

SURING PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
920-842-2178
411 E. Algoma Street, Suring WI 54174

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 14, 2021 - 5:30 P.M. – Small Gym

Policy 167.1 - A Board member's presence at a meeting includes his/her presence if attending by telephone or other manner of remote access, so long as such remote access is compliant with State law.

Board President Sleeter called the regular meeting of the Suring School Board to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members present: Lally, Lundgren, Piepkorn, Seibert, Sleeter, Wozniak.

Absent: Regal

Administration present: Mrs. Casper, Mrs. Berg, Mrs. Pendl.

Visitors present: Greg Jaeger, Troy Blanchard, Laura Strehlow, Emily Marcheske, Heidi Gerndt, Mitchell Woulf, Terry Garrigan, Mitch Taylor, Kathy Runge, Crystal Napier, Sarah Schaal, Michelle Thomson, Paul Thomson, Nicole Largo, Steve Heckl, Beth Narlock-Moede, John J. Moede, Brook Rattin, Kendra Rattin, Carley Geniesse, Carrie Stage, Emily Schaal, Ethan School, Amie Gaulke, Kurt Stage, Karen Mahoney, Tabitha School, Zach School, Ron Christensen, Kris Christensen, Brenda Schrank

Motion by Lally, seconded by Piepkorn to move agenda item VII. A. to follow VI. A. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Seibert to approve the consent items (Minutes of March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting, Bills-check 96271 through 96367, Treasurer Report) as listed. Carried 6-0.

Treasurer Report as follows:

Balance on hand March 1, 2021	\$5,165,113.38
Revenues for March, 2021	<u>416,805.06</u>
	\$5,204,513.08

March Disbursements

Net Payroll	\$175,492.87
Accounts Payable	<u>418,972.71</u>
	(\$594,465.58)

Total Disbursements for March, 2021	\$ <u>594,465.58</u>
Balance on hand March 31, 2021	\$4,987,452.86

During public input, Paul Thomson requested the board remove the requirement of masks and to also remove the requirement for masks and contact tracing for prom. Michelle Thomson made known laws she felt have been violated by the school district in regards to mandating masks. Ms. Thomson also shared results from community members and veterans she personally surveyed. Nicole Largo asked the board to allow her children to breathe free and allow them to interact at milestone events like prom. Tabitha School spoke, indicating that since the mask mandate has been lifted, and kids should have the option to wear a mask, not be force to wear one. School also questioned the board on the hiring process. Brenda Schrank asked the board to lift the mask mandate because she feels that masks do nothing but spread more germs from touching the mask and then touching other things.

As a District Spotlight, Dennis Piepkorn was presented with a plaque from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards recognizing his 20 years of service on the board. The Finance Committee report of March 24, 2021 and the Administration Committee report of April 7, 2021 were shared. Emily Marcheske, Food Service Director, updated the board on the increase in numbers for the After School snack program, breakfast and lunch. Marcheske also informed the board that they are working on the dishwasher temperature gauge issue.

Laura Strehlow, Technology Director, presented the Board with her technology report. She gave information about eRate and how it works. She has applied for a new Firewall and a wireless controller for eRate funds. Strehlow informed the board that the district was awarded \$4,200 from the Teach Grant that will cover the amount of the firewall and wireless controller that eRate does not cover. Google services, Chromebook damage, equipment purchased and summer purchases were also shared by Strehlow.

The March transportation report was presented. Mrs. Casper explained projections in regards to fuel costs and mileage. Casper reminded the board that transportation is the second largest expense for the district.

Mrs. Berg presented her written principal's report to the Board. In her report, she informed the board that on March 9, 2021 the junior class took the ACT with writing, the Science Fair took place on March 24, 2021, a vaccine clinic was facilitated along with Oconto County, and over two dozen meals were distributed for Easter through the Nurse's Nook. Berg also informed the board on Distant Learner numbers, the Safety Team working with Chief Christensen to plan a spring evacuation drill in May and that the Social Worker shared Compassion Resilience information with staff. Student Wellness provided a Kids Cookbook to students and the After School Programs provided a book for each child in the district grades 5K-8 twice this year.

Athletic Director, Heidi Gerndt's report included information on the attendance at open gyms and numbers for spring sports. Gerndt also informed the board she is working with Troy Blanchard on the football scoreboard and the track record board is waiting on the last proof and then it will be ordered.

Mrs. Casper presented her Administrator report. She informed the Board that a letter went out to parents regarding summer school, virtual opportunities and the Eagles Care group meeting on April 28, 2021 at 5:30PM. Casper also informed the board that she anticipates graduation to take place in the gym with the football field as a backup and March 2, 2022 parent teacher conference has been changed to February 23, 2022. The natural gas bill was also discussed. Casper mentioned that the cost of natural gas has doubled in March compared to February.

Amanda Seibert gave the CESA 8 report. At the CESA meeting, ESSER funds were discussed.

