

**DeForest Area School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, August 24, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the August 24, 2020 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:00 pm.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present in person: Jan Berg, Keri Brunelle, and Sue Esser. Board members present remotely: Brian Coker, 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>
2.	<p>Approval of the Agenda</p> <p>On a motion by Brunelle, seconded by Coker, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Board Business &amp; possible Board action</p> <p>A. Construction and Facilities Update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Superintendent, Dr. Eric Runez, provided an update on the Harvest Intermediate and High School construction projects. The projects are proceeding on time as planned.</p> <p>B. Update on progress of the Return to School plan</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Superintendent Runez, and other administrators provided an update on the Return to School plan. The district has been staying informed while waiting for guidance from the Department of Health Services (DHS), and Public Health Madison Dane County. DHS has not provided metrics for decision makers or guidance for youth sports. Executive Order # 9 has been released and mandates a virtual start for grades 3-12 in Dane County, due to the number of new cases of Covid and the difficulty of contact tracing, 40% of cases are from unknown community spread.</p> <p><u>Teaching and Learning</u></p> <p>Director of Instructional Services, Dr. Rebecca Toetz provided information on the rigorous professional development that staff have been engaged in the areas of blended learning, universal design for learning, synchronous and asynchronous instruction, and assessment, all with a focus on standards. Toetz also explained that staff will meet with families of K-8 students during the first two days of school to build relationships and familiarize families and students with virtual learning. High School students and families will learn more from their teachers on the Back to School night on September 8.</p>

Due to a larger than expected number of virtual academy requests there has been a change to the High School plan. Grades 9 - 12 will now follow their regular classes. Numbers of students requesting virtual academy (approx.):

K-4: 350

5-6: 170

7-8: 145

9-12: 210

#### Technology Update

Kim Bannigan, Learning Information Systems Coordinator, explained that there has been a delay in receiving new devices, so iPads will be used temporarily and new devices delivered when they arrive.

#### Social Emotional Updates

Dr. Sara Totten, provided information on social emotional updates and special education. A universal mental health screener will be sent out to students and families during the third week of September. Additional supports will be available to students and staff. Student curriculum has been adjusted to focus on relationship building and inclusion of race and social justice lessons. Staff will be offered professional development in supporting students, self-awareness, cultural responsiveness, etc.

#### Special Education

The primary provider model is being followed, as well as universal design for learning. Guidelines and best practices have been developed for virtual and hybrid special education delivery. Totten also explained the phase in plan for small groups of the most vulnerable learners.

#### Plan for Staffing

Director of Human Resource Services, Nate Jaeger explained the process for determining staff leaves, ADA accommodations, and virtual academy assignments.

#### Operations

Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips explained changes to the Food Service program this fall. No longer will there be federal support for district wide free breakfast/lunch. Meals will be available for purchase and to be picked up.

The Director of Administrative Services, Dr. Pete Wilson explained that staff will be required to wear face coverings, and will be given face coverings and face shields. Staff will be expected to self-monitor and report Covid-19 symptoms. The district is encouraging staff to conduct virtual meetings whenever possible to limit exposure. Staff have been provided training in safety protocols and cleaning and disinfecting options. Buildings now have received allocations for covid related PPE/germ prevention and barrier items.

School nurses are interpreting guidance from Public Health and have served as a liaison between public health departments and District Administration. The nurses have also been helping with communication to families regarding health services, protocols and resources.

	<p><u>Athletics and co-curricular activities</u></p> <p>Rick Henert, Athletic Director reported that low risk sports of cross country, girls golf and tennis are moving forward with some tentative plans. Football, volleyball, boys soccer, and girls swim are being moved to the alternate spring season option allowed by WIAA. District buildings will remain closed to both district activities and outside user groups through the month of September.</p> <p>More communication will come to the Board and the community regarding the transitioning of grades K-2 back into schools as plans develop.</p> <p>C. Confirm details of August 31, 2020 Board Retreat</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> The Board of Education will meet to review roles and responsibilities with legal counsel on Monday, August 31, 2020. They will also receive updates from the Communications and Policy Review ad hoc committees.</p>
4.	Public Input - None.
5.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Accept Minutes - August 10, 2020</p> <p>Esser made a motion, Tenpas seconded, to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
6.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Personnel Recommendations</p> <p>I. Separations:</p> <p>Ann Hinner - Health Room Assistant YES/WES - retirement effective 8/7/2020  Lynda Loughran - Educational Assistant WES - resignation effective 8/10/2020  Debra Whitesel - Food Service Assistant DAMS - resignation effective 8/14/2020  Cassandra Miller Knaus - Educational Assistant DAHS - resignation effective 8/24/2020</p> <p>Donna Lockwood - Food Service Assistant - retirement effective 6/10/2020  Roger Bjorge - Custodian DAHS - retirement effective 8/26/2020</p> <p>II. Leaves:</p> <p>Jacinda Kopp - 1st Grade Teacher YES - leave for 2020-21 school year  Shelly Bradshaw - Educational Assistant EPES - leave for 2020-21 school year</p> <p>III. Transfers:</p> <p>None</p> <p>IV. Appointments:</p> <p>Hannah Black - Science Teacher DAHS - replacing Kelly Kramer  Jennifer Deadman - Spanish Teacher DAHS - replacing Amy Sarnow  Kelsey Danninger - 7th Grade Science Teacher DAMS - replacing Stephanie Wright  Terri Turner - 1st Grade Teacher YES - replacing Jacinda Kopp</p> <p>V. Reassignments:</p> <p>Emily Prehn - Kindergarten EPES to Kindergarten YES - due to number of students</p>

	<p>Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report Paid: 202873-202909, 202100098-202100149, 202000015-202000033, 19058-19062</p> <p>Brunelle made a motion, Leonhart seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
7.	Linkages - Leonhart had a conversation with the new School Resource Officer. Wisdom Sharing conference will be held virtually from Sept. 23-25, 2020.
8.	<p>Press Verification</p> <p>The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes.</p>
9.	Future Agenda Items
10.	Board Debrief
11.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>The Board of Education adjourned at 8:00 pm on a motion by Brunelle, seconded by Tenpas, and passed unanimously by voice vote.</p>
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: