

BLAIR-TAYLOR DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH - 5:30 P.M.

President Troy Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Sarah Staff, Blaine Koxlien, Michele Steien, Neil Kniseley, Troy Tenneson, Perry Kujak, and David Thompson. Also present: Lynn Halverson, Jared McCutchen, Melissa Pientok, Becky Brouillet, Lori Lisowski, and Zach Rastall. Meeting was also live streamed on Wildcat tv.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Mission statement - "To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens" read aloud.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by N. Kniseley, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

With no public comment we will move forward.

Motion by D. Thompson, with second by M. Steien, to approve October 2024 regular and special meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with second by M. Steien, to approve bills for the month of October 2024. Motion carried by roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by P. Kujak, with second by S. Staff, to approve the October 2024 financial statement. Motion carried by roll call vote 7-0.

Reports:

Superintendent Lynn Halverson - Mr. Halverson reported on November 5th there were 138 referendum questions on the ballot in the State of Wisconsin. Note that over half of all school districts in the state have either already asked or are planning to ask their community for support of a referendum during the 2024-25 school year. This is to be taken into consideration as our operational referendum expires next school year. The Association for Equity in Funding is encouraging the state to increase the low ceiling limit and advocating for free school lunch for all students to be included in the 25-27 biennial budget. Mr. Halverson stated the 2023-24 school report cards will be released tomorrow. The district scores have improved from the 22-23 school year. The softball field updates are almost complete.

MS/HS Principal - Beth Lisowski - Tonight starts our winter sports season as boys basketball and wrestling practice started tonight. The girls basketball team has a game in Eau Claire Immanuel tomorrow. Our high school student council held a fantastic Veterans Day program. Shout to Dessa Mathews and to those who helped plan.

MS/HS Principal - Melissa Pientok - Mrs. Pientok reported the middle school had a dance on November 8th with about 55 students in attendance. A huge thank you to our student council

who helped with games, decorating and chaperoning. We plan to have an assembly on positive behavior on Monday. A Google Sheet was sent to staff to enter into any positive behavior they observe from students. Those students will then be recognised with a small reward. Tonight is the middle school/high school band concert.

Elementary Principal - Jared McCutchen - Mr. McCutchen stated the elementary had our Halloween costume parade. We have an exciting week planned. Tomorrow we will host a creative problem solving day. A few area 3rd graders along with a couple of ours get together as part of the gifted/talented program with Mississippi Valley consortium. This Thursday we are having our Annual Family Reading Night. Friday will be our Kindergarten Thanksgiving program. Our 5th graders will be attending the Minnesota Science Museum Friday as well.

Special Ed Director - Becky Brouillet - Ms. Brouillet reported one of our main goals is to help students as best as we can. Some of our students had a Spanish class assignment to experience Spanish culture. So Mrs. Wathke had a field trip to the Mexican restaurant in Black River Falls. Next month Mrs. Slenczka is planning a surprise for our middle school students. Progress reports will be sent out soon.

Discussion Items:

Mr. Halverson updated the board on items discussed during the November 13th TVC 2.0 - Joint Board Meeting. An update on the HUB there are 4 applicants. BT will not be a part of this as we already have a school social worker. The primary discussion item at this meeting was the possible pros/cons of artificial intelligence within public education.

Action Items:

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by P. Kujak, to delegate Michele Steien and David Thompson as an alternate for the WI State Education Convention in January. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by S. Staff, to approve the Vision Insurance Proposal Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by D. Thompson, to approve the consent agenda items. This being the resignation of winter cheer coach, Robin Seddon, and contract to Misha Shramek as the new Winter cheer coach. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by M. Steien, to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1)(c) to discuss early graduation request, individual employee situation, and individual Fall coaches summary. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Thompson".

David Thompson, Clerk