Mandated masks and other COVID related issues were discussed. All board members voiced their concerns. Information from Oconto County was shared along with COVID information from area schools and data collected from a staff survey.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lundgren to approve waiving the mask mandate if a signed form by parent or guardian is submitted to the office and social distancing is followed. Carried 5-1.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Wozniak to approve allowing school music concerts with spacing and capacity limits, bathroom doors being closed, concession stands to resume, awards programs to take place with parent invitation and social distancing, no spectator limit to outside sports on school property but social distancing and mask recommended, summer camps approved allowing students outside the district to attend, water fountains will remain as bottle fill only and fitness room will not open to community until after this current school year. Carried 6-0.

Academic off-site offering for 2021-2022 school year and summer maintenance and technology help was discussed. Maintenance is looking at hiring two summer positions. Technology is looking for one summer position.

Kathy Runge and Mitch Taylor, both middle school teachers, presented information on a Washington DC trip that they would like to offer to sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in March of 2022 and every three years thereafter.

Troy Blanchard, maintenance, informed the board on bids and options that are available for the new scoreboard for the football field area. The scoreboard has an option of twenty spaces for sponsors, and at present, seventeen of those spots are sold. The maintenance department is recommending the sign from Stratford Sign Company. Greg Jaeger, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on the purchase of cafeteria tables. The

goal in replacing the current tables was to create a more inviting environment by using different styles and colors of seating examples. A visual reference of the projected project was presented to the board. Of the three bids received, Jaeger is recommending the bid from Duet Resource Group from Milwaukee.

The Summer School update was given. Letters and sign-up forms were sent to parents. A spreadsheet was shared in reference to what other area schools are paying staff for summer school. It was recommended to pay \$25.00 for staff teaching academic classes, \$21 for staff teaching athletic areas and \$15 for weight room supervision.

School Board election took place on April 6, 2021. Official results after the canvass on Monday, April 12, 2021 were shared. New course offerings for 2021-2022 and the Course Description Book 2021-2022 were discussed. CESA contract with services offered and updated referendum 2020 projects completed and actual costs of those projects was shared with the board. The first reading of Policies Vol. 30, No. 1 and first reading of Technical Corrections Vol. 30, No.1 were discussed.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lundgren to approve the Washington DC trip for students in grades 6-8 during the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, seconded by Seibert to approve the purchase of the scoreboard for the football field area from Stratford Sign Company – Stratford Wisconsin not to exceed \$22,730.00 as presented. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lally to approve the purchase of cafeteria tables from Duet Resource Group – Milwaukee Wisconsin not to exceed \$46,577.81 as presented. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lundgren, seconded by Wozniak to approve the new course offerings for 2021-2022 as presented. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lundgren, seconded by Seibert to approve the Course Description Booklet 2021-2022 as presented. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, seconded by Piepkorn to approve the CESA 8 contract for 2021-2022 as presented. Carried 5-0, 1 abstained.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lally to approve the resignation of Josh Romero, 3rd grade teacher, at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lundgren, seconded by Wozniak to approve the first reading Policy Vol. 30, No. 1 as discussed. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lundgren, seconded by Lally to approve the first reading Technical Corrections Vol. 30, No. 1 as discussed. Carried 6-0.

Items for Future Board Consideration include property purchase by the football field, graduation and COVID matters. The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. Reorganization of Board Officials and restructuring of Board committees will take place at the May meeting. Unfinished business includes marking off-site property lines and awareness, Suring school sign on Firgens property and Hall of Fame applications due April 23, 2021.

During questions and comments from the public, Jeremy Krueger, Wrestling coach, shared concerns regarding the wrestling program. Mitch Taylor informed the board that he received his teaching license for Social Studies and thanked Mrs. Berg and Mrs. Casper for their help.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Seibert to convene in Closed Session if approved by roll call vote of the Board. Roll Call Vote: Lally-yes, Lundgren-yes, Piepkorn-yes, Seibert-yes, Sleeter-yes, Wozniak-yes. Carried 6-0. Time: 8:17 P.M.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Lally, seconded by Piepkorn to approve the resignation of Becky Dickson as FBLA/Senior Class Advisor. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Seibert, seconded by Wozniak to approve the resignation of Kristen Trader as HI-Q Advisor. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, seconded by Piepkorn to approve the resignation of Kathy Runge as NHS Advisor. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Seibert to approve Teacher salaries for the 2021-2022 school year as presented in closed session. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, second by Wozniak to approve Supervisory salaries for the 2021-2022 school year as presented in closed session. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, seconded by Seibert to approve support staff salaries for the 2021-2022 school year as presented in closed session. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lally to approve Administrator's salaries for the 2021-2022 school year as presented in closed session. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lally to approve the extra-curricular salaries for the 2021-2022 school year as presented in closed session. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Lally, seconded by Seibert to approve the 3% increase to employee health insurance as presented. Carried 6-0.

Hiring a success coach for the 2021-2022 school year was tabled until the May school board meeting.

Motion by Piepkorn, seconded by Lally to adjourn the Open Meeting. Carried 6-0.

Joy Rohde, District Secretary

Time: 12:04 A.M.