

Eau Claire Board of Education

Monday, October 17, 2016

Generated by Patti Iverson

Members present

Carolyn Barstad, Kathryn P Duax, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Joe Luginbill, Charles Vue

Member absent

Jennifer Fager

Work Session called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Hambuch-Boyle.

1. WORK SESSION

1.1 2016-17 Budget Question/Answer Session

The Board was given an opportunity to ask questions about the 2016-17 budget. There was a question about how much the District spends on its non-public schools. Ms. Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, said that the District spends approximately \$1.2 million, which includes transportation costs. She added that there are 111 vouchers going out from the District, which will take away about \$513,000 from ECASD's budget to give to the voucher schools.

When asked about OPEB costs, Ms. Johnson said she would be giving the Board an update on those costs in the near future.

Administration was asked if the District does any outsourcing. Ms. Johnson noted that the only outsourcing is for substitutes through Teachers on Call. This allows retired teachers to sub in the District without losing their HRA benefits.

The costs for alternative education are found in various places in the budget; some by building and others under the Executive Director of Administration. In the future that will have its own location.

Ms. Johnson said the initial projections show that the tax levy will decrease by approximately 64 cents per \$1,000 of property value. This will impact the first year of referendum costs if it passes. Rather than 95 cents, the cost to taxpayers would be more like 31 cents.

The Board thanked Ms. Johnson for her efforts to finalize the budget.

1.2 Referendum Planning

President Hambuch-Boyle said there were 89 scheduled community presentations from August 25-November 4 about the referendum. The Support Eau Claire Public Schools (SECPS) group is also working hard to promote the referendum.

The group reviewed the GoogleDoc for referendum presentations and filled in some spots.

SECPS has been conducting literature drops throughout town. Board members were encouraged to share information in their neighborhoods.

President Hambuch-Boyle said the *Road to Referendum* documentary is now posted on the referendum website.

It was noted that the SECPS group put a half-page ad in Volume One. The Board discussed the costs for an ad in the Leader Telegram. A full page ad would be \$1,700. The Board felt it could use their travel budget for NSBA to cover the costs but that will need to be confirmed.

The Board was encouraged to use their personal social media to promote the referendum and ask for endorsements.

The Board talked about setting up a place to gather on election night. Joe Luginbill will check into that and let everyone know.

President Hambuch-Boyle said that she authorized that the Board contribute \$500 towards the Poverty Summit so the District could be listed as a sponsor.

The Work Session was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

2. REGULAR MEETING - CALL TO ORDER

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Hambuch-Boyle called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No one signed up to address the Board during the Public Forum.

4. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hardebeck shared the Board's upcoming calendar of events.

Superintendent Hardebeck congratulated Memorial French Teacher, Celena Smith Reuter, who received the Award for the Concours Pédagogique from The American Association of Teachers of French – Wisconsin chapter. The Concours Pédagogique was designed to help educators be more reflective in their own planning and to promote the sharing of standards-based and AP-aligned units between colleagues

at all levels. Celena will receive this prestigious award at this year's WAFLT Fall Conference on Saturday, November 5, 2016.

Dr. Hardebeck said she recently attended the Urban Superintendents Association of America's Executive Committee meeting. She shared referendum materials and strategies the District is using. Dr. Hardebeck said there are challenges across the country with recruiting and retaining highly qualified staff. Other points of discussion included emphasizing collaboration and relevance in the curriculum for future buildings. Another troubling trend is happening in Michigan where all of the financial decisions of Districts are being placed on consent agendas by the state, which is taking away the financial and budget responsibilities of local control and making it state based.

4.2 Board President's Report

President Hambuch-Boyle thanked the staff who worked on the development of the website and referendum materials as well as the referendum web page and scheduling community presentations: Patti Iverson, Abby Johnson, Teri Piper-Thompson and Emily Cooper.

She also thanked Omni Associates and Executive Director Carol Craig for producing the *Road to Referendum* Documentary. She encouraged everyone who wants to learn about public school funding in Wisconsin to watch the documentary. She noted that no ECASD funds were used to make the documentary.

