

**DeForest Area School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 13, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the April 13, 2020 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m in the Board Room of the Holum Education Center, 520 E. Holum Street, DeForest, WI 53532.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present in person: Jan Berg, Brian Coker, and Sue Esser. Board members participating via remote access: Keri Brunelle, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, Jeff Miller, and Steve Tenpas. Spencer Statz arrived at 6:17 pm. Also present physically was administrator Eric Runez. Administrators participating via remote access 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 Esser, seconded by Lovick, and passed unanimously by roll call vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Board Education</p> <p>A. Review of grading practices for the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Director of Instructional Services, Rebecca Toetz explained the process that will be used for grading for the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. Administration met and analyzed the practices of many other districts in the state, including all of the Badger Conference. Attendance of virtual learning was taken carefully and reviewed to determine access and student engagement. Administration then met with teacher leaders at the Middle and High School level to look at the information about grading. Teacher leaders helped inform the final decisions that are written below. Equity for students was considered throughout the process.</p> <p><u>Elementary Grading</u> - Feedback will be given on particular assignments within the virtual learning platforms (Seesaw or Google Classroom). At the end of the year a comment will be reflected in the report card about the level of engagement the student had in virtual learning.</p> <p><u>Middle School Grading</u> - Students will be given their 3rd quarter grade based on their grade when we went virtual schooling. Students will have the opportunity to improve that grade. Feedback will be given in Google Classroom on assignments to students. Core content teachers will provide grade marks in Skyward every three weeks as a "no count", for parents to be able to see. The "no count" in Skyward means that the grade entry will not calculate automatically into the semester grade. Allied Arts teachers will provide grade marks in Skyward in the Behavior Grades area (not counting toward their academic grade), because Allied Arts classes are choice based for students in virtual learning.</p>

High School Grading - Students will be given their 3rd quarter grade based on their grade when we went to virtual schooling. Students will have the opportunity to improve that grade. For the 4th Quarter, teachers will give academic feedback to students in Google Classroom. 4th Quarter 'grades' will be an 'A' for pass with exceptional engagement, 'C' pass with adequate engagement, and an 'F' for fail in the Behavior Grades portion of the Skyward gradebook. This grade will be based on student engagement in the classroom. If a student remains engaged, then they will Pass with the 'A' or 'C'. If not, then they will fail with the 'F'. The Behavior Grades do not impact the calculation of the academic grade in Skyward. The Semester grade will then be the same as the third quarter grade. The exception to this will be if a student has failed the 4th quarter engagement or behavior grade. If they fail that 4th quarter, then their semester grade will drop no more than one grade from the third quarter grade. It is always a teacher's discretion to raise a grade if they see evidence that the student in question has done learning and work to a level that deserves that adjustment.

4. Board Business & possible Board action

A. Review of Referendum Financing Plan - Brian Brewer, Robert W. Baird

Discussion: Brian Brewer, Managing Director, Robert W. Baird was present to review the referendum financing plan and discuss the next phase of borrowing for the 2019 referendum in April. Brewer has been monitoring bond rates and is anticipating that April will be a good opportunity for the district to secure the next round of funds. As he had proposed with the first borrowing, Brewer is considering utilizing a BAN (temporary borrowing) along with a board approved refinancing parameter for turning the BAN into a BOND (long term borrowing). This allows the district flexibility to lock in the long term portion when rates are most favorable. This plan could result in a potential savings of approx. \$32,000,000 from the original conservative planning estimates. The Board will consider the temporary borrowing and the parameters for the long term borrowing at the next meeting on April 27, 2020.

B. Referendum Update

Discussion: Superintendent, Eric Runez reported that Findorff will be providing a construction update at the April 27, 2020 Board meeting and Eppstein Uhen Architects will present an update at the May 11, 2020 Board meeting.

C. Discussion of possible need for waivers of Instructional Minutes, Civics Test Graduation requirement, and Educator Effectiveness

Discussion: Superintendent, Runez reported that the District will need to make a request for waivers of Instructional Minutes, Civics Test Graduation requirement, and possibly Educator Effectiveness due to the school closure. Administration recommends holding a required public hearing prior to submitting applications for the waivers, beginning at 5:30 pm on April 27, 2020, prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting.

- D. Consider postponement of OE-10, Learning Environment Monitoring Report and consider schedule of future monitoring reports during District closure

Discussion: Runez presented an adjusted Annual Board Work Plan for monitoring reports due to the current District closure.

On a motion by Coker, seconded by Tenpas, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education agreed to postpone OE-10 Learning Environment Monitoring Report and approve the revised Board Annual Work Plan, as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

- E. Review process for naming of Intermediate School

Discussion: Runez outlined the process for moving forward with the next steps in the naming of the Intermediate School. The Board will consider the list that has been revised removing any names with reference to municipalities. Next, each Board member will be asked to identify their top five choices from the revised list to be discussed and considered at the next Board meeting on April 27, 2020.

- F. Review process for Re-Organizational meeting on April 27, 2020 and review Board Policy, GC-4 Officer Roles

Discussion:The Board discussed the process for the nomination and voting of officers during the re-organizational meeting. Sue Esser will contact Board members to solicit nominations or interest in officer roles. She will compile results for consideration at the reorganization meeting on April 27, 2020. Board members will have an opportunity to practice voting virtually prior to the actual vote.

5. Board Consent Agenda  
A. Accept Minutes - March 23, 2020

Esser made a motion, Coker seconded to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

6. Superintendent Consent Agenda  
A. Personnel Recommendations  
I. Separations:  
Lori Billings - 3rd Grade Teacher EPES - retirement 6/10/2020

II. Leaves: None.

III. Transfers: None.

IV. Appointments:

Aaron Mack - Football Coach DAHS - replacing Mike Minick

V. Reassignments:

Jeff Stern - 5th Grade DAMS to 6th Grade Math/Science DAMS - replacing Kathy Schleif

Kathryn Allen - 6th Grade DAMS to 5th Grade Math/Science DAMS - replacing Jeff Stern

Kylie Davis - 2nd Grade Teacher EPES to 4th Grade Teacher EPES - replacing Candice Toth

Candice Toth - 4th Grade Teacher EPES to 3rd Grade Teacher EPES - replacing Lori Billings

VI. Other: None.

	<p>Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report  Paid: 202389-202437, 192001841-192001939, 201900532-201900732, 19038-19042</p> <p>Brunelle made a motion, Tenpas seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.</p>
7.	Linkages
8.	<p>Press Verification  The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes.</p>
9.	Future Agenda Items
10.	Board Debrief
11.	<p>Adjourn  The Board of Education adjourned at 7:21 pm on a motion by Coker, seconded by Statz, and passed unanimously by roll call vote.</p>
	DASD BOE President Signature:
	Date: