

HERMANTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Minutes: January 11, 2021

The Board of Education of Hermantown Independent School District No. 700 met in regular session on January 11, 2021. Chair, Dianne Mathews, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Mission Statement – Partnering with the community to support and prepare all learners to create their own future.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS HELD OFF SITE BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

All future meetings of the Hermantown Community School Board will be conducted in accordance with the MN Statutes 13D.021. Meeting by telephone or other electronic means, until further notice.

Members present: Lindsay Clauson, Heather Holst, Gary Kneisl, Dianne Mathews, Ashley McFarland, Tim Peterson, Wayne Whitwam, Superintendent, Lance Takkunen, Director of Business Services

Visitors: Jenny Wiese, Gretchen Appelwick, Sarah Turcotte, Jason Wilcox, Kristal Berg, Scott Carter, John Muenich, Nancy Litman

- Clauson, Holst and McFarland took the Oath of Office for Newly Elected School Board Members.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Holst to approve the amended agenda with the following additions, deletions, or corrections: move Section VI, C., 3. Lateral Work Design for Two Janitors (Memo #3) from Consent Agenda to Superintendent Discussion Items. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Board Chair
 - Gary Kneisl nominated Dianne Mathews. Approved unanimously via roll call vote.
- Vice Chair
 - Gary Kneisl nominated Tim Peterson. Approved unanimously via roll call vote.
- Clerk
 - Dianne Mathews nominated Heather Holst. Approved unanimously via roll call vote.
- Treasurer
 - Tim Peterson nominated Gary Kneisl. Approved unanimously via roll call vote.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting dated December 14, 2020 and December 21, 2020
- Approval and authorization of audited vouchers for payment #105909-106015, 4471, voided checks #105057, 105271, 105288, 105864 and the Bank and Electronic Transfers.
- Approval of Personnel Items
 - a. Resignation of Shawna Youngberg as Kid's Zone Child Care Aide and Lateral Work Design to Post Position
 - b. Approval of Lateral Work Design for School Readiness Program Assistant
 - c. Memorandum to Employ Marcia Pitoscia as Elementary Paraprofessional
 - d. Memorandum to Employ Jason Hanson as Alpine Ski Coach
- Designate the firm of Rupp, Anderson, Squire, and Waldspurger as the District's Legal Counsel for the 2021 year
- Designate the *Hermantown Star* as the official newspaper for the District during the 2021 year
- Authorize the use of the Hermantown School District's website as an alternative dissemination of information method
- Set the mileage reimbursement rate at the IRS Standard Mileage Reimbursement rate for 2021 (\$.56 cents per mile)
- Designate Wayne Whitwam as the Local Education Authority Representative
- Authorize and designate Wayne Whitwam and Lance Takkunen to lease, purchase and contract for goods and services within the budget approved by the School Board
- Designate Wayne Whitwam to sign leases, purchases, and contract for goods and services
- Authorize Wayne Whitwam to approve contracts up to bid law threshold
- Authorize Wayne Whitwam to approve change orders on projects up to \$25,000

- Authorize members of the Principals' Unit to approve contracts for D.J.s, yearbooks, photos, graduation rentals, and speakers for Staff Development
- Designate US Bank, North Shore Bank of Commerce, Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund, Centricity Credit Union and PMA Securities as depositories for all School District monies for the 2021 year
- Name Lance Takkunen, Shelly Janson, and Tari Aanonsen as designated representatives for the purpose of making electronic fund transfers on behalf of the School District
- Compensation for Board Members shall be \$70, Chair; \$65, Clerk; \$60, All Other Members
- The Board may authorize the use of a credit card by any officer or employee otherwise authorized to make a purchase on behalf of the district. If a district officer or employee makes or directs a purchase by credit card that is not approved by the School Board, the officer or employee is personally liable for the amount of the purchase. A purchase by credit card must otherwise comply with all statutes, rules, or district policy applicable to School District purchases.
- Approval of 2021 Board Meeting Dates

A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Holst to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

ACCEPT DONATIONS

A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Peterson to accept donations to the General and Extra Curricular Funds received thru January 11, 2021. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

COMMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS

- Mathews thanked all teachers, staff, administrators, etc., for their help in getting district kids back to school in the hybrid learning model. Mathews also thanked the nursing staff for their work and Lynda Nikko and the food service staff for their success in implementing the new breakfast program/service.
- Elks Senior Students of the Month – None

RECONGITION OF VISITOR BUSINESS – No visitor business.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Whitwam received correspondence from two parents with concerns about moving from the distance learning model to the hybrid learning model. Worried that their fully distance learning children will fall behind with the two different learning models and would prefer the district remain distance learning for all students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCUSSION ITEMS

- COVID-19 Update. Met with the Regional Health Team on Friday, January 8, 2021. The members were in favor of bringing back elementary and middle school students on January 12, 2021 in the hybrid learning model, but preferred to wait until numbers go down to bring high school back. High School students are anticipated to have their first hybrid learning day on Thursday, January 21, 2021.
- Enrollment Update. Up five students from last month.
- Lateral Work Design for Two Janitors. Proposed that the District reconfigure positions within Building and Grounds, namely changing maintenance and janitor positions to custodian and lead custodian positions. Union is in favor of the reconfiguration.
- Other. Reported heating issues in the new Hermantown Community Learning Center (HCLC) building. Work will need to be done. District will not have to pay for repairs, however, is disappointed that we have these issues in a brand new building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - No committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Kneisl to approve policy revisions #102, #522. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2021 Committee and Outside Assignments – No action taken
- Hermantown Amateur Hockey Association Arena Lease Agreement – No action taken
- New Position Request for Two (2) Elementary Special Education Paraprofessionals – No action taken

- Approve the MSDLAF/U.S. Bank Master Services Agreement and Appendix A-1 New Account/Change in Authorized Account Signers:
 - General Fund/Dental Fund/ACH Account retain Dianne Mathews, Chair, and remove Aaron Salmela, Treasurer and add Gary Kneisl, Treasurer

A motion was made by Holst and seconded by Peterson to approve the MSDLAF/U.S. Bank Master Services Agreement and Appendix A-1 New Account/Change in Authorized Account Signers: General Fund/Dental Fund/ACH Account. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

- Resolution for Columbus Day

A motion was made by Mathews and seconded by Kneisl to approve the Resolution that Christopher Columbus Day shall not be recognized as an official Holiday. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by McFarland to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Holst, Clerk

Dianne Mathews, Chair