

PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Business Meeting of the Board of Education

5:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 10, 2024 – Elementary IMC, Fifth Street, Port Edwards, WI

Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Daven at 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: John Daven, Leo Thomasgard, Kathy McGrath, Dana Duncan

ABSENT: Cary Hildebrandt

ALSO PRESENT: James Bena, Superintendent, Lisa Miller, Business Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Shroda, Jen Moore

1. Consider Approval of Agenda

Motion by McGrath, second by Duncan to approve the agenda as posted. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

2. Report from Student Representatives; Student & Staff Recognition

Student Council member, Nevada Rice reported on the current activities at JEHS:

Boys and girls basketball teams are in the middle of their seasons and the boys team is on a four-game winning streak. Both teams will be playing Pittsville this week. The middle school girls basketball team will have their first game next week and the annual spelling bee will take place on Friday morning. Nevada Rice also reported that the student council held a club fair last week in the gym. Students learned about all of the different clubs that are offered at JEHS and had the opportunity to sign up. Forensics will have their first meet in February.

3. President's Report

A. Board Member Attendance

President Daven reported that Board members, Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, and Duncan were in attendance. Board member Hildebrandt was absent due to personal obligations.

B. Next Board Meeting

President Daven reported that the next meeting of the Board of Education will be Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

4. Administrative Reports

A. District Administrator Report – Superintendent Bena

Superintendent Bena reported that the district will be one of four schools to receive the Harju Grant for Professional Development in the amount of \$10,000.00. Mr. Bena thanked the Port Lions for their donation to the Christmas Cheer fund and praised Jen Moore and Ann Aschenbrenner for their hard work organizing the program. The annual alumni night for the boys basketball team was held and ten alumni from 1954 to 2023 were recognized. Alumni night for the girls basketball team will be held on January 15th. Superintendent Bena reported there will be two community meetings regarding the upcoming referendum on February 27th and March 5th.

B. MS/HS Principal Report - Principal Shroda

Principal Shroda reported that the scheduling process for the 2024-25 school year has begun. Ms. Shroda stated that Mr. Hintz will be taking middle school students to Washington D.C. in the summer of 2025. Mr. Hintz presented information to the Board on details of the trip. An informational meeting was held for parents and as of today there are 12 students signed up. Mr. Hintz stated that the trip will be joint with students from Nekoosa.

C. Elementary Principal Report – Principal Bena

Principal Bena reported that tomorrow Sheena Vitello and Kristen Winters will be attending CESA 5 for a meeting on Act 20. Act 20 will require an overhaul on literacy in grades K – 3. Principal Bena stated that teachers will be required to have a minimum of 40 hours of professional development and will require new curriculum to be purchased. Principal Bena stated that the character trait for January is perseverance.

5. Questions and Comments from People in Attendance

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Consider Approval of Minutes of Past Meeting – December 13, 2023

Motion by McGrath, second by Thomasgard to approve the minutes of the past meeting. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

7. Consider Approval of Financial Reports

- A. Check Summaries..... December 1-31, 2023
#34391 - 34509 & 202300626 – 202300641 & #1105 - \$344,858.00
- B. District Revenues Report December 1-31, 2023
- C. District Expenditures Report December 1-31, 2023
- D. District Cash Receipt Report.....December 1-31, 2023
- E. December Cash Balance Report
- F. December Substitutes Report
- G. December Budget Revisions

H. Consider Approval of Gifts

Business Director reported the following gifts:
Kathy McGrath – Donated two books to the elementary school
Engel Fellowship - \$250 donation to the caring closet
Port Lions – \$1950 donation to the Christmas Cheer program

Motion by Duncan, second by Thomasgard to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Duncan. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS:

8. Consider Approval of Open Enrollment Spaces for Special Education and Regular Education Programs for the 2024-25 School Year

Motion by Duncan, second by Daven to approve the Open Enrollment Spaces for Special Education and Regular Education Programs for the 2024-25 School Year. Discussion was held.

Due to the board's caseload formulas, no seats are available for any special education services at any grade level

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AVAILABLE SPACES BY GRADE LEVEL	
Elementary	0
Middle School	0
High School	0
REGULAR EDUCATION AVAILABLE SPACES BY GRADE LEVEL	
4 Year Old Kindergarten	Unlimited
Kindergarten	7
1 st Grade	7
2 nd Grade	5
3 rd Grade	7
4 th Grade	6
5 th Grade	0
6 th Grade	6
7 th Grade	9
8 th Grade	8
9 th Grade	5
10 th Grade	5
11 th Grade	8
12 th Grade	0

Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

9. ACP Presentation

Ms. Moore reported on Academic Career Planning. Ms. Moore shared how the process works which includes career modules that the students in grades 6 – 12 complete. Students chose careers and the program then lays out a path to help students get there. The ACP also assists with scheduling. It helps guide the students in making choices that best fit their career goals.

10. Opportunity for Individual Board Member Comment

McGrath – Thanked Mrs. Bruener and the Ecology Club for the annual holiday meal. Mrs. McGrath also congratulated Aubree Shroda for being awarded the Evans Scholarship.

Daven – Stated he appreciated all of the hard work that went into preparing for the holiday meal.

11. Establish Future Board Meetings

Wednesday, February 14, 2024, Closed Session at 5:00 (if needed); Business Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Elementary IMC

12. Call for Adjournment

Motion by Duncan, second by McGrath to adjourn the meeting. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Duncan. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Lisa Miller, acting secretary