

Board of Education  
Howards Grove School District  
High School Library  
January 18, 2021

President Dave 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. Advisory Board Members present (virtual): Jeff Grunewald, Allison Kunze, and Kim Tess. Administrators present: Tracy Bandt, Jason Cole, Scott Fritz, Chris Peterson, and Josh Swanson; Heather Zizis (virtual). Also present: Lisa Schultz, Chris Woller; Jody Andres from Hoffman Planning, Design & Construction, Jerry Dudzik from Ehlers Public Finance Advisors. Approximately 26 staff and community members viewed the meeting by remote access technology.

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

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 special board meeting and the December 21, 2020 regular 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 December:

#10 - General Fund	}	\$ 889,862.20
#27 - Special Education Fund		
#50 - Food Service Fund		
#30 - Debt Service Fund		\$ 0.00

Motion carried, 5-0.

There were no amendments to the 2020-21 adopted budget this month.

The Board acknowledged and extended their gratitude and appreciation to the following individuals and/or organizations for their support of the school district and the students through their generosity of the following donations:

The FFA Alumni donated \$548.25 to the Howards Grove FFA to purchase building kits and materials to make fishing rods.

Jordan Siemers donated \$500 to the high school football program.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board acknowledged thank you notes received from Jane Lensmire and Renae Wunsch.

#### ADVISORY MEMBER REPORTS:

Jeff Grunewald asked if there is going to be a building project. This question will be addressed in Action Items 4 & 5 on the Agenda. Mr. Grunewald also asked for clarification of the district's quarantine guidelines.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Motion by Mr. Stoeckigt to have all 3 schools go back to full time instruction as of February 1, 2021. Motion failed.

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers to have the elementary and middle school students return to full time as of February 1, 2021, have the high school students continue in the hybrid teaching platform, and revisit this format at the February 15 school board meeting. Motion failed, 3-2.

Motion by Mr. Stoeckigt, second by Mr. Pahl to have the elementary and middle school students return to full time, 5 days a week, as of February 1, 2021, have the high school students continue as status quo (hybrid teaching platform) until further discussion at the February 15, 2021 school board meeting. Motion carried, 3-2.

2. Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Stoeckigt, to approve the guideline regarding available open enrollment spaces for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.
3. Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers, to approve the employee COVID leave policy as presented, extending any unused emergency paid sick leave days through June 30, 2021. Emergency Family and Medical Leave is not extended beyond December 31, 2020. Additionally for employees who are unable to perform their job remotely, the district is offering five additional days (or 5 equivalent days if employee's position is less than full time) of emergency paid sick leave through June 30, 2021. For professional staff who have exhausted their emergency paid sick leave days and their personal sick leave days and are unable to work due to COVID, employees will be paid at 50% of their per diem rate. Motion carried, 5-0.
4. Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Stoeckigt, for Initial Resolution Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$35,000,000. Motion carried, Bramstedt, aye; Loomis, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers, nay; Pahl, abstained.
5. Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Stoeckigt, for Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$35,000,000. Motion carried, Bramstedt, aye; Loomis, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers and Pahl abstained.

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

- Shelly Kuether - Thank you to Shelly for continuing to maintain the Northview office while being the only one in there. I appreciate her dedication to Northview and helping all of the students, parents, staff, and myself.
- We continue to navigate the challenges the pandemic presents at the Elementary School of social distancing, face coverings, and everyone doing their part of checking/monitoring their symptoms.
- The Building Leadership Team is doing some tremendous work dissecting the Staff Engagement Survey data from early Fall. In examining the data, we have collectively established our strengths and Areas of Focus. This is not an easy process and I appreciate the professional dialogue and positive movement to improve our school. There is great pride amongst the group.

- Thank you Aimee Thiel, Ashley Miller, Krystal Lark, and Amanda O'Connell for the work you are investing in ensuring our breakfast program begins on January 25th. Thank you Food Service and Josh Swanson for your continued support in making this a reality.

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

- A very special thank you to Amanda O'Connell, Shelli Milbrath, Ashley Oppeneer, Kim Zimmer and students throughout our district who decorated gift bags and filled them with treats and other items for residents of the nursing home and the nursing home staff just prior to Christmas. It is our hope that this gesture of kindness brought some joy to those in our community.
- All ACT Accommodations requests have been submitted for our designated students.
- A special thank you to our counselors and school social worker for all their work to continue to make mental wellness a priority, for their work setting up interventions, and for work on scheduling and orientation for next school year.
- Our high school special education team has invited Howards Grove community businesses to an informational virtual meeting on February 3, 2021, to discuss benefits of our high school students working with their businesses. This also is an important part of our transition grant requirements. Thank you to Linda White, Shelli Milbrath, and Ashley Oppeneer for their work preparing for this event and planning for future cooperative work with our community.

