

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 13, 2021

A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. Members in attendance were Rufus Rodriguez, Nicole Green, Mari Myren, Dan Brookens, and Mike Edman. Absent: Julie Laue. Student board members in attendance were Morgan Hoong and Briana Joseph.

A motion was offered by Mari Myren, seconded by Dan Brookens and carried to unanimously approve the March 23 & 30, 2021 school board meeting minutes.

A motion was offered by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the April 13, 2021 school board meeting agenda.

Superintendent's Report

- Board members received an enrollment update. Enrollment is down three students at the elementary and up one student at the high school. Enrollment remains stable.
- Superintendent Brown reported that to date approximately 200 students at the high school are distance learning. Some of these students are under COVID quarantine. The majority of students have elected distance learning to avoid the possibility of a quarantine, causing them to miss out on sports and/or prom.

Matthew Hammer of Ehler's reported on a meeting held earlier today for the sale of the District's bonds from the successful referendum election of February 9. Five bids were received and the low bid from Raymond James & Associates was for an interest rate of 1.78%. This low rate will decrease by 40% the tax increase voters had approved in February. In addition, the District will gain additional dollars for building the Construction Trades Academy.

A resolution was offered by Rufus Rodriguez, seconded by Mike Edman, and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to authorize issuance, award sale, prescribe the form and details, and provide for payment thereof for the \$6,605,000 general obligation school building bonds, Series 2021A.

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve wire/transfers for 3/19/21 – 4/8/21, March, 2021 single checks, and payment of the April 13, 2021 bills.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously approve the following policies as revised:

1. Policy 541: Graduation Policy
2. Policy 709: Student Transportation Safety Policy

A resolution was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to terminate and not renew the teaching contract of Whitney Erickson, a probationary elementary teacher, for the 2021-22 school year.

A resolution was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to terminate and not renew the teaching contract of Jesseca Koskovich, a probationary English teacher, for the 2021-22 school year.

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Mari Myren and carried to unanimously accept the following resignations, effective 6/3/21:

1. Kali Erichsrud, elementary teacher
2. Fiona Edberg, English teacher

Board members reported on a Staff Welfare Committee Meeting and a CER Advisory Council Meeting.

In Other Business, Board members expressed concern about the number of students who have fallen behind in school during the past 12 months of COVID. They encouraged parents and students to take part in this summer's academic recovery classes, which will be held for two weeks in June, three weeks in July, and 3 weeks in August. They also encouraged teachers to sign up to teach summer school, acknowledging that the success of this summer's programming is dependent upon teachers, students, parents, and administration working together.

A motion was offered by Mike Edman, seconded by Dan Brookens and carried to approve adjourning the school board meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Mari Myren, Clerk