

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting
School District of La Farge
Monday, October 19, 2020
Immediately Following Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing
HS Library

Present were School Board members Aaron Nemec, Curt Parr, and Chad Wirts; school staff members Meaghan Gustafson, Josh Hansen, and Mark Dubey; and media representatives Lonnie Muller and Bonnie Sherman; and guest Scott Brown from Neola. Absent were School Board members Dr. Shawn Sedgwick and Holly Franks and MS/HS Principal Todd Camlek.

Nemec called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

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 Parr/Wirts. Motion carried.

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

No citizen comments.

Information Agenda:

Gustafson shared about an update to how COVID-19 related information is being shared on the District's website.

Scott Brown of Neola led the Board through a first reading of Neola policy updates 29.1 and 29.2.

Action Agenda:

Nemec requested a motion to approve participation in Early College Credits for two high school students. Motion and second by Parr/Wirts. Motion carried.

Nemec requested a motion to approve the final budget. Motion and second by Wirts/Parr. Motion carried.

Nemec requested a motion to certify the tax levy. Motion and second by Parr/Wirts. Motion carried.

Reports of the Principals, AD, and Superintendent:

Elementary Principal Hansen:

1. After School Reading Program
 - a. We are offering extra help to students from 2:30-3:15.
 - b. Paraprofessionals are working with at-risk students on reading basics.
 - c. This is especially focused on lower elementary students to build basic reading skills - letter recognition, letter sounds, and sight words.
 - d. This will give students an opportunity to work in a small group setting to improve.
 - e. Today was the first day.
2. PT Conferences
 - a. These will be happening the week of November 2nd.
 - b. Conferences will be done virtually.
3. COVID Update
 - a. We have leveled off recently with the number of students being absent.

- b. When students have been absent for extended periods of time, we have provided online instruction.
 - c. Virtual School - As an elementary school, we have worked hard on creating a schedule for if we have to go to virtual instruction. A lot of time and thought has gone into this to make it as beneficial to students as possible. We also wanted to make it as easy for parents as possible, knowing that childcare will be an issue.
- 4. Staffing
 - a. We now have adequate staffing, especially in terms of para support.

AD Report

- Congratulations to Cross Country and Volleyball teams for Conference Championships.
 - Cross Country is running at Sectionals on 10/19. Volleyball is scheduled to play on 10/22 and (if there is a win) on 10/24.

Superintendent's Report:
Flu shot clinic on Oct 22

Have begun working with a School Social Worker through CESA 4.

Referendum information sessions and media push ongoing.

Board Member Concerns:

- Parr: none
- Nemec: none
- Wirts: Reiterated congratulations to the Athletic teams.

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 Parr/Wirts. Motion carried by roll call vote.

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

Nemec requested a motion to retroactively authorize pre-approved compensation increases for Certified and Non-Certified staff. Motion and second by Parr/Wirts. Motion carried by roll call vote.

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