

HERMANTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Minutes: March 8, 2021

The Board of Education of Hermantown Independent School District No. 700 met in regular session on March 8, 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 (absent), Wayne Whitwam, Superintendent, Lance Takkunen, Director of Business Services

Visitors: Jenny Wiese, Gretchen Appelwick, Sarah Turcotte, Jason Wilcox, John Muenich, Renee Klinkner, Beth Clark, Scott Carter, Mike Zagelmeyer, Nancy Litman, Brian Grandstrand

APPROVE AGENDA

- *A motion was made by Holst and seconded by Kneisl to approve the amended agenda with the following additions, deletions, or corrections: move item C, 4. Approval of Elementary Distance Learning Teacher Long Term Sub Contract for Rachel Schmidt from consent agenda to old business, remove administrative report, add new position request for high school special education teacher under new business. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting dated February 22, 2021
- Approval and authorization of audited vouchers for payment #106301-106390, voided check #106268 and the Bank and Electronic Transfers.
- Approval of Personnel Items
 1. Retirement of Lori Fichtner as Early Learning Program Manager and Lateral Work Design to Post the Position
 2. Lateral Work Design for Long Term Substitute Elementary Music Teacher
 3. Memorandum to Employ Makenna Kullman as Kid's Zone Child Care Aid
 4. Leave of Absence of Rachel Lofald
- *A motion was made by Clauson 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 McFarland to accept donations to the General and Extra Curricular Funds received thru March 8, 2021. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

COMMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS

- Muenich. Recognized the mathlete team that will compete at the State Tournament on Monday, March 15. Thanked Sheina Showen and her nursing staff, as well as Kris Zagelmeyer and Thersea Tardelson for setting up the high school auditorium for the vaccination clinic.
- Whitwam. Recognized the dance team for qualifying for the State Tournament in Jazz.
- Mathews. Thanked Lori Fichtner for all of her years of service.
- McFarland. Recognized the nursing staff. Their hard work is not going unnoticed.

RECONGITION OF VISITOR BUSINESS – No visitor business

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mathews. Sign up for MSBA newsletters. There is a lot of information coming up in regards to bills of legislature that will impact our schools. Additionally, received follow-up correspondence regarding a proposal spearheaded by Alan Page and Neel Kashkari that would amend the Minnesota Constitution to specify that all children have a fundamental right to a quality public education.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCUSSION ITEMS

- COVID COVID-19 Update. County numbers were last week at 10.8, numbers this week are projected to 11. Local numbers: Elementary School: 0 positive cases // Middle School: 0 positive cases // High School: 8 positive cases // Staff: 0 positive cases. All staff have now had the opportunity to get vaccinated.
- Enrollment Update. Budgeted: 2080 // Today: 2081
- Other. Attended an insurance meeting this week. Looking at changing from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Medica, which would take effect on January 1, 2022.
- .5% sales tax for Hermantown Recreation Initiative passed in the House. It is moving along.
- Met with Jeff Schmidt regarding bids for the new chiller for Hermantown Hockey Arena.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Holst: Attended the PTO meeting. Elementary launched its fundraising campaign, which looks different this year. Looking for straight donations in lieu of the usual academic fundraiser. PTO is brainstorming on how to help the outdoor specialist teacher raise funds for a Yurt.
- Mathews. Negotiation seminars with MSBA, which were very useful.

OLD BUSINESS

- *A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by McFarland to adopt the Elementary School five-day-per-week learning model beginning March 22, 2021 as recommended. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*
- *A motion was made by Mathews and seconded by McFarland to approve the Elementary Distance Learning Teacher Long Term Sub Contract for Rachel Schmidt. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- Brian Grandstrand presented proposals for a scoreboard for Centricity Credit Union Stadium - Corey Veech Field
- Whitwam presented data on neighboring districts regarding length of quarantines for staff, students, athletes, etc. (7 Day, 10 Day or 14 Day)
- New Position Request for Three (3) Early Childhood Teachers
- New Position Request for Three (3) Early Childhood Program Aids
- Policy Review – #100s
- New Position Request for High School Special Education Teacher for 2021-22 School Year

CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

- *A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Holst to close the meeting for the purpose of contract negotiations at 8:07 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*
- *A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Holst to open the closed meeting for the purpose of contract negotiations at 8:09 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*
- *A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by McFarland to close the closed meeting for the purpose of contract negotiations at 9:02 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

REOPEN THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

- *A motion was made by Kneisl and seconded by Holst to reopen the meeting to the public at 9:03 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

ADJOURNMENT

- *A motion was made by Mathews and seconded by Kneisl to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Passed unanimously via roll call vote.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Holst, Clerk

Dianne Mathews, Chair