

September 20, 2021

President Rae Birr called the regular meeting of the Manistique Area Schools Board of Education to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021 in the Manistique Middle/High School Auditorium and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rae Birr, Jill Connin, Stacey Cunningham,
Jason Jackson, Alan Kilar, Krista Maline

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Hicks

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Krista Maline moved, second by Alan Kilar that the Board approve the September 20, 2021 agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting

Receiving no comments or corrections, the minutes of the August 16, 2021 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE, SECRETARY

A letter was received from Linda Levin promoting the wearing of masks at school, especially at the elementary level.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Letters of retirement were received from Henry Richey as Varsity Softball Coach and Christine Olesak as Middle School Yearbook Advisor. The COVID-19 recommendations from the meeting on August 16 were reviewed and Howard is in contact with LMAS daily and indicated that there are presently new return guidelines when negative testing occurs. We are currently surveying the U.P. Superintendents to get more information regarding mask mandates. An offer has been extended to a prospective athletic director and we will receive an answer soon.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. John Shiner – High School Principal: Updates were given regarding MTSS, Student Support/Activities, and COVID-19 absences.
- B. Kipp Beaudoin – Elementary Principal: Updates were given regarding staffing, fire drills and a positive playground inspection. The teacher evaluation process has been initiated and the K-5 student count is currently 269.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

- A. Mary Hook – Library/Technology Director: Mary again emphasized how students can get technical support.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS

Finance Committee Meeting – September 8, 2021: The general education and special education curriculums were reviewed and funding for textbooks was discussed.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Financial Report

Jill Connin moved, seconded by Alan Kilar that the Board approve the August, 2021 Financial Report with expenditures of \$630,535.46 and revenues of \$165,302.30. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

B. Acknowledge EduStaff Employees for the 2021-2022 School Year

Krista Maline moved, seconded by Jason Jackson that the Board acknowledge the EduStaff employees for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

C. Approve Schedule B and Miscellaneous Assignments for the 2021-2022 School Year

Krista Maline moved, seconded by Stacey Cunningham that the Board approve the following schedule B and miscellaneous assignments for the 2021-2022 school year: Pre-Season Band Director – Jeremy Connin; Band Director – Jeremy Connin; Internal School Accountant (self-funded) – Laurel Ashbrook; National Honor Society – Amy Nixon; High School Drama – Steve Mohar; High School Quiz Bowl – John Ziemba; MHS School Improvement – Michelle LaVigne; Elementary School Improvement – Elisha Dougherty; Alternative Ed School Improvement – Trina Nedeau; MiBLSI District Coordinator – Erik Mason; MTSS Systems Coach at Emerald – Jill Richey; MTSS Systems Coach at MHS – Erik Mason, MTSS Instructional Coach at Emerald – Elisha Dougherty; MTSS Instructional Coach at MHS – Erik Mason; 1/6 Teaching Assignments – Laurel Ashbrook, Tony Block, Todd Kangas, Erik Mason, Trina Nedeau, Mike Powers, Christi Ryan, David Winkel; Additional 8 days for Scheduling – Michelle LaVigne; GSRP Director – Brianna Stevens; Swimming Pool Coordinator – Parker Birr. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes. Jill Connin and Rae Birr abstained.

D. Approve the Revised Miscellaneous Pay Rates as of August 30, 2021

Stacey Cunningham moved, seconded by Jill Connin that the Board approve the revised miscellaneous pay rates effective August 30, 2021 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

E. Approve the Annual Review of the Impact Aid Policy

Jill Connin moved, seconded by Krista Maline that the Board approve the annual review of the Impact Aid Policy as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

F. Appoint Middle School Basketball Coaches

Alan Kilar moved, seconded by Krista Maline that the Board appoint Jeff Segerstrom as the 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach and Gunnar Mickelson as the 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

G. Set the Graduation Date for the Class of 2022

Krista Maline moved, seconded by Jill Connin that the Board set May 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. as the graduation date for the Class of 2022. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Tom Pugh stated that he is in favor of the non-mandatory masking policy that we have had so far. He also stated that hand washing and sanitizing are what really kills COVID.

Michelle Goudreau seconded Mr. Pugh's statements and proceeded to add her opposition to the wearing of masks in school. She also questioned the many absences of Board member Mary Hicks. Michelle indicated that Federal grant funding is not a good reason to wear masks and kids always get sick during this time of the year and more are being tested.

Wendy Nord was disappointed that the school had a vaccination information table at the open house and distributed numerous reports supporting her non-masking position.

Sherry Hampton indicated that she is anti-masking after reviewing a list of doctors and reading their perspectives on vaccinations and masks.

Ron Goudreau stated that we need to stop mask mandates and support choice.

Sara Giles stated that she supports the wearing of masks until one to two months after a vaccine is available for all children.

Michelle Sears said that she has a daughter in middle school who is extremely uncomfortable wearing a mask.

ADJOURNMENT

Krista Maline moved, seconded by Alan Kilar, that there being no further business to come before the Board, President Rae Birr adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote. No dissenting votes.

Reminder: The next regular meeting of the Manistique Area Schools Board of Education will be Monday, October 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community/Board Room.

Stacey Cunningham, Secretary

Donna Winkel, Recording Secretary