

# PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Business Meeting of the Board of Education

5:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 10, 2024 – Elementary School IMC, 5<sup>th</sup> Street., Port Edwards, WI

### Minutes

Meeting called to order by President John Daven at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

**PRESENT:** John Daven, Leo Thomasgard, Kathy McGrath, Cary Hildebrandt, Dana Duncan

**ABSENT:** None

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Donna Shroda, Jennifer Moore, Marissa Rebischke, Kristen Winters, Debby Brunett

#### 1. Consider Approval of Agenda – Kathy Dana

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

#### 2. Report from Student Representatives, Student Recognition

Student Council members, Hennessey Sturgl and Nadia Ellingson reported on the current activities at JEHS:

Spring sports are underway, both baseball and softball have played a few games and will play home this Friday. The golf team had a meet today at Golden Sands Golf Course and the high school track and field team will compete at Rosholt tomorrow. The high school math league competed last Thursday in the third meet of the year. Drama club has started making preparations for this year's variety show in May. Nine students have qualified for state forensics.

#### 3. President's Report

##### A. Board Member Attendance

President Daven reported that all board members were in attendance.

##### B. Next Board Meeting

President Daven reported that the next meeting of the Board of Education will be May 8, 2024.

#### 4. Administrative Reports

##### A. Elementary Principal Report – Principal Bena

Principal Bena reported that the character trait for April is courage and students that exemplify this trait will be nominated by their teacher and will receive an award at the end of the month. Principal Bena stated that he conducted a virtual meeting with CESA 5 on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss collaboration amongst the professional staff at the elementary school. Two curriculum specialists will be coming to the elementary to observe our teachers and we will receive feedback on what is going well and what areas need improvement. Principal Bena reported elementary school students observed the solar eclipse. The elementary school received glasses from the Nekoosa Library. Mr. Bena shared information on a presentation that Lisl Detlefsen will do on her new book on April 24<sup>th</sup>, an ice cream social will follow.

##### B. MS/HS Principal Report – Principal Shroda

Principal Shroda gave an update on the students going to state forensics and a group including Aubree Shroda, Dakota Bares and Charlie O'Connor performed their presentation.

Jennifer Moore did a presentation on B.E.S.T. Screener and shared important data and information.

##### C. District Administrator Report – Superintendent Bena

###### - Debby Brunett, Baird Financials – Referendum Update

Superintendent Bena thanked all those that supported our district in the referendum for their efforts in assisting with the successful results.

Debby Brunett, Baird Financial, presented to the Board the next steps in the referendum process. Ms. Brunett shared what steps are needed to prepare for the debt issuance. Interest rate was estimated at 5.5% rate and currently it is at 4.66% this means we will save interest costs over the life of the loan. Ms. Brunett discussed the rating process, investment plan, promissory note details, and levy information.

#### 5. Questions and Comments from People in Attendance

None

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

#### 6. Consider Approval of Minutes of Past Meeting – March 13, 2024

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

#### 7. Consider Approval of Financial Reports

##### A. Check Summaries..... March 1-31, 2024

#34682 – 34747 & 202300843 -202301070 – \$222,409.21

##### B. District Revenue Report..... March 1-31, 2024

##### C. District Expenditures Report ..... March 1-31, 2024

##### D. March Cash Balance Report

##### E. March Cash Receipts Report

##### F. March Substitutes Report

##### G. Budget Revisions

H. Consider Approval of Gifts

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**8. Receive Election Results & Administer Oath of Office**

Board Clerk, Hildebrandt administered the Oath of Office to John Daven. Results of election were reported.

**9. Consider Approval of Recognizing PEEA for the Purpose of Collective Bargaining**

Marissa Rebischke, PEEA President, reported to the board on the certification of PEEA. Mrs. Rebischke shared a letter with the Board

explaining a processing error by WEAC and requested that the Board recognizes PEEA for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Motion by Thomasgard, second by Duncan to approve the recognition of PEEA for the purpose of collective bargaining. Voting yes

– Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Motion carried.

**10. Designate Board Representative to CESA 5 Annual Representative Convention**

This selection must be done after re-organization at the May meeting.

**11. Consider Approval of 2024-25 Teaching Contract**

A. Nicholas Campbell – 1.0 FTE – Physical Education

Motion by McGrath, second by Duncan to approve Nicholas Campbell teaching contract for 2024-25. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

**12. Consider Approval of Assistant Baseball Coach – Justin Beck**

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Duncan to approve Justin Beck as the Assistant Baseball Coach. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

**13. Consider Request for Post-Employment Benefits – Donna Shroda**

Motion by McGrath, second by Duncan to approve the request for Post-Employment Benefits for Donna Shroda. Voting yes – all.

Motion carried.

**14. Opportunity for Individual Board Member Comment**

McGrath – Stated that she is proud of the students and staff and stated that the district is lucky to have them all.

Duncan – Stated that he was pleased by the outcome of the referendum. Mr. Duncan reported that this was not the case throughout the state. Our school is the center of this community and he stated that he was pleased people supported the district.

Hildebrandt – Congratulated both math league and forensics. Mr. Hildebrandt stated that on May 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for Comfort Aire. He invited all to attend, 8:30 – 3:30.

Thomasgard – Thanked all for the support for the referendum and stated how pleased he was with voter turnout.

Daven – Stated that our school is the focus of the village and he was pleased with the referendum results.

**15. Establish Future Board Meetings**

Wednesday, May 8, 2024, Executive Session at 5:00 (if needed); Business Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Elementary IMC

Wednesday, June 12, 2024, Executive Session at 5:00 (if needed); Business Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Elementary IMC

**16. Call for Adjournment**

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Thomasgard to call for adjournment. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Lisa Miller, acting secretary