

Board of Education
High School Library
November 16, 2020

President David Loomis called the regular monthly meeting of the School District of Howards Grove to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Loomis noted that the meeting had been posted as prescribed by law and the news media notified.

Board members present: Mrs. Bramstedt, Mr. Loomis, Mr. Pahl, Mrs. Siemers, and Mr. Stoeckigt. Administrators present: Tracy Bandt and Jason Cole (virtual); Scott Fritz, Heather Zizis, Chris Peterson, and Josh Swanson. Advisory Board Members present: Allison Kunze and Kim Tess (virtual); Jeff Grunewald. Also present: Jerry Dudzik (Ehlers Financial), Austin Edge, and Lisa Schultz. Approximately 25 staff and community members viewed the meeting by remote access technology.

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2020, regular board meeting, and the October 5, 2020 special board meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Mrs. Siemers, along with the following vouchers payable for the month of October:

#10 - General Fund	}	\$ 942,715.11
#27 - Special Education Fund		
#50 - Food Service Fund		
#30 - Debt Service Fund		\$ 0.00

Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Stoeckigt to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried, 5-0. This amendment includes recognition of open enrollment, updated revenue limit calculation, and additional debt service payment.

Informational Items Update:

December 7: Working Session/Special Board Meeting, HS Library, 5:30 pm

December 21: December School Board Meeting, HS Library, 7:00 pm

The Board acknowledged and extended their gratitude and appreciation to the following businesses and individuals for their support of the school district and the students in their generosity of the following donations:

Lifetouch photography donated \$976.32 toward the cost of planners for Middle School students; and \$412.50 for Northview planners.

Millersville Rec donated \$1,439 for transportation and costs associated with the state volleyball tournament.

The Howards Grove Athletic Association donated \$1,439 for transportation and costs associated with the state volleyball tournament.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board acknowledged a thank you note received from Shari Vogel.

ADVISORY MEMBER REPORTS:

Jeff Grunewald thanked the teachers for a smooth transition; he has heard many positive comments. Will it change? When would we know (for planning)? If the virtual format continues, what will happen with extra curriculars?

Kim Tess stressed that **everyone** needs to be held accountable if they are not following the protocols and guidelines.

Allison Kunze had questions regarding contact tracing and also gave a shout out to the teachers for a smooth transition.

Superintendent Peterson will address some of these comments and questions in Action Item 5.

STUDENT LEARNING PRESENTATION/STUDENT ADVISORY REPORTS:

Student reports are suspended until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

ACTION ITEMS:

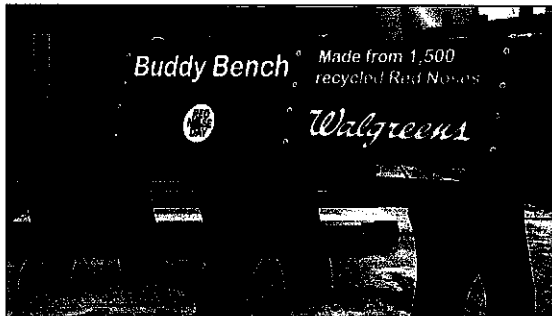
1. Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Establishing Parameters for the Sale of Not to Exceed \$1,800,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021A. Vote by the Board: Bramstedt, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers, aye; Pahl, aye; Loomis, aye.
2. Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the change to Policy 5462 to include our DPI approved GED option 2 program as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.
3. Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the new high school course offerings (Sociology and Intro to Psychology) for the 2021-22 school year as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.
4. Motion by Mr. Stoeckigt, second by Mrs. Siemers, to increase the previously approved 3-year digital curriculum subscription (\$22,565.80) to a 6-year digital and print subscription for a class set totaling \$44,121.38, and add the print sets for teacher resources in the amount of \$1,480.77 for a grand total of \$45,602.15. Motion carried, 5-0.
5. Superintendent Peterson provided a status update related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, noting the protocols at school are working and helping, while protocols outside of school are questionable. The number of student absences has decreased; however, staffing absences have increased. In-person learning will resume at Northview on November 30th, and the hybrid model of instruction and co-curricular activities will resume on Monday, November 30th at the middle school and high school levels.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the recommendation to extend the mask mandate to the end of Semester 1 (January 20, 2021). Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to approve the recommendation to allow the teaching staff to teach from home, continuing in a synchronous format. Motion carried, 5-0.

OTHER REPORTS/BUILDING REPORTS:**1. Building Reports:****Northview Elementary – Submitted by Jason Cole, Principal**

- Red Nose Day - Buddy Bench
 - The following is an Email I received from Red Nose Day: “Red Nose Day and our partner Walgreens are extremely honored to recognize you for your tremendous efforts supporting Red Nose Day. You and your staff make empathy and kindness a priority every day and have done so much to raise money and awareness for children living in poverty. You also helped bring Joke-Ha-Thon to life in our inaugural year. We are extremely grateful, as you well know! This is the first time together with Walgreens we have produced a Red Nose Day Buddy Bench, and this one is unlike any other because our bench is made from 1,500 recycled Red Noses. Thanks to our partnership with Walgreens and their commitment to recycling and the environment, we were able to extend the life for these Red Noses so that they can continue to help children in need and bring joy for years to come. As you know, building empathy and kindness in the next generation is a core principle of Red Nose Day in School. The Red Nose Day Buddy Bench supports this effort and is meant to be used by a child who may need some extra caring support from a teacher, staff member, or friend. It offers a safe place for students to go to talk with somebody or just to play.”
- Our Red Nose Day buddy bench is set to be delivered sometime next week!!!



- Virtual Conferences
 - We have our first virtual parent teacher conferences Tuesday and Thursday.
 - Thank you Heather and Scott for sharing what you've learned through the virtual experiences to help Northview.

Pupil Services – Submitted by Tracy Bandt, Special Education Coordinator & School Psychologist

- This has been a very busy time as we complete our Fall benchmark assessments and meet with teachers and families to address individual student needs through intervention and referrals for special education.
- Our students have benefited tremendously from the in-person opportunities for additional support and access to instructors and pupil service staff, and we will continue to prioritize that.
- Our pupil service and special education staff are going above and beyond to fill staffing gaps while still working tirelessly to meet the mental wellness needs of our students and families and have improved their methods to do so in virtual learning environments as well. I want to thank every single one of our special education and pupil service staff for stepping up when needed in their buildings and across the

district to make sure we are able to remain in-person. This takes a toll on them, but they continue to help out and do so with a smile on their faces. Sincerely, thank you!

- A reminder to families and community members to check our district website for access to community resources for mental health and wellness.
- We are beginning the process of preparing for the ACT and providing any accommodations for our students in special education, with 504 plans, and English Learners.
- A special thank you to all who have responded to a request for outreach to our community as we prepare for the holidays. More details on that to come.

Middle School – Submitted by Heather Zizis, Principal

- Thank you to Jess Luecke, David Hickmann, Megan Limberg, Joanne Wesener, and Jackie Stoeckigt for helping to be in classrooms or covering lunch/recess duties. They all have been so willing to jump in wherever help is needed. We could not have made it through this past week without them!
- Jess Lucke has created a "Counselor's Corner" through Google Classroom. Through this platform there will be mindful activities, coping strategies, mental health resources, 8th grade information for High School registration, and reminders on how to reach Jess. We will also utilize this platform to push out a survey to students for them to identify staff they feel connected with. This will allow us to pinpoint any students who feel they cannot identify a trusted adult.
- I'd like to thank Jada Peterson for her ongoing support, knowledge, and time. She is available to help in between her shifts at the hospital (thank you to all health care workers). She is available at night and on weekends. She is truly a blessing to have on our team!

High School – Submitted by Scott Fritz, Principal

- Thank you to our Veterans! We put together a Virtual Veteran's Day program that was shared with Families, Students, Staff and posted on Facebook. Thank you to Lieutenant Colonel Rich Appel for being our Guest Speaker and to Angie and Zach for helping organize the musical portion of the assembly and also Thank you to Franklin American Legion Post 387 for presenting the flag folding ceremony. Would also like to thank Emily Weseljak for reading *In Flander's Fields* and Pierce Hoewisch for playing *Taps*. We hope to be able to Thank our Veterans in person next year, but wanted to thank them all for their service. Thank you to Miranda Lorenz for putting our virtual program video together
- Congratulations to the State Volleyball Team for their State Championships in Division 3 this past weekend. Back to Back State Champs!
 - Thank you to Daniel Butler, Angie Houston, Bethany Kneser, Karen Salm, Melanie Kautzer and all of the parents for helping organize this year's State Trip
 - Thank you to HG Athletic Club and Millersville Rec for donating the money for the Coach Bus and Driver to the State Tournament
- We are beginning the 20-21 Course Registration Process – Student meetings will begin in December to begin picking courses for the 20-21 school year. Thank you to Krista, Melanie and Miranda for preparing the materials and schedules for the course registration process.
- Report Card Grades for Progress Reports for Term 1 went out to parents this past week. Transition to the A/B schedule has turned Term 1 into a progress grade. Final grades are earned at semester when students earn credit for the courses.
- We had a few make-up Practice ACTs that have been completed all Junior practice ACT are done and the tests have been sent in to be scored. Thank you to Krista Neave for organizing and completing this

process with our Juniors. Students and staff should have the results in the next few weeks to help identify areas that need addressing before the State ACT in the spring.

- The Big East conference has met and agreed to keep the restrictions implemented in the Fall for Indoor sports to be in place for Winter indoor sports. The Big East will review in January to discuss progress and any modifications that may need to be implemented at that time.
- We are working with LTC to begin adding Transcribed courses for LTC similar to our CAPP agreements with the UW System and Lakeland.

Technology update:

- Student Chromebooks issues are continuing to be resolved and handled quickly. We either give them steps to try at home or swapping the devices at each school library.
- All new laptops have been distributed to staff
- Staff technology issues are being solved through the Marco help desk system – usually within a day or two, depending on ticket volume
- We are surveying staff to get more insight to see if needs are being met through the help desk ticketing system or if there are any unreported issues in the district.

District – Submitted by Chris Peterson, Superintendent

- Congratulations to our Girls Volleyball Team on another state championship.
- A special thank you to all of our staff for their flexibility to cover classes and recesses whenever and wherever needed. Staff from all three buildings have pitched in to make sure we had coverage.
- A special thank you to our maintenance and cleaning staff who all have helped out. We have been short staffed the past few weeks and everyone has stepped up so that we have been able to keep buildings clean and open.
- Our strategic planning committee continues to meet on a bi-weekly basis. We have made significant progress on our work. I have included an update on the work so far. We are finishing up some of our values and commitments and will soon be focusing on goal setting. Information from our staff engagement survey will help guide our goal setting portion of the document.
- COVID Update (see Action Item 5).
- Citizens Advisory Committee Update – the committee of 18 people met on November 11th and listened to two proposals. The committee decided to work with the proposal received from Hoffman Planning Design & Construction, Inc. Hoffman is a design and build company. They will provide designs and costings; they will not charge a fee until a referendum passes, at which time they will use local vendors and contractors for the project. The next steps include working on designs for a new middle school and meeting with middle school staff to discuss features and options. The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 9th.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to convene in closed session as set forth in Section 19.85 (1)(b)(c) (f) of the Wisconsin Statutes to consider the discipline, employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of employee(s), and to consider personal history as it relates to a specific person(s).
Vote by the Board: Bramstedt, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers, aye; Pahl, aye; Loomis, aye.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.



Kari Bramstedt, Clerk