The Chamber of Commerce offered the District a spot for a referendum information session after their candidate forum.

There have been 89 community information meetings regarding the referendum scheduled between August 25 and November 4.

Ms. Hambuch-Boyle thanked everyone for their hard work on the referendum. The Board also thanked President Hambuch-Boyle for her leadership of this project.

5. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Angela Arnholt shared an update on events happening at Memorial. She said that students have been appreciative of the Board discussing fine arts programs.

Ryan Cramer also shared North's events. He said that he talked to students about the proposed 2017-18 school calendar and most were fairly satisfied with it and didn't feel any changes were necessary.

6. OTHER REPORTS

6.1 Board Committee Reports

The LEAP Committee continues to work on new proposals that have been submitted by staff. Two are in the works and others are being reviewed and worked on. Mr.

Leibham said that community members have approached the committee with an interest in connecting with the group.

The Policy & Governance Committee is bringing forward two new policies for Board discussion and a possible first reading. In addition, they have developed new policies on parent rights and responsibilities and Section 504 plans that will come to the Board in the near future.

6.2 Legislative Update

Joe Luginbill said there is draft legislation from the American Legislative Exchange Council, which is a new voucher system, regarding Education Savings Accounts. These taxpayer-funded grants would be given to parents and placed in ESA's to be used for education-related expenses, including private school tuition. The author of the legislation, Senator Dale Kooyenga, said he wants to ensure money isn't taken from public schools before drafting legislation to create the accounts.

General state aid was certified to school districts on October 14th. It shows that 60% of the state's public school districts (255 of 424) will receive more general state aid this school year than they did in 2015-16. General state aid for school districts was up \$108.1 million from last year. However, the actual amount of general aid that the state's public school districts receive has been reduced due to the fact that nearly all districts share an aid reduction of \$62.2 million for the 22 independent charter schools in Milwaukee, Racine, and Waukesha.

The nonpartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau released a memorandum providing information on the estimated level of state support for K-12 education statewide and to individual school districts in the 2015-16 school year. According to the memo, the state's share of K-12 education in 2015-16 was 62.74% of partial school revenues. That's up from 62.3% in 2014 and 62% in 2013. The state's commitment to funding two-thirds of schools' costs was eliminated in 2003. Zero adjustment to revenue limits and no increase in per pupil aid in 2015-16 means increased state support amounted to a tax shift away from the local property tax. To be clear, unless a district passed an operating referendum, they saw no increase in per pupil resources in 2015-16. Unless the ECASD passes a referendum, it will not either. The *Road to Referendum* documentary also spoke about this situation in Wisconsin.

There are 25 Operating Referendums on the November 8th ballot. Residents can make sure they are registered to vote and check out their polling location at myvote.wi.gov. Early voting is also available at the Court House.

7. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Motion by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, second by Kathryn P Duax, to approve the following consent resolution agenda items:

- Minutes of October 3, 2016
- Minutes of Closed Session - October 3, 2016

- 2015-16 Final Budget Adjustments
- Payment of all bills in the amount of \$5,315,574.87 and net payroll in the amount of \$5,258,026.95 for the period of September 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016.
- Human Resources - Employment Report for October 17, 2016
- Revisions to Policy 832 - Weapons on School Premises

Motion carried

Yes: Carolyn Barstad, Kathryn P Duax, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Joe Luginbill, Charles Vue

8. INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTION(S)

8.1 Gifts Report

Motion by Aaron Harder, second by Joe Luginbill, to accept the gifts in the amount of \$26,978.22 for the period of September 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016.

Motion carried

Yes: Carolyn Barstad, Kathryn P Duax, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Joe Luginbill, Charles Vue

8.2 Approve Recommended 2016-2017 Budget

Abby Johnson said that aid was certified to the District on October 14, 2016. The Board was asked to approve two versions of the recommended 2016-17 budget: one that is referendum dependent and another that is non-referendum dependent. Ms. Johnson said that when DPI certified state aid, there was a 3% increase in state aid. This would lower property taxes. The preliminary estimate for the tax levy would be 64 cents lower than the tax levy from 2015-16. This means that if the referendum passes, the taxpayer would only feel a 31 cent increase from last year. These numbers may be slightly different when the numbers are finalized on October 24, 2016.

Motion by Joe Luginbill, second by Kathryn P Duax, to approve two versions of the 2016-17 Recommended Budget: one that is referendum dependent and one that is not.

Motion carried

Yes: Carolyn Barstad, Kathryn P Duax, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Joe Luginbill, Charles Vue

9. ADJOURN TO COMMITTEE

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

10.1 Opening of School & Equity Report

Superintendent Hardebeck said that academic achievement results will be reported on November 7th due to the data being embargoed until the end of the month by the state.

Michelle Radtke, Director of Assessment, shared the three Board goals and noted that they are referenced on each Power Point slide and organized around the District's strategic priorities.

Tim Leibham, Executive Director of Administration, shared demographic information for students who receive special programming including free/reduced priced meals, gifted/talented, special education, critical health needs, individual health plans, English learners and those who are homeless. He also gave a breakdown of students by race and gender.

Mr. Leibham reviewed enrollment projections from the Applied Population Laboratory and the actual number of students enrolled. Projections were very close to actual enrollments. There were 11,202 enrolled as of the third Friday in September 2016. The District continues to show slight growth in each of the last five years.

Mr. Leibham shared building capacities, which included the impact of the SAGE program. Information was also shared regarding the Board's guidelines for class sizes.

Mr. Leibham reviewed the number of alternate school requests at each level as well as open enrollment statistics. In addition, he looked at the enrollment of Chippewa Valley Montessori School by attendance areas.

The number of students eligible for meal assistance continues to increase, with 41% eligible as of September 2016. That information was shared by building.

Kay Marks, Executive Director of Human Resources, reviewed strategies to align with Board goals and strategic priorities. She also looked at data associated with hiring by licensure, staff counts, experience, and turnover rates. The staffing report also included breakdowns by ethnic group and gender. She discussed recruitment initiatives the District has undertaken.

The Board asked about ways that the District can increase recruitment initiatives to attract persons of color.

In reviewing the Board's goal to create partnerships with families and the community, Ms. Radtke reviewed student engagement indicators by grade as well as the perception of the quality of education by families and the opportunities for family involvement gleaned from the family survey.

James Martin, Director of Technology, talked about how technology works to meet District priorities. A new learning management system called Canvas is being rolled out across the District. There has also been a focus on utilizing technology to

enhance the student's learning experience, which brings out new types of creativity, increases engagement, and informs both the learner and instructor on new learning targets through either self-assessment or targeted assessment.

Mr. Martin shared a graph that shows network distribution throughout the District. As the District leverages technology to redefine the traditional limits of the classroom walls and take advantage of access and mobile technology, it is able to reduce the total number of network switches and increase the total number of wireless access points. The objective is for the District to install its own fiber to all sites to provide equitable access for all schools.

Administration reviewed how all of the data is connected to the Board's goals and to strategic priority areas.

10.2 Draft of the 2017-18 School Year Calendar

Kay Marks, Executive Director of Human Resources, shared a draft of the 2017-18 school calendar. This calendar was reviewed by administration and some tweaks were made with PD/IP days to move them depending on when different assessments came through. Staff and parents were surveyed about the calendar as well, and the results showed that 89% were supportive and positive with regards to changes made to the calendar last year. There are similarities to the 2016-17 calendar in that there were excess minutes built in for four snow days. There were nine PD/IP days built in as well. The Board will be asked to approve the 2017-18 calendar at its next meeting.

10.3 Board Development Proposal from WASB

Superintendent Hardebeck shared an organizational service proposal from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB). Two workshops would be held with Board members to connect the District's Strategic Plan to progress monitoring of the yearly District goals and outcomes. These workshops would begin with a self-assessment and progress on development of a Board monitoring schedule. The ultimate goal would be to provide clear and concise expectations to District leadership.

