

Minutes of Rescheduled Regular School Board Meeting  
School District of La Farge  
Monday, November 27, 2023  
HS Library  
6:00 pm

Present were School Board Members Aaron Nemec, Chad Wirts, Holly Franks, and Ashley Schlicht; School staff members Meaghan Gustafson, Josh Hansen, Todd Camlek, and Allison Pierce; and Media Representative Lonnie Muller.

Nemec called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Gustafson confirmed compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Nemec requested a motion to approve the agenda. Motion and second by Wirts/Franks. Motion carried.

Nemec requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion and second by Wirts/Schlicht. Motion carried.

No citizen comments.

Information Agenda Item

- a. Spotlight on Education: Animal Assisted Therapy: Speech Language Pathologist Allison Pierce delivered a presentation on the benefits of animal assisted therapy in the SLP Department. Several questions regarding liability, cost, frequency, and timing were asked by Board members. Gustafson and Pierce will work together on developing policy and procedures for further Board review.
- b. District Report Cards: Gustafson went over the components of the Wisconsin School Report Cards, and discussed implications for programming.

Discussion Agenda Item

- a. Superintendent Evaluation: Gustafson brought some alternatives to the format currently used to evaluate the role for Board review.

Action Agenda Items

- a. Nemec requested a motion to approve playing non-WIAA teams in the basketball program, with administrative review. Motion and second by Wirts/Schlicht. Motion carried.
- b. No action taken on determining a WASB Delegate to be present at the Annual Assembly.

Acknowledgement of Donations

Gustafson thanked community donors to the Snowflake Store.

## Reports of the Kickapoo Valley Forest School, Principals, Athletic Director, and Superintendent

### Elementary Principal Hansen:

#### Breakfast With Books

Thank you to Darlene Buhr and Julie Miller for hosting this event for our elementary families. The students had a great time sharing the library, books, and treats with family members.

#### Professional Development

##### Explicit Instruction

- i. Our elementary teachers will be meeting online with teachers from other schools on Wednesday to discuss implementation of explicit instruction and share strategies/experiences with each other.
- ii. This is the first of three opportunities our teachers will have to connect with other teachers on this topic.

#### School Report Card

We had significant improvement in our overall scores on the Forward test.

- iii. ELA
  1. 21.6% proficient to 38.5% proficient
  2. Reduced below basic in half
- iv. Math
  1. 17.6% proficient to 38.5% proficient
  2. Reduced below basic from 45.1% to 25%
  3. Value added increased to above expectations
- v. Growth is above the state average in ELA and Math. Increased our growth score from 60.3 to 70.8
- vi. Achievement score increased from 41 to 47.4
- vii. Overall score increased from 63.6 to 68.4 = meets expectations. 1.6 points from exceeding expectations.

#### Holiday Events

Elementary Fine Arts Night - December 7th

Snowflake Store - starting on December 4th

- viii. Thanks to Becky Gehrke, Alison Benson, and the HS Student Council for running it again this year.

Elementary Movie Day - December 19th

- ix. 3rd-5th going to Elroy Theater
- x. 4K-2nd - movie at school

### MS/HS Principal & AD Camlek:

- On Oct. 25, Mrs. Palmer took 7 FCCLA students to a leadership summit in Stevens Point
- I would like to congratulate Mrs. Fowell and her music students for the incredible concert on Oct. 26.
- Mr. Fowell took 8 students to Indianapolis for the National FFA Convention from Nov. 1-3. Other than a phone being stolen, things went well.

- On Nov. 7, Deb Michaels, Karen Fowell and Jen Rehberg took grades 4-6 to the symphony in Madison
- Ms. Lund took 15 students to Youth Government Day in Viroqua on Nov. 8.
- Mrs. Fowell had 15 La Farge representatives at the regional honors band event at Westby.
- Winter sports are off and running. Middle school boys have 13 out for basketball. Wrestling has 3 girls, high school girls have 13 and high school boys have 16.
- Gave summary of lockdown/barricade/evacuation drill

#### Kickapoo Valley Forest School

- All school meeting on Monday, November 20 was well-attended, and included highlights of learning, updates on 4K, and sharing results of parent survey specifically regarding 3rd grade.
- 3rd Grade Open House on January 20, 2024.

#### Superintendent Gustafson

- Thanks to Becky Gehrke for crafting grant proposal for Stronger Connections grant.
- Gave update on COVID practices for 2023-2024 school year.
- Gave enrollment update.

Board Member Concerns- any topic brought up will not be acted upon until being placed on a subsequent agenda

Nemec: None

Wirts: None

Franks: None

Schlicht: Thanked Phil Benson for offering 6th & 7th grade girls a non-school affiliated basketball experience.

Nemec requested a motion to convene into closed session under §19.85(1)© to consider employment of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises control. The Board reserves the right to reconvene into open session after closed to take action on any items listed as topics of closed session. Motion and second by Franks/Schlicht. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Nemec requested a motion to return to open session. Motion and second by Wirts/Franks. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Nemec requested a motion to hire Mauricio Guzman as a nutrition services employee. Motion and second by Franks/Wirts. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Nemec requested a motion to adjourn. Motion and second by Schlicht/Wirts. Motion carried.