

**MENOMINEE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
MENOMINEE, MICHIGAN**

“It is the mission of the Menominee Area School Board to provide an education that best enables our students to compete successfully in today’s modern world as well as to provide a safe and challenging atmosphere while being fiscally responsible to our community.”

**APPROVED**

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

The Board of Education of the Menominee Area Public Schools met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 27, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board, Mr. Derek Butler at 6:00 p.m. members present:

Mr. Derek Butler, President  
Mrs. Dawn Wesolowski, Vice President  
Ms. Becky Thoun, Secretary  
Ms. Nicole Myszak, Treasurer  
Mr. Hunter Mans, Trustee  
Mr. Michael Maas, Trustee  
Mrs. Cindy Woods, Trustee  
Mr. Steve Martin, Interim Superintendent

Members absent: Mr. Hunter Mans, Trustee, Mr. Michael Maas, Trustee

**ADOPT AGENDA:**

Moved by Ms. Myszak, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, that the agenda be adopted as presented.  
Motion Carried. (5-0)

**APPROVE MINUTES:**

Moved by Mrs. Wesolowski, seconded by Mrs. Woods, that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 23, 2021 be approved as presented.  
Motion Carried. (5-0)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

♦ Stefanie Ehle, 1710 14th Avenue, Menominee, MI 49858 - Safety & health concerns of students & staff.

**NON-ACTION ITEMS:**

- a. Recognition - Bus Garage Staff
- b. Jr/Sr High Boilers
- c. Interim Superintendent

**BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT:**

Moved by Mrs. Wesolowski, seconded by Mrs. Woods, that the Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole the Bill Warrants in the amount of \$632,269.80, from Payroll (11), \$290,576.75, from the General Fund; \$8,891.60, from the School Lunch Fund (25); \$4,298.38, from the Fiduciary Activity Fund (29); \$33,815.27, from the Scholarship Fund (51); for a grand total of \$969,851.80.

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix I to these minutes)

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:**

**CENTRAL**

- ◆ Deputy Studer and his police companion dog, Dina, visited students in Mrs. Herrild's class. All Kindergarten students have been learning about community helpers this month.
- ◆ Students took a virtual field trip to the library and received some fun goodie bags for being Reading Ninjas.
- ◆ Schoolwide SEL has been going great! Students in Ms. Philipps' class read through the story "What Should Danny do?" to discuss how to be a good friend and make good choices at school. Students in Mrs. Anderson's class practiced teamwork by putting together puzzles.
- ◆ Students made slime on the early release day in Ms. Furton's class. Teachers are encouraged to use early release days as opportunities to teach subjects that they love and Ms. Furton loves Science.
- ◆ Students have been learning the lifecycle of the monarch butterfly in Mrs. Butler's class and have watched the real life caterpillars transform to chrysalis and emerge as butterflies from their classroom.
- ◆ Students in Ms. Kewley's class learned about pumpkins, did science experiments, and even got to pick their own pumpkin to keep from her grandparents patch that was brought to school for the students to enjoy.
- ◆ Students in Ms. Cole's class have been working hard on their SEL classroom community building.
- ◆ Students in Ms. Teske's class have been working on STEM activities during science trying to create the best marble run.
- ◆ All 2nd graders participated in "Apple Rotation Day" in honor of Johnny Appleseed Day. Teachers rotated amongst all 5 classrooms completing Apple related STEM activities and tastings.
- ◆ Mrs. Noha received the Petco Classroom Pet Grant and has officially adopted a pet hamster for her classroom.
- ◆ The school is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15-Oct 15 with cultural presentations from two staff members (Mr. Emilio from Mexico, and Mrs. Syndy from Paraguay). Ms. Martin and the students are creating a bulletin board after the famous Mexican painter, Frida Kahlo. Ms. Thielen is also incorporating hispanic music into her lessons this month.
- ◆ Congratulations to the September Students of the MOnth, who will be enjoying a treat with the principal this week.  
Kindergarten: Willow Larsen, Zoey Anderla, Ava Zorn, Tobias Ruggles and Lacy Philipps; 1st Gr: Calvin Jones, Brinley Stevens, Harrison Vieth, and Elizabeth Possi; 2nd Gr: Cael Forgette, Kennedy Harris, Raleigh Vandebush, Payton Nelson and Easton Pivatto.

**BLESCH**

- ◆ Blesch will be hosting Parent/Teacher conferences on October 5 & 6th.
- ◆ Blesch will also be hosting their annual book fair during the week of October 4th through the 8th.
- ◆ Blesch will be using \$3,000 from the student activities account to purchase books from Scholastic to continue to build classroom libraries for all students to utilize as they continue to build their independent reading skills.
- ◆ Blesch is in the process of starting/implementing their Peer-2-Peer program. This is a great opportunity to help students build positive relationships with one another.
- ◆ Blesch will fully implement Title I services starting October 4th.
- ◆ Blesch has been planning weekly activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.
- ◆ Overall, student behavior has been the best it has been in the last 5 years for the start of a school year.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT CONT:**

**JR/SR HIGH**

- ◆ The girls tennis team took 2nd place at GNC's last week. They finish their season on Wednesday with UP Finals.
- ◆ Dress up days have been planned for Fridays during the football season. Dress up days include: USA, pajama day, white out, and Maroon and gold day.
- ◆ 7th grade students are adjusting well to their "new building".
- ◆ Jr high students are currently participating in Menominee Hornets football as well as cross country.
- ◆ Our student leadership class organized and participated in a campus clean up.
- ◆ Student leadership has had multiple meetings with Mr. Herbert as the student's voices are being heard.
- ◆ A teacher of the week award has been started to honor our hard working teachers. Recent recipients include Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Owens.

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Moved by Ms. Thoune, seconded by Ms. Myszak, that the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on Monday, September 13, 2021.

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix II to these minutes)

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Moved by Ms. Myszak, seconded by Mrs. Woods, that the Board of Education approved the following new hires:

Taylor Truesdell-Keller - Para Aide - Central

Howard Herrild - Sub Bus Driver

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix III to these minutes)

Moved by Ms. Thoune, seconded by Mrs. Woods, that the Board of Education compensate Scott Martin for Superintendent duties from June 20 - July 16, \$4,000.00.

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix IV to these minutes)

Moved by Mrs. Wesolowski, seconded by Ms. Thoune, that the Board of Education approve the classroom management technician job description and posting, paid for by Esser Funds.

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix V to these minutes)

Moved by Mrs. Woods, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, that the Board of Education approve the updated Covid Mitigation strategies plan.

Motion Carried. (5-0) (Appendix VI to these minutes)

Moved by Ms. Thoune, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, that the Board of Education approve the extension of interim superintendent agreement with MCISD.

Motion Carried. (5-0)

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS:**

**CENTRAL**

- ◆ Students have been participating in beginning of the year assessments in Reading and Math this past month for NWEA, Acadience, Walpole differentiated reading instruction, and Words Their Way spelling inventories. Utilizing this data, we have established differentiated instruction plans for all students Kindergarten through 2nd grade. The state-approved assessment that MAPS uses for student growth shows that our students are currently at the following: Kindergarten: Math 72% at or above grade level, Reading 69% at or above grade level, 1st Gr: Math 70% at or above grade level, Reading 68% at or above grade level, 2nd Grade: 67% at or above grade level, Reading 59% at or above grade level.
- ◆ Kelly King and Randi Ahrndt wrote an anti-bullying grant last spring to train teachers and students on the START peer-to-peer mentoring program at Central Elementary. We were awarded \$6900 to incorporate an anti-bullying program at our school this school year. We will be planning professional development for staff, and begin assigning/training "buddies" for our students who need a little extra support in social situations before the 2nd Quarter.
- ◆ Teachers have begun scheduling Parent/Teacher conferences for the school year which are scheduled October 12 and 13th. We will be using "sign-up genius" to schedule 15 minute time slots electronically for families. In addition, parents will be asked to use the courtyard doors when entering the classrooms for their scheduled conference time.
- ◆ We are still trying to incorporate more health and wellness into our school community this school year. We have applied for the Building Healthy Communities grants again this year to hopefully help fund a walking club at Central, healthier food choices during breakfast/lunch, and additional staff wellness incentives. Utilizing physical activity during academics increases memorization and comprehension, and we hope to gain resources to help us increase activity for all students and staff at Central this school year.

**BLESCH**

- ◆ We have completed all of our beginning of the year testing.
- ◆ Blesch will be completing grade level meetings this week to discuss results of student testing.
- ◆ Blesch teachers have started small group instruction as part of their primary block of instruction. Small group instruction will be taking place in the content areas of Math and ELA. By incorporating small group instruction into our primary blocks of ELA and Math, we are hoping to help minimize learning gaps that have been created. Daily formative assessments will be driving our small groups.
- ◆ Blesch will be hosting Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 5 & 6.
- ◆ Teaching staff had the opportunity to teach self-selected content on our half day of school. This idea came from the book, "Significant 72: Unleashing the Power of Relationships in Today's Schools".
- ◆ As a continuation of previous years, all staff at Blesch have selected 5-7 students that they would like to regularly check in with (3 times a week). We are doing this in hopes of continuing to build a building wide community.
- ◆ Blesch staff would like to offer their deepest condolences to the Man's family. Mr. Mans was a leader who was student focused and his passion for putting students first will not be forgotten. He is a man who positively impacted thousands of students' lives.

**JR/SR HIGH**

- ◆ 7th-10th grade students are finishing up their NWEA testing. Students were tested in Math, English, Science and Grammar. They will also be tested in the winter and spring.
- ◆ There are plans to have students participate in an intervention program based on their NWEA scores.
- ◆ As mentioned earlier, College Day was cancelled, but students have been able to access information about Universities and Colleges by other means like zoom meetings.
- ◆ Teachers participated in professional development on our early release. It focused on SEL, CTE, and Special Ed Law.

- ◆ Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up on October 6th & 7th.
- ◆ A full day PD is scheduled for Oct 8. Focus will be to continue to improve our SEL, and it is also UP Special Ed Conf.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**2 8 9 7**

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

◆ Thank you to DeeAnne Pohlmann, Scott Martin, and Randi Ahrndt for applying and receiving ELF Grant. The district received \$106,000 for computers and \$14,500 for hot spots.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Sympathy thank you from the family of Ryan Nesberg, Leslie Johnson brother.  
Sympathy thank you from Al Bohan, retired teacher.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Ms. Myszak, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:07 p.m.  
Motion Carried. (5-0)

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JULIE KRAH, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

APPROVED AND ENTERED INTO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS DISTRICT  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2021

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MR. STEVE MARTIN, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT