

**DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 22, 2021 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the March 22, 2021 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present: Jan Berg, Keri Brunelle, Brian Coker, Sue Esser, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, Jeff Miller, Spencer Statz, and Steve Tenpas. Also present were administrators Eric Runez, Rebecca Toetz, Kathy Davis, Sara Totten, Pete Wilson, Nate Jaeger and Debbie Brewster.</p> <p>The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p> <p>Spencer Statz recited the DeForest Area School District's Mission, Vision, and Equity Statements.</p>
2.	<p>Approval of the Agenda</p> <p>On a motion by Miller, seconded by Brunelle, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Student Recognition</p> <p>A. Presentation by Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Advisor, Chris Smith, introduced student members of the FBLA club who were present to explain the activities that they participate in. The club has 113 members and has maintained membership throughout the pandemic. Club officers Kyra Lange, Maddie Martin, Reid Morauske, Kira Fries, Lucy Manzetti, and Sarah Dollak reported on virtual events that were planned, community service opportunities, competitions, travel opportunities, and social media. Thirty-seven members qualified for State and for the first time ever the club finished 1st out of 25 schools at the Regional Leadership Conference.</p>
4.	<p>Board Business & possible Board action</p> <p>A. Referendum Project Update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> John Rauwolf, District Owner Advocate for the referendum projects shared updated photos of the construction projects. He shared photos of the High School Project, and the Harvest Intermediate School construction. All projects are proceeding on time. An invitation to tour the High School project has been extended to the School Board and area municipal leaders for April 7.</p> <p>Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips reported on the final results of the referendum borrowing. The initial projection for the 2019</p>

referendum was \$1.80 per/\$1,000 of value, but the final amount was \$1.29 per/\$1,000, resulting in an estimated interest cost avoidance of \$37,200,798. Refinancing of the 2015 Referendum results in an additional savings of \$1,900,194.

B. Resolution authorizing the sale of Morrisonville Elementary School

Discussion: Davis-Phillips reported on an offer to purchase Morrisonville Elementary School. The closing is scheduled at the end of April.

On a motion by Coker, seconded by Esser, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to authorize Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips or Superintendent, Eric Runez to finalize the sale of Morrisonville Elementary School in the amount of \$230,000. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

C. Presentation and possible approval of R-4, Collaborative & Responsible Citizens Monitoring Report

Discussion: Director of Instructional Services, Rebecca Toetz, College & Career Readiness Coordinator, Chris Smith, and Program Coordinator for Teaching & Learning, Kate Dabetic presented the monitoring report for Board policy R-4, Collaborative & Responsible Citizens. There was an overall increase in school connectedness and in the citizenship index. There was a slight decrease in the wellness index, but also in the incidents of bullying. Alignment work on Social Emotional Learning competencies will continue. Behavior grades were not given this year due to the pandemic.

On a motion by Lovick, seconded by Statz, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to accept R-4, Collaborative & Responsible Citizens Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

On a motion by Miller, seconded by Leonhart, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve R-4, Collaborative & Responsible Citizens Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

D. Consider recommendation from District Insurance Committee for 2021-2022 health insurance renewal

Discussion: Director of Human Resource Services, Nate Jaeger, Sue Augustine, DASD Benefits Specialist, and Al Jaeger, insurance broker from USI Insurance Services LLC were present to explain the health insurance renewal recommendation. The health insurance recommendation allows the district to maintain the same provider and plan design for a 3rd consecutive year with a 7.23% net increase to premium expenses. Next steps include a plan to go out to bid to assess the market in the 2021-22 school year. The District plans to continue offering the current high deductible health plan, as there is high employee satisfaction with this option.

On a motion by Coker, seconded by Brunelle, the DeForest Area School District

	<p>Board of Education approved the recommendation from the District Insurance Committee for the 2021-2022 health insurance renewal, as presented, with no plan changes. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote, with Esser abstaining.</p> <p>E. Consider community conversation to reflect on the pandemic and how to move forward</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Coordinator of School and Community Relations Coordinator, Debbie Brewster discussed with the Board hosting a community conversation to bring district stakeholders together to discover common ground, identify community values, and move forward past the pandemic. The Board's consensus is to convene a design team to begin planning and bring back to the Board for consideration.</p> <p>F. Public Health Madison Dane Co (PHMDC) & Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance update and impact on Return to School Plan</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Superintendent, Eric Runez presented an update on changes to guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Public Health Madison Dane Co (PHMDC). The District will continue to require face coverings whether staff, students, or other adults, are vaccinated or not. The CDC update allows for 3 feet distancing as opposed to the previous 6 foot recommendation. The new guidance does help avoid disrupting students and staff caused by assigning students to different classes. Plans for the 2021-2022 school year are for 5 days a week and more typical schedules. Families will be surveyed to determine what their plans are for next year, a need for a virtual option is expected.</p>
5.	Public Input - an email from Melissa Dobbs was read regarding instructional minutes at the high school.
6.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Accept Minutes - March 8, 2021</p> <p>Brunelle made a motion, Lovick seconded, to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
7.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Personnel Recommendations</p> <p>I. Separations:</p> <p>Heidi Roberts - Educational Assistant YES - resignation effective 4/16/2021</p> <p>Rebecca Schreiber - Office Assistant YES - resignation effective 4/8/2021</p> <p>Nicole Heimbecker - Educational Assistant WES - resignation effective 3/4/2021</p> <p>Ashley Fabry - Math Teacher DAHS - resignation effective 6/7/2021</p> <p>Colleen Kollasch - Social Studies Teacher DAHS - resignation effective 6/7/2021</p> <p>Candace Toth - Third Grade Teacher EPES - resignation effective 6/7/2021</p> <p>II. Leaves: None.</p> <p>III. Transfers: None.</p> <p>IV. Appointments:</p> <p>Jason Bierman - Assistant Football Coach DAHS .5FTE - replacing Kris Tudor</p> <p>Connor Ludeman - Assistant Baseball Coach DAHS - replacing Kyle Borland</p> <p>Mark Pankow - Assistant Football Coach DAHS - replacing Matt Chrisler</p> <p>Mark Hinner - Assistant Football Coach DAHS .5FTE - replacing Eric Stewart</p>

	<p>Julie Maiers - Education Assistant WES - replacing Patricia Roesel Hayley Gunderson - Educational Assistant YES - replacing Emily Niesen Tim Noltemeyer - Custodian DAHS - new position V. Reassignments: None. VI. Other: None.</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report Paid: 203583-203621, 202100882-202100936, 202000503-202000509, 19086-19087.</p> <p>Statz made a motion, Coker seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
8.	<p>Linkages - Aspen Group has been providing Board training on equity and community linkages. Tenpas and Berg connected with the Eau Claire School District regarding the coherent governance model. High School is putting on a musical this spring.</p>
9.	<p>Press Verification The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes.</p>
10.	<p>Future Agenda Items - Community Conversation, Board Retreat on SRO</p>
11.	<p>Board Debrief</p>
12.	<p>Adjourn The Board of Education adjourned at 8:17 pm on a motion by Miller, seconded by Brunelle, and passed unanimously by voice vote.</p>
	<p>DASD BOE President Signature:</p>
	<p>Date:</p>