

**DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 9, 2021 – 5:30 pm.**

1.	<p>Board of Education Information Session - 5:30 pm</p> <p>Prior to the start of the regular Board of Education meeting, the Board conducted an information session for anyone interested in filling the vacant Board seat apportioned to the Village of Windsor.</p>
2.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the August 9, 2021 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:15 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, Jeff Hahn, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, and Jeff Miller. 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>Jeff Hahn recited the DeForest Area School District's Mission, Vision, and Equity Statements.</p>
3.	<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>
4.	<p>Public Input - Tracy Gosen, Jonathan Pinnow, appeared to speak about mask requirements. Emails were read from Dr. Amy Anderson & Abe Degnan regarding mask requirements. An email was read from Sophie Gryske about a potential resolution protecting transgender athletes rights to participate on the sports team that matches their gender identity.</p>
5.	<p>Board Education</p> <p>A. Update on 2021-2022 School Year Planning</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> District Administrators, Dr. David Ringdahl, and Dr. Greg DeMuri, explained planning for the 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent Eric Runez explained that the district is planning a full schedule, five days a week. Goals include ensuring safety, minimizing disruptions to learning, and maximizing in-person instruction. Based on guidance from Dr. Ringdahl and Dr. DeMuri, from the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and Public Health Madison Dane County (PHMDC) regarding the dominant Covid strain, Delta variant, and Dane County's substantial level of community transmission, the District will require face coverings indoors and on busses for staff, students, and visitors, K-12, regardless of vaccination status. Other mitigation strategies were shared, as well as information about the learning environment, virtual options, athletics and activities,</p>

and upcoming school sponsored events.

B. Supporting All Students through Partnership

Discussion: Director of Student Services, Dr. Sara Totten, and Instructional Coaches Heather Terrill-Stotts, and Kathy Williams, provided a review of the LERN (Leading for Equity Redesign Network) team's work this past year. The LERN team is facilitated by staff from the National Equity Project. Student voice continues to be a priority as the team works to create equitable learning environments in all district schools. She shared goals and partnerships with Dane County Equity Consortium, Critical Consciousness Institutes, and iamWE (Restorative Justice).

Accomplishments in 2020-2021 include: a high school curriculum redesign with consideration for student voice and experience, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People Of Color) student leadership group created at the high school, several teachers piloted a new student feedback survey looking at student belonging and experience, building based equity teams, and consistent use of inclusive language, representative literature, and classroom design for equity, at the elementary level.

6. Board Business & possible Board action

A. Kobussen bus contract renewal discussion and possible approval

Discussion: The district has had a good working relationship with Kobussen and is satisfied with the services provided. During the pandemic Kobussen was a valuable partner in ensuring the new Covid protocols were in place and that students made it to school amid unprecedented bus driver staffing challenges. The district has been working with Kobussen since 2016. Administration is recommending that the district continues with the new proposed contract that will end on July 31, 2024.

On a motion by Lovick, seconded by Coker, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve the renewal of the Kobussen bus contract. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

B. Presentation of Multilingual Pathway to Graduation and possible approval

Discussion: Multilingual Program Services Coordinator, Melody Leung, and High School Associate Principal, Matt Bauer were present to explain REALS (Ready to Engage and Achieve Life Success), a pathway to graduation for EL (English Learners) students, immigrants, newcomers, and students with limited or interrupted formal education. Students are offered a personalized academic and career plan to help them complete high school course work and achieve graduation.

On a motion by Miller, seconded by Leonhart, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve the REALS Multilingual Pathway to Graduation, as presented. The vote passed on a 7-1 vote, with Hahn opposed.

C. Consider Administrative request to postpone Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing

	<p>On a motion by Miller seconded by Brunelle, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve the Administration's request to postpone the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing to September 27, 2021. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p>
7.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Accept Minutes - July 26, 2021</p> <p>Brunelle made a motion, Hahn seconded to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
8.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Personnel Recommendations</p> <p>I. Separations:</p> <p>Dana Pike - Library Media Specialist Harvest - resignation effective July 16, 2021</p> <p>Brittany Brazzel - Social Studies Teacher DAHS - resignation effective August 13, 2021</p> <p>Jeremy Jacobson - Custodian DAHS - resignation effective effective August 16, 2021</p> <p>Toni Pawlowsky - Special Education Assistant DAMS - resignation effective August 3, 2021</p> <p>Linda Neesam - Special Education Assistant EPES - resignation effective August 4, 2021</p> <p>Evan Moss - Eighth Grade Teacher DAMS - resignation effective August 3, 2021</p> <p>II. Leaves: None.</p> <p>III. Transfers: None.</p> <p>IV. Appointments:</p> <p>Aimee Voeck - Recess Monitor Harvest - new position</p> <p>Cassandra Miller Knaus - Recess Monitor Harvest - new position</p> <p>Emily Niesen - Recess Monitor Harvest - new position</p> <p>Tristan Robbins - Technology Education Teacher DAHS/DAMS - replacing Daniel Hertel</p> <p>Alexandra Garcia-Schirmacher - Social Worker DAHS - replacing Jenna Holland</p> <p>Jennifer Waisbrot - School Counselor EPES - replacing Dana Erickson</p> <p>Andrew Pfaff - English Teacher DAHS - replacing Danielle Vogel</p> <p>Lydia Schutz - Kindergarten Teacher WES - new position</p> <p>Alyssa Nelson - Instructional Support Teacher WES - new position</p> <p>V. Reassignments: None.</p> <p>VI. Other: None.</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Paid: 204345-204366, 212200071-212200109, 202100002-202100032, 19110-19116.</p> <p>Coker made a motion, Esser seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
9.	<p>Linkages - Framework for Moving Forward is August 11, 2021.</p>
10.	<p>Press Verification</p> <p>No member of the press was present at this time.</p>

11.	Future Agenda Items - Summer school summary, showcasing students
12.	Board Debrief
13.	Adjourn The Board of Education adjourned at 8:47 pm on a motion by Lovick, seconded by Hahn, and passed unanimously by voice vote.
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: