



MONTCALM AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**621 NEW STREET, P.O. BOX 367
STANTON, MICHIGAN 48888**

**MAISD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Call to Order

Vice-President Steve Foster called a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District to order at 8:00 AM.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Steve Foster, Andrea Tabor, and Deborah Snyder
Members Absent: Mark Christensen and Amy Thomas
Others Present: Kyle Hamlin, Tricia Root, Shannon Tripp, Daniel Brant, Adel DiOrio, Don Thompson, Tom Staten, and Penny Dora
Guests: Cory Smith from The Daily News
Superintendent Dr. Nicholas Ceglarek, Northwest Education Services

II. Recognition of Visitors

Welcome to Dr. Ceglarek who will be presenting the strategic planning process and related proposal information.

III. Public Participation – None.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion

#3029 Moved by Andrea Tabor, seconded by Deborah Snyder to approve the agenda as presented.

Action

Approve agenda as presented.

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0

V. Correspondence

Thank you note from the Friends of Fred Meijer Heartland Trail for our continued partnership and in-kind services offered to them for use of copy machines and paper for their newsletter.

VI. Consent Agenda

Motion

#3030 Moved by Andrea Tabor, seconded by Deborah Snyder to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Action

Approved Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of regular meeting minutes for February 16, 2024.
- Approval of personnel changes as presented.
- Approval of FMLA and LOAs as requested.
- Approval of in-state overnight conference and travel requests.
- Approval of out-of-state overnight conference and travel requests.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

Nays: None

continued

VII. Approval of Invoices for Payment

Motion

#3031 Moved by Andrea Tabor, seconded by Deborah Snyder to approve Invoices for Payment as presented.

Action

Approved invoices for payment.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

VIII. Approval of Budget Amendments as Presented for Special Education, Career Technical Education, and General Education Budgets for 2023-2024

Motion

#3032 Moved by Deborah Snyder, seconded by Andrea Tabor to approve budget amendments as presented.

Action

Approved budget amendments.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

IX. Approval of Section 127 Educational Assistance Plan

This Educational Assistance Plan is being established by Montcalm Area ISD to provide eligible employees with educational assistance benefits under Section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Motion

#3033 Moved by Deborah Snyder, seconded by Andrea Tabor to approve the Section 127 EAP as presented.

Action

Approved Section 127 EAP as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

X. Approval of Bid for Building Signage with Electronic Message Centers

Three bids were received and considered. Companies submitting were Midwest Sign Company, Praise Sign Company, and Universal Sign Company, all from the Grands Rapids greater area. Proposals are included in the board packet. Recommendation to select Midwest Sign Company for this contract.

Motion

#3034 Moved by Andrea Tabor, seconded by Deborah Snyder to approve the selection of Midwest Sign Company as the vendor for building signs and electronic message centers.

Action

Approved the bid as recommended.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

XI. Approval of the MAISD Strategic Planning Process Proposal as Presented

The previous strategic plan was completed in 2017 and facilitated by Karen McPhee, former superintendent at Ottawa Area ISD. She has since retired and is no longer leading strategic planning work. MAISD has had a significant amount of turnover at all levels of leadership within the organization so it will be beneficial to embark upon a new strategic plan. Kyle has pursued this process through Superintendent Dr. Nicholas Ceglarek, Northwest Education Services. The recommendation is to accept the proposed plan to be led by Dr. Ceglarek.

Motion

#3035 Moved by Andrea Tabor, seconded by Deborah Snyder to approve the proposal for strategic planning.

Action

Approved the proposal as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Foster, Snyder, Tabor

Nays: None

Motion passed 3-0.

XII. Report from MAISD Superintendent Kyle Hamlin

- Superintendent Evaluation: All MAISD Board members have been provided training through Collins & Blaha. Kyle will work on finding a date to meet to begin the superintendent evaluation process.
- Rooftop Units: Don Thompson will be putting specs together and an RFP to bid for rooftop units at all buildings where replacements are needed. One unit runs around \$43,000.
- The next MCSBA general session is on April 29. Please let us know your availability for attendance. Adel will be presenting on the topic of understanding assessment systems in Education. We will be in Greenville for this event.
- Fiber Project: We applied, received bids, and analyzed bids. We only received one bid response for self-provisioned fiber, the network we own and operate. This is our desired option. The bid total was \$8.7M to bury 109 miles of fiber connecting 13 endpoints including MAISD buildings, local school buildings, and MCC, as well as replacing 30-year-old fiber to MiSEN in Ithaca. While the cost is double what was expected, the experts indicated the numbers are not out of bounds due to the extensive nature of our network and the current supply and demand situation in the industry. After discussing our application and bid options with our state E-rate coordinator, and a couple local E-rate coordinators, they recommended delaying our project and reapplying in the Fall for a better chance of approval.
- Bond Proposal: We need to decide next steps, if any, regarding a bond request. What we are seeing is that, if we want to go back to the voters in August, we have to have a new plan, with ballot language and a resolution approved and to the clerk's office by May 14. Our May Board meeting is May 16, so it would be helpful to move this meeting to allow more planning to have a proposal in place for the Board to consider prior to May 14. So, that means three things: 1. We have everything hammered out and completed by April 18th for our Board to support the August request. 2. Take more time to plan and consider the November ballot. 3. Wait until after the first of the year. MAISD leaders will have a financial proposal for the April meeting so that the board can determine how to proceed.

X. Administrative Department Reports

Tricia Root, Associate Superintendent of Finance

- Nothing further to report.

Daniel Brant, Associate Superintendent of Special Education

- Dan highlighted the LRE guidelines document entitled Supporting Students with Complex Needs in the LRE and explained some of the requirements outlined in this document.

Shannon Tripp, Associate Superintendent of CTE/Early College

- State level competitions: It is competition time of the year and many programs will be competing at various state and regional levels. Shannon will provide a review of student awards next month.
- Grants: The AgriScience and CAD/Engineering Programs have both received grants for their programs. CAD/Engineering will be using their grant to support their underwater robotics initiative. AgriScience will be considering their funding and how it will be best applied.
- May 3 - Early College graduation held at MCC. There are 16 Early College graduates this year.
- May 7 - Honors and Ice Cream at The MACC for both morning and afternoon sessions.

Adel DiOrio, Associate Superintendent of Instruction

- Adel shared several documents related to the School Index, Achievement Summary, and Annual Education Reports.
- Special note in the School Index Scores - Early College was the only school in our county to receive a School Index score of 100.

XI. Information and Discussion for Future Meetings

Next Meeting Dates

April 18, 2024 – Regular Meeting at Hamler Building

May 6, 2024 - This is a rescheduled meeting date from the previous date of May 16. Required notices will be posted.

XII. Adjournment

Motion

#3036 Moved by Steve Foster, seconded by Deborah Snyder to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 AM.

Ayes: Christensen, Foster, Snyder

Nays: None

Action

Meeting adjourned.

Motion passed 3-0.



Minutes recorded by
Penny Dora
MAISD Director of Communications



Minutes approved by board action on 4/18/2024
Andrea Tabor, Board Secretary
MAISD Board of Education