**Middle School – Submitted by Heather Zizis, Principal**

- **Breakfast at the Middle School:** We began free breakfast for all students on January 4th. Overall our numbers increased the second week.

Some homerooms have shown more interest than others. One positive that has stood out is that if a student doesn't eat the whole breakfast they can save it for a midmorning snack.

<u>WEEK 1</u>	<u>WEEK 2</u>
1/4- 19	1/11-33
1/5- 25	1/12- 40
1/7- 8	1/14- 13
1/8- 19	1/15 - 14
<b>Total: 71</b>	<b>Total: 100</b>

- **Building Leadership Team:** Thank you to the Middle School Building Leadership Team (Shawn Holzman, Gina Haala, Ann Parnitzke, Courtney Athorp, Jessica Luecke, Lonna Near, Anna Marie Bramstedt, Jane Lensmire, Jenna Worth, and Joelle Barret) for beginning to dig into our Staff Engagement Survey data. The team has already identified some of our building's strengths and will be meeting again this Thursday to identify some areas we would like to set goals and action steps around.
- **Middle School Student Council:** The Middle School Student Council has been busy planning a food drive and dress up days. The food drive is a competition between Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 students. Cohort 2 is currently in the lead with 275 items. The drive started last week and goes through this week. All items will be donated to the Sheboygan Food Bank. Also, last Friday and tomorrow students and staff are able to participate in "National Hat Day" by paying \$1.00 to wear their favorite hat. The donations that are received from students and teachers will go to the Heavenly Hat Foundation. Heavenly Hats is a non-profit organization that was started by 10 year old Anthony Leanna from Green Bay, WI in 2001. Since starting Heavenly Hats they have been able to donate over 4,500,000 brand new

hats to cancer patients and hospitals free of charge including shipping. All proceeds from this event will go to cover the costs that are involved with shipping the hat boxes to the patients in need. One hundred twelve dollars was collected last Friday.

Congratulations to the newly elected Student Council officers:

President: Carter Maranell

VP: Mason Stoeckigt

Secretary: Gina Yentz

Treasurer: Sara Pahmeier

- **Band and Choir:** The teachers and I are working on adjusting our schedules to accommodate our 6th-8th grade band and choir students to be able to start practicing in larger groups. Students have been participating in individual, small group, and virtual lessons, for the first part of this school year. This change is contingent on our numbers of students and staff impacted by COVID remaining low.
- **Upcoming PD:** This Wednesday and next Wednesday we have some exciting Professional Development Opportunities at the Middle School. This week teachers who have the Newline Smart Panels will be receiving training from a Newline Representative and next week the ELA and Math teachers will be receiving 2 hours of training on the new curriculum.

#### **High School – Submitted by Scott Fritz, Principal**

- Our building leadership team is evaluating the staff engagement survey data and identifying themes at the HS. The team is identifying areas of strength and areas of improvement. We will be meeting on Wednesday to discuss these themes and begin to determine actions steps moving forward.
- The breakfast program at the high school has about 10-15 students a day who utilize the program. The lunch ala carte program has been very successful with students being able to choose from sandwiches, salads, fruit and other sides (cold pasta salad, pudding, potato salad etc...) to supplement their lunches. The staff and students also have an ala carte coffee bar in the morning through the lunch period that has been successful.
- The Big East has met and evaluated winter sports and will be keeping current Covid protocols in place for fans at sporting events. Conference Forensics has been approved in a virtual format and we are waiting to hear back from the Rohr Art Museum about the spring art show.
- We had about 30 students show up for the organizational meeting for this year's play. The drama department gauged interest for a spring performance and will now look for a play that best suits a cast of 25-30 students.

#### **Technology – Submitted by Chris Woller**

- GoGuardian Teacher has been implemented for use with our student Chromebooks. This powerful tool that will greatly help teachers manage what students are doing on their Chromebooks during class times.

#### **District – Submitted by Chris Peterson, Superintendent**

- We are currently working on getting our tier A1 staff vaccination opportunities.
- We are in the process of implementing 4 fully self-contained hydroponic growing systems. In cooperation with the Sheboygan Food Bank and the Howards Grove FFA, we are working to implement the system for the end of the school year. With this system, we will supply the food bank with green

leafy vegetables monthly. This is a great opportunity for our students and a benefit to our community. Special thanks to Makayla Malone, Kevin Pratt, and Liz Kroll for getting this project underway.

- If you haven't had a chance to look at the sectionals for the WASB convention and still wish to attend, please let Lisa know as soon as possible.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl to convene in closed session as set forth in Section 19.85(1)(c),(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes to deliberate the employment and compensation of [potential] employee(s), and to consider personal history as it relates to specific person(s). Vote by the Board: Bramstedt, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers, aye; Pahl, aye; Loomis, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Siemers, to adjourn at 10:02 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.



---

Kari Bramstedt, Clerk