

**DeForest Area School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 13, 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 DeForest.</p>
2.	<p>The Board took a short recess from 6:02 pm until 6:10 pm.</p> <p>Convene</p> <p>A. President Jan Berg called the September 13, 2021 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:10 p.m.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>B. Oath of Office - Stephanie Sarr, Village of Windsor Seat</p> <p>Board of Education President Jan Berg issued the Oath of Office to Stephanie Sarr, who has been appointed to fill the vacant Village of Windsor Board of Education seat, until the Spring Election 2022.</p> <p>C. Roll Call</p> <p>Board members present: Jan Berg, Keri Brunelle, Brian Coker, Sue Esser, Jeff Hahn, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, and Stephanie Sarr. Absent were: none. Also present were administrators Eric Runez, Rebecca Toetz, Kathy Davis, Sara Totten, Pete Wilson, Nate Jaeger and Debbie Brewster.</p> <p>D. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p> <p>E. Brian Coker 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 Hahn, seconded by Lovick, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
4.	<p>Announcements by the Chair</p> <p>The Board of Education may convene into Closed Session for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, in accordance with WI Statute 19.85(1)(e) (Discuss negotiation strategy for potential land purchase by the District)</p>
5.	<p>Recognition</p> <p>A. Recognition of former Board member, Jeff Miller, for service on the Board of Education</p>

	<p><u>Discussion:</u> The Board recognized and thanked Jeff Miller for his almost 7 years of service to the DeForest Area Board of Education representing the Village of DeForest..</p>
6.	Public Input - None.
7.	<p>Board Education</p> <p>A. Creating Connections, formerly SEL (Social Emotional Learning) update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Cross Categorical teacher, Sue Ellen Kurt was present to update the Board on changes to the former SEL (Social Emotional Learning) program, now titled Creating Connections. Also presenting, was Director of Student Services, Dr. Sara Totten, and high school student, Alex Owen. The Creating Connections program utilizes a workshop approach to have students work toward their high school credits with project-based and personalized learning experiences. This allows students to have a strong voice and a lot of choices in their learning experiences. CC students will work at their own pace to earn their high school credits based on showing evidence of their learning. This allows students who want flexibility and support to re-engage in academically challenging work and become career and college ready.</p>
8.	<p>Board Business &amp; possible Board action</p> <p>A. OE-2 Emergency Superintendent Succession Monitoring Report</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Superintendent Runez presented his 2021-2022 Emergency Superintendent Succession Plan.</p> <p>On a motion by Coker, seconded by Brunelle, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to accept OE-2, Emergency Superintendent Succession Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented, in compliance. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>On a motion by Lovick, seconded by Leonhart, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve OE-2, Emergency Superintendent Succession Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented, in compliance. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>B. Construction budget update and approval of reallocation of funds within the project</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Director of Business &amp; Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips and John Rauwolf, District Owner Advocate, presented an update on the construction budget with the design process, bidding, and a good portion of the construction projects underway. She is seeking approval to reallocate funds within the project. Although the projects as a whole have remained within the 2019 referendum budget and committed fund balance use, there has been a need to shift dollars within the budget as projects have been finalized. The overall budget (which has not changed) consists of the \$125,000,000 building bond referendum (offset by \$3,000,000 of the first two years of the operating referendum) and \$4,000,000 commitment from fund balance for a total of \$129,000,000. Included in the board packet is the updated estimated project cost as of 9/10/2021. Please note that there is still a considerable amount of renovation work to be done. As construction continues there may be</p>

	<p>unforeseen issues that come up, however, we feel that the contingency built into each project should protect the district from budget overages.</p> <p>On a motion by Coker, seconded by Esser, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to reallocate funds within the construction project, as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>C. Appoint new Board Clerk to replace former Clerk, Jeff Miller</p> <p>On a motion by Lovick, seconded by Esser, the Board appointed Linda Leonhart to the position of Board Clerk, replacing former Board member, Jeff Miller. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p>
8.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Accept Minutes - August 23, 2021 &amp; August 30, 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>
9.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Personnel Recommendations</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report Paid: 204423-204526, 21220018821-212200295, 202100006-202100051, 19118-19127</p> <p>Hahn made a motion, Brunelle seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
10.	Linkages - The Board discussed creating a statement for the linkages they attend.
11.	<p>Press Verification</p> <p>The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes, attended virtually.</p>
12.	Future Agenda Items
13.	<p>Convene into Closed Session</p> <p>Leonhart moved, Hahn seconded, to move into closed session at 6:53 pm. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.</p> <p>While in Closed Session, the Board conducted business in accordance with WI Statute 19.85(1)(e) (Discuss negotiation strategy for potential land purchase by the District)</p>
14.	<p>Reconvene into Open Session</p> <p>On a motion by Brunelle, seconded by Hahn, and passed by a unanimous show of hands the Board of Education reconvened into open session at 7:16 pm.</p>
15.	Further discussion or action related to Closed Session business - None.

16.	Board Debrief
17.	Adjourn The Board of Education adjourned at 7:18 pm on a motion by Lovick, seconded by Sarr, and passed unanimously by voice vote.
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: