

**DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 23, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the March 23, 2020 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:04 p.m in the District Office Boardroom.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present physically: Jan Berg, Brian Coker, Sue Esser, and Steve Tenpas. Members participating remotely via video conferencing were: Keri Brunelle, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, Jeff Miller, Spencer Statz. Present physically was District Administrator Eric Runez. Administrators participating remotely were: 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 Coker seconded by Tenpas, and passed unanimously by roll call voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Board Business & possible Board action</p> <p>A. District Pandemic Response Update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Superintendent Runez outlined what has been done to address the current coronavirus pandemic and the recent District closure. He presented information in the areas of virtual learning for students, virtual work by staff, technology access, food service delivery, buildings & grounds, and communication. Virtual learning will remain a high priority so that students stay connected to school and to serve the community that supports the District.</p> <p>B. Referendum Update</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Runez reported that there should be minimal disruption to the design process of the referendum projects as they are almost completed, however furniture pilots will be postponed. Construction company, Findorff, is committed to this project, and plans to move ahead as planned. They will keep an eye on supply markets during this uncertain time. Walking and bike trails have been approved by the Village of DeForest for the High School. Intermediate School bids have come in very favorably.</p> <p>C. Consider postponement of R-4, Collaborative and Responsible Citizens Monitoring Report</p> <p>On a motion by Tenpas, seconded by Statz, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to postpone R-4, Collaborative and Responsible Citizens Monitoring Report to a future date. The vote passed with a unanimous roll call voice</p>

vote.

- D. Consider Administration's recommendation for hourly support staff compensation during District closure

Administration presented the following recommendation for work and pay continuation during emergency closure: all regular, full-time and part-time hourly and extracurricular employees as defined by administration, continue to be paid at their regular rate of pay if they are available to work and meet the work expectations (virtual and/or on-site) as directed by administration. This recommendation is intended to extend through May 1 or the date of return; whichever comes first. In the event the closure is expected to extend beyond May 1, the Board will revisit this recommendation at the April 27 meeting.

On a motion by Statz, seconded by Coker, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve Administration's recommendation for hourly support staff compensation during District closure, as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous roll call voice vote.

- E. Report and possible action regarding certified staff post-employment benefit

Director of Human Resource Services, Nate Jaeger explained a proposed certified staff post-employment benefit for consideration. The Teacher Compensation Committee has been working throughout the year to develop a recommendation for a revised teacher retirement benefit. The proposed benefit will be a deposit into a Retiree-Only Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) to be used for eligible premium expenses. Eligible retirees will receive a total deposit into a Retiree-Only, HRA within one month following the date of retirement comprised of:

- Base amount of \$37,500; plus
- Accumulated sick day balance at retirement date, converted at \$250 per day, up to a maximum of 150 days.

Retirees will have the ability to remain on the district-sponsored health insurance plan for the maximum COBRA continuation period.

On a motion by Coker, seconded by Statz, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve the Administration's recommendation for certified staff post-employment benefits, as presented. The vote passed with the following roll call voice vote: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0. Esser abstained.

- F. Consider topics for discussion during annual Board training with legal counsel on May 11, 2020

Discussion: The Board discussed topics of interest for the annual Board training with legal counsel at a future meeting. The suggested topics included: pandemic issues related to school closures, special education & related services delivery during a closure, technology associated with Board meetings and Open Meetings Law, expulsions, and conflict of interest.

	<p>G. Discussion and possible action on adjustments to Board meetings during District closure</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> The Board discussed their current Board Policy, BP-2 Board Members Participating in Meetings Remotely. There is a suggestion that at a time of emergency such as during a pandemic, where health or safety may be a concern, a physical quorum of the Board need not be present. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has stated that a physical quorum is not necessary in this situation in order to convene a meeting. The Board will continue to follow the guidance of the DOJ and their Board policy. During the current District closure, the Superintendent will be physically present in the Boardroom to open the space for members of the public to access and observe the remote meeting.</p>
4.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Accept Minutes - March 9, 2020</p> <p>Coker made a motion, Esser seconded to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call voice vote.</p>
5.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <p>A. Personnel Recommendations</p> <p>I. Separations: Courtney Hammer - Music Teacher DAHS - resignation effective 6/10/2020 David Daniels - CC Teacher WES - resignation effective 6/10/2020 Danielle Rose - Math Teacher DAHS - resignation effective 6/10/2020</p> <p>II. Leaves: None.</p> <p>III. Transfers: None.</p> <p>IV. Appointments: Raina Benusa - English Teacher DAHS - replacing Joe Capaul</p> <p>V. Reassignments: Laura Salopek - 6th Grade Teacher DAMS to 7th Grade ELA DAMS</p> <p>VI. Other: None.</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report Paid: 202322 - 202388, 192001718-192001840, 201900443-201900575, 19036-19037</p> <p>Lovick made a motion, Brunelle seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call voice vote.</p>
6.	<p>Linkages</p>
7.	<p>Press Verification</p> <p>The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes.</p>
8.	<p>Future Agenda Items</p>
9.	<p>Board Debrief</p>
10.	<p>Adjourn</p>

	The Board of Education adjourned at 7:18 pm on a motion by Esser, seconded by Coker, and passed unanimously by voice vote.
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: