

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

I. ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 5:15 p.m. in the Wm. Budd Board Room. Members in attendance were Nicole Green, Mike Edman, Julie Laue, Dan Brookens, Mari Myren, and Jen Harris.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MINUTES

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve the September 12, 2023 school board meeting minutes.

IV. AGENDA

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Jen Harris and carried to unanimously approve the September 26, 2023 school board meeting agenda.

V. CELEBRATIONS AND SCHOOL / COMMUNITY REPORTS

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - see attached

VII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

A. Donation

A resolution was offered by Dan Brookens, seconded by Julie Laue, and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to accept the donation of a tennis ball machine and tennis cart from Emily Weisser. The donation is valued at \$3,200.

B. Financial Reports & Bills

Director of Finance and Business Management, Jessica Korte, reviewed this month's financial reports.

A motion was Julie Laue, offered by seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve the wire transfers for 9/7/23 - 9/20/23, and payment of the September 26, 2023 bills.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 2023 Payable 2024 Tax Levy

Director of Finance and Business Management, Jessica Korte, presented the levy and explained that the formula used by the State of Minnesota provides annual adjustments based on student enrollment. This year's calculation will result in an increase of approximately 2.74%, generating approximately \$172,000 of additional revenue. Board member Mike Edman reminded the public that the school district levy differs from that of the City. The City is allowed to set its budget and then levy for the amount of dollars needed. School district levy amounts are set by the state, and school districts must then plan their budget around that dollar amount.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Jen Harris, and carried to unanimously approve the Proposed 2023 Payable 2024 Tax Levy to the maximum amount available.

IX. **NEW BUSINESS (Cont.)**

B. **Truth in Taxation Hearing**

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve scheduling the Truth in Taxation hearing for Tuesday, December 12, 2023 after 6:00 p.m.

C. **Policy Revision**

A motion was offered by Jen Harris, seconded by Mike Edman, and carried to unanimously approve revised Policy #708: Transportation of Non-Public Students.

D. **Student Participation Fees**

A motion was offered by Dan Brookens, seconded by Mike Edman, and carried to unanimously approve the 2023-2024 student participation fees.

X. **PERSONNEL**

A. **Resignation**

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve the resignation of Linda Hughes, EL Teacher, effective October 27, 2023.

B. **Retirement**

A motion was offered by Jen Harris, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve the retirement of Ned Adams, custodian, effective November 30, 2023.

XI. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mike Edman provided a summary of the 2022-23 appraisal session for superintendent Andy Traetow. Superintendent Traetow received exemplary remarks from board members. It was unanimous that expectations during Mr. Traetow's time as superintendent have not only been met, but well exceeded. Nicole Green stated that Fairmont Area Schools is very fortunate to have a leader who is always willing to go above and beyond.

Board members reported on the following:

A. **CER Advisory Council** - 9/14

B. **Operations Committee Meeting** - 9/18

C. **Policy Committee Meeting** - 9/21

D. **Continuing Ed Meeting** - 9/25

XII. **CLOSE BOARD MEETING**

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Dan Brookens, and carried to unanimously approve closing the school board meeting, per MN Statute 13D.05, to enter into a closed session to discuss the Hunt Farm property.

XIII. **OPEN BOARD MEETING**

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve re-opening the school board meeting.

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Dan Brookens, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve/disapprove adjourning the school board meeting at 6:33 p.m.