

**DeForest Area School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 14, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the December 14, 2020 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:06 p.m.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present in person: Jan Berg &amp; Sue Esser. Board members participating via remote access: Keri Brunelle, Brian Coker, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, Jeff Miller, Spencer Statz, and Steve Tenpas. Also present in person was administrator Eric Runez. Administrators present remotely include Rebecca Toetz, Kathy Davis-Phillips, Sara Totten, Pete Wilson, Nate Jaeger and Debbie Brewster.</p>
2.	<p>Approval of the Agenda</p> <p>On a motion by Coker, seconded by Statz, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Public Input - Jamison Meier, Rebecca Hannon, Olivia Schroeder, Jody Schumacher, Kari Livingston, Brooks Wilson, Ella Wilson, Matthew Taylor, Tom Sandow, Sam Fischer, Carleen Snow, Tristan Kreger, DAEA statement, and DASD Instructional Coaches statement - Heather Terrill Stotts, Kathy Williams, Sharon Ganster, all spoke about Agenda Item 4.B.</p>
4.	<p>Board Business &amp; possible Board action</p> <p>A. Update on District Territory Reorganization for potential property exchange with Madison Metropolitan School District</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Director of Business &amp; Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips shared information about a potential property exchange with the Madison Metropolitan School District. Davis-Phillips stated that the exchange would be at a property value benefit to the District. Two public comment opportunities will be provided on January 11 and January 25, prior to Board action on the proposal. More information regarding the tax status of the businesses in that area is requested.</p> <p><i>Agenda items B &amp; C were addressed at approximately 7:25 pm.</i></p> <p>B. Return to School update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> District Superintendent, Eric Runez provided an update on Public Health data and noted that new school guidance from Public Health Madison Dane County (PHMDC) was released right before the Board meeting, so there was not adequate time to completely review and provide an update, although it was noted that the guidance allows for schools to bring back students beyond those in PK-Grade 2.</p> <p>The Medical Advisory Team continues to provide operational support to administration. Parents are being asked to acknowledge receipt and understanding</p>

of safety protocols when sending students to school and families will receive weekly reminder messages.

Human Resources Director, Nate Jaeger shared the District Dashboard and provided an explanation of considerations for updated CDC quarantine timelines, expiration of FFCRA, and the impact of quarantines on in-person vs virtual instruction.

Runez reported on in-person hybrid planning for returning students in grade levels 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-12. Planning has been ongoing as there are considerable logistics and details to consider. There will be a focus on cohorting to support contact tracing. Staff listening sessions have been conducted to receive input, answer questions, and problem solve. Transportation is being reviewed. Some adjustment of schedules may be needed. Implementation of the hybrid plan for these levels is being considered after the winter break, however no decisions have been made on a specific date for return. It is recommended that grade levels be phased in, beginning with the elementary level, to ensure staffing capacity and ability to provide substitute teachers as needed. The Board requests a report on identified vulnerabilities for staff and students and how those will be addressed, as well as additional resources that may be needed.

Regarding athletics and activities, the district is working within Order #10 guidelines. Winter athletics have begun one-on-one workouts with coaches following identified safety protocols. Families agree to Student Pandemic Policies & Procedures and a pre-screener prior to activities. Non-District sponsored alternatives are occurring, but currently winter sports competitions would have to be conducted outside of the county due to restrictions from Order #10.

C. Review July 2020 Board approval of Return to School Plan

Discussion: Administration has been waiting for updated Public Health guidance in order to phase in more grade levels to in-person learning. The guidance was announced this afternoon. The Board requests that the Administration prepare an update to the Return to School Plan with recommendations for a phase-in plan to bring back more grade levels for in-person hybrid instruction. The Board will consider the plan at the January 11, 2021 Board meeting.

*At approx. 7:00 PM agenda items D-G were addressed.*

D. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$9,945,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds

Discussion: Brian Brewer, Managing Director, Baird Public Finance was present to provide information on the issuance and sale of refunding bonds with an interest rate of 1.4%. The result shows that the future reduction will save the District property tax payers \$800,000 over the remainder of the bonds.

On a motion by Statz, seconded by Esser, the DeForest Area Board of Education voted to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$9,945,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

	<p>E. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of an \$8,000,000 Bond Anticipation Note Pursuant to Section 67.12(1)(b), Wisconsin Statutes</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Brewer explained the final bond anticipation note of \$8,000,000 that will be financed for the 2019 Referendum at an interest rate of .60%.</p> <p>On a motion by Miller, seconded by Brunelle, the DeForest Area Board of Education voted to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of an \$8,000,000 Bond Anticipation Note Pursuant to Section 67.12(1)(b), Wisconsin Statutes. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>F. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of Not to Exceed \$8,000,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds.</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Brewer explained the process of issuance and establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$8,000,000 in general obligation refunding bonds.</p> <p>On a motion by Esser, seconded by Leonhart, the DeForest Area Board of Education voted to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$8,000,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>G. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of Not to Exceed \$30,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Brewer stated that this resolution puts the District in position to take advantage of low interest rates for refinancing a portion of the 2014 Referendum debt if the rates continue to be favorable.</p> <p>On a motion by Statz, seconded by Brunelle, the DeForest Area Board of Education voted to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$30,000,000 Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p>
5.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Accept Minutes - November 23, 2020 &amp; November 30, 2020</li> <li>B. Approval of Board summary statements for R-2 Numeracy and OE-12 Facilities Monitoring Reports</li> <li>C. Approval of Temporary District Sponsored Covid-19 Related Emergency Leave</li> </ul> <p>Tenpas made a motion, Coker seconded, to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote, with Esser abstaining.</p>
6.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Personnel Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Separations: None.</li> <li>II. Leaves: None.</li> <li>III. Transfers: None.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>IV. Appointments:  Mark Wendt - Educational Assistant YES - replacing Amanda Murphy  Sandra Langdon - Recess Monitor EPES - replacing Alicia Kilbane  V. Reassignments: None.  VI. Other: None.</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report  Paid: 203241-303312, 202100527-202100599, 202000179-202000350, 19077-19078</p> <p>Leonhart made a motion, Brunelle econded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
7.	Linkages - Coker and Berg attended a Board workshop on equity.
8.	<p>Press Verification</p> <p>No member of the press was present at this time. Attended earlier.</p>
9.	Future Agenda Items
10.	Board Debrief
11.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>The Board of Education adjourned at 8:47 pm on a motion by Coker, seconded by Tenpas, and passed unanimously by voice vote.</p>
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: