

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2020

A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, December 8, at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID restrictions. Members in attendance were Rufus Rodriguez, Nicole Green, Julie Laue, Mari Myren, and Mike Edman. Absent: Dan Brookens. Student school board members in attendance were Morgan Hoong and Briana Joseph. Absent: Weston Loughmiller.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve the November 24, 2020 school board meeting minutes.

A motion was offered by Mari Myren, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve the December 8, 2020 school board meeting agenda.

A resolution was introduced by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to accept the following donations:

1. \$25,000 from Kahler Automation for the Construction Trades Building
2. \$500 from Grace Lutheran Church Missions for the CER Literacy Program

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve wire/transfers for 11/2020 – 12/3/20 and the December 8, 2020 bills.

Kim Niss shared information about the World's Best Workforce. She reviewed the Five Pillars of the plan, indicating what goal had been set for each pillar for the 19-20 school year and whether that goal was met. Ms. Niss also shared the new goals set for the 2020-2021 school year.

Jenni Diegnau and Erin Meyers, SDCC co-chairs, reviewed this year's Educational Improvement Plan. They indicated that the main focus this year has been studying the Distance Learning Playbook to determine how the material can best be used during this COVID period. The Playbook provides guidance for instructing students during all three teaching models, including in-person, hybrid, and distance.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve the 2020-2021 Educational Improvement Plan.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the 2020-2021 World's Best Workforce goals.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve the retirement of Rochelle Franzen, effective June 3, 2021.

Jake Teacher, Principal of Project Planning, informed board members that in preparation for the February 9, 2021 referendum election, he is working to organize a Vocational Advisory Committee. Mr. Tietje will be extending an invitation and provide information regarding the initiative to 45 local businesses. The first committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Mr. Tietje invited board members to attend.

Student school board members, Morgan Hoong and Briana Joseph, shared a student survey they created for the purpose of gaining feedback as to how students are dealing with distance learning, both academically and socially. The survey is available in both English and Spanish.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve opening the public Truth in Taxation meeting.

To meet the requirements set forth in MN law, Business Manager Chris Muhvich provided a Truth In Taxation Public meeting. He shared a power point presentation that provided an in-depth overview of the District's revenue and expenditure budgets and the District's tax levy authority.

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the 2020 Payable 2021 tax levy in the amount of \$5,420,904.96. This is a reduction of 2.25% in property taxes due to the school district.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve closing the public Truth in Taxation meeting.

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve adjourning the school board meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Dan Brookens, Clerk