Dr. Hardebeck shared the proposed timeline for these services. The total project cost would not exceed \$2,500. The goal would be to begin the process of monitoring plan implementation by the end of January 2017.

If the proposal is approved, President Hambuch-Boyle asked Board members to plan for a meeting on November 15, 2016 for Board Development Meeting #1.

10.4 Discussion & Possible First Reading of New Policy 731.1 – Privacy in Locker Rooms

A first reading of Policy 731.1 – Privacy in Locker Rooms was shared:

Students, school employees and other persons present on school property shall respect and protect the privacy interests of individuals who are using a locker room, restroom, or other designated changing area. Students or employees who violate this policy, or any related rules or directives, shall be subject to school disciplinary action and possible legal referral. Other persons violating this policy may lose the privilege of using District facilities, may be referred to law enforcement and/or may be subject to penalties provided under applicable law.

In keeping with the District's objective of taking reasonable measures to protect the privacy interests of persons who are using a locker room, restroom, or other changing area for an authorized purpose, all persons present on school property shall, at a minimum, observe the following measures:

1. The use of recording and other electronic devices is substantially restricted in locker rooms, restrooms, and other designated changing areas.
 - a. No person may use a camera, video recorder, cell phone, or any other device with recording capabilities at any time to capture, record, transmit, or transfer an image or representation of an undressed or partially undressed person who is in any locker room, restroom, or other designated changing area.
 - b. No recording function (photographic, video, audio) of any type of device may be used in any non-emergency situation in such facilities at any time unless (1) the individual has received the prior permission of the District Administrator, building principal, or other District-designated facility supervisor; and (2) any person being recorded has consented to the recording. Such permission shall not be exercised when persons who are present in the facilities are actively using the area as a changing area, shower facility, and/or restroom.
 - c. In order to avoid any appearance of a violation of privacy or other impropriety, individuals present in such facilities are expected to restrict their use of the non-recording functions of any communications device or other multi-function device to (1) emergencies; or (2) situations where they have received the prior permission of the District Administrator, building principal, or other District-designated facility supervisor. That is, with these limited exceptions, voice calls, texting, etc. should not be occurring in such facilities.
2. No person shall view or attempt to view from any concealed location, or in an otherwise secret or hidden manner, an undressed or partially undressed person who is using a locker room, restroom, or other changing area.
3. Loitering in a locker room, restroom, or other designated changing area is prohibited.
4. No media is allowed access to locker rooms before, during, or after any school athletic event or practice. Coaches and student athletes may be available for interviews outside the locker rooms, consistent with District policy and school rules.
5. When District employees or other District-designated individuals enter a locker room, restroom, or other designated changing area in order to exercise their supervisory/employment responsibilities (including any exchange of information with persons using the locker room), they shall exhibit due regard for the privacy of the individuals who may be using such facilities, including recognizing that the relevant privacy interests are heightened when an individual has a supervisory need to enter a facility designated for use by persons of the opposite sex.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to prohibit coaches and other athletic-team personnel from being present in a locker room, whether of same sex or of the opposite sex, in circumstances where the presence of such individuals would not compromise the privacy interests of student athletes or other persons who may be using the facility, such as during pre/post-game team meetings, halftime meetings, or other similar circumstances.

A notice of the restrictions applicable to the use of recording devices shall be posted at the entrance to each locker room in District buildings. Students shall be informed of this policy, or a summary of relevant portions thereof, in the Student Handbook.

This policy applies to all users under the Use of School Facilities Agreement.

Com. Duax wasn't comfortable with the phrase "substantially restricted" in Item #1. The committee will look at that language when it meets on November 7th and it will be brought back to the Board at the next meeting.

10.5 Discussion & Possible First Reading of New Policy 343.4 – Course Options

Board members shared a first reading of Policy 343.4 – Course Options:

Resident Students Attending Individual Courses in Other Educational Institutions

Any student enrolled full-time in a public school in the District may apply to take a course(s) in another qualifying educational institution under the "Course Options" program in accordance with state law. A student may attend no more than two courses at any one time in another educational institution under this program.

The District shall deny a resident student's application to attend a course(s) in another educational institution under the "Course Options" program if:

1. The student's application was not submitted in the manner and within the time limits established by state law;
2. The course conflicts with the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan; or
3. The course does not conform to or support the student's formal academic and career plan, if the student has developed any such plan.

The Director of Academic Services, in consultation with the Director of Student Services and Director of Special Education when applicable, shall be responsible for reviewing all course applications received from District students and accepting or denying them in accordance with the criteria outlined above and established District procedures.

The District shall pay costs for the course to the extent required by state law and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Students and parents or guardians may be charged and required to pay costs and fees for a course to the extent permitted by law.

To the extent required by any state law or by any Department of Public Instruction (DPI) regulation or DPI procedure, the District shall process the “Course Options” application of any nonresident student whose primary school enrollment and attendance is within the public schools of the District as though the student were a resident student seeking to take a course outside the District. In other words, in any situation where the District is required to fulfill the requirements of a resident school district under the “Course Options” program, the District shall do so.

Nonresident Students Attending Individual Courses in the District

Nonresident public school students residing within the State of Wisconsin may apply to take a course(s) in the District under the “Course Options” program in accordance with state law and established procedures. Students may attend no more than two total courses in the District and/or in any other educational institutions under the “Course Options” program during any semester. The District will deny any application that is not submitted in the manner and within the time limits established under state law and applicable District procedures.

The Director of Academic Services, in consultation with the Director of Student Services and Director of Special Education when applicable, shall be responsible for reviewing all course applications received from nonresident students under this policy and for accepting or denying them in accordance with the same criteria that is used for making course-related eligibility decisions for students who are District residents (e.g., space availability in the course, meeting course prerequisites, academic requirements, conduct-related requirements, etc.). Preference shall, however, be given for attendance in a course to any otherwise-eligible student whose primary school enrollment and attendance is within the public schools of the District and to residents of the District who are otherwise entitled to apply to take the course under state law or under any Board policy. If the District receives more nonresident student applications to attend a course than there are spaces available, determination of which students to accept shall be made on a random basis in accordance with established procedures.

A nonresident student may be denied to take a course under this policy during the term of his/her expulsion from the District or from another school to the same extent that the District would deny the student’s request, if he/she were a resident of the District, to enroll and take courses as a full-time student during the term of his/her expulsion. Other conduct-related criteria that the District would apply to determine the course eligibility of a resident student shall also be applied to nonresident student applicants.

The District shall provide equal opportunities for students with disabilities to attend courses in the District under the “Course Options” program. However, if a question arises as to possible course accommodations or modifications for a student with a disability, or as to the District’s ability to implement the student’s IEP or Section 504 Plan, the District shall contact the student’s parent or guardian and involve representatives of the school(s) responsible for the IEP or Section 504 Plan to the extent necessary and appropriate.

Nonresident students attending courses in the District will have all of the rights and privileges of similarly-situated resident students and will be subject to the same policies and rules as similarly-situated resident students, except that the District shall not charge to or receive from

the student any payment other than the payment that the student's resident school district makes to the District pursuant to state law.

Provisions Applicable to All Students Seeking to Attend Courses under this Policy

Transportation to and from any course(s) taken under this policy shall be the sole responsibility of the student's parent or guardian, unless state or federal law otherwise requires the student's resident school district or the educational institution that is offering the course to provide transportation.

Following the District's initial acceptance of any course application(s) under this policy, the parent or guardian must provide timely written notice to the District confirming the student's intent to attend the specific course(s). If this confirming notice is not received by the District prior to the date the course is scheduled to begin, the student will not be permitted to attend the course under this policy.

This policy will be brought forward on the consent agenda at the next meeting.

11. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

12. ADJOURN

Motion by Charles Vue, second by Aaron Harder, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Carolyn Barstad, Kathryn P Duax, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Joe Luginbill, Charles Vue

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.