of Technology Katie Krueger. The addition of the elementary school virtual option and larger student enrollment due to the COVID-19 pandemic were the most significant changes
- D. **Student Achievement Report** – Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Brian Seguin shared the 2020 Student Achievement Report. Overall student achievement trends within the SDMA have mirrored those of the State of Wisconsin showing an overall downward trajectory in the area of English Language Arts, while achievement trends in the area of Math have remained more stable. A review of historical achievement and attendance data within the SDMA has shown that overall proficiency levels in the area of English Language Arts and Math for non-white reported race/ethnic demographics within the SDMA have increased in grades 3-8 over the past four years. Within the SDMA, the rate of chronically absent students has also declined over the most recent three years data is available for. Based on prior analysis of achievement and attendance data, staff within the SDMA have been working to improve overall student achievement, reduce chronic absenteeism, and close achievement gaps present within racial/ethnic demographics, economically disadvantaged, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities demographics.
- E. **Review MHS Course Offerings Timeline for 2021-2022** - Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Brian Seguin shared the staffing and course offering timeline for planning the 2021-2022 school year.
- F. **Review Extracurricular Staff Contract Requests** - The board reviewed extracurricular contract requests from September 25, 2020, through October 22, 2020.
- G. **Review Items Related to Next Meeting Dates, Board Committees, and Reports** –Regular School Board Meeting, on November 9, 2020, Special School Board Meeting on November 23, 2020, Regular School Board Meeting, on December 14, 2020.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Action to Adjourn – Schneider made a motion, seconded by Freeman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

/s/ Clinton Moses

Clinton Moses, Clerk

jlk

Minutes Approved: November 9, 2020