

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DELAVAN-DARIEN  
OCTOBER 29, 2018**

Superintendent J. Sorbie and Business Administrator A. Klein held an open question and answer forum at 6:30 p.m. Four district residents made comments and asked questions – Andy Terpstra, Luis Solis, Bernice Solis, and Bridget Sandoval.

President Jeffery Scherer called the regular meeting of the Delavan-Darien School District Board of Education held at the School Administration Center to order at 7:04p.m.

**Board Members Present:** J. Scherer, J. Andreoni, S. Gonzalez, D. Grams, G. Moses

**Board Members Absent:** R. Deschner, M. Los

**Administrators Present:** Superintendent J. Sorbie, Business Administrator A. Klein, Director of Pupil Service M. Burke, Coordinator Careers and Occupations K. Pickel

The press was represented by Mike Hoey, *Delavan Enterprise*.

**Minutes Approved:** The minutes of the October 8, 2018 regular/closed session meeting were unanimously approved on an Andreoni/Gonzalez motion.

**Student Council Report:** President Elizabeth Sirkman reported on the big success of homecoming with involving everyone in the community this year. She reported there were a few changes they wanted to think about making for next year. She also reported that the students wanted to thank Dr. Sorbie for coming to their classes to introduce herself and talk about the referendum and having a face to the name and actually seeing her at the school. President Sirkman reported that next will be their Veterans Day assembly and they want to have a student speak this year who is either currently serving or wants to serve. After that the student council will be working on their committees.

**District Kudos:** Superintendent J. Sorbie gave kudos to Turtle Creek Elementary and Phoenix Middle School for hosting big events for the fall at their schools. Turtle Creek had over 400 students/families attend their fall festival and Phoenix held a monster bash with families and staff volunteering their evening hours. Second kudos went to Mary Burke, Director of Pupil Services in leading the safety team of 14 members to two days of trainings on mental health and getting the school safety program up to what the state and federal government as asking us to do. Third kudos went to the high school staff for the ACT results even though they were below the state average, as the science scores went up from 18.5 to 19.4 which is the largest growth ever and very significant. The science team of teachers are Nicholas Marsh, Cindy Irwin, Alexius Hehn and Daniel Simcakowski. ACT English scores went up from 17.9 to 18.2, math scores went up from 18.1 to 18.5, and reading scores went up from 18.3 to 18.9.

**Consent Agenda:** The board unanimously approved a motion by S. Gonzalez and seconded by D. Grams to approve the gifts/grants –\$500.00/500 bonus points for books for Turtle Creek classroom libraries in 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade from Scholastic Book Clubs on behalf of Brenda Scheff, \$464.38 Arts4All Grant – reduced ticket prices for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade from Horizons Matinee Series, Whitewater on behalf of Kim Kirk and Brenda Scheff, scrap metal for welding courses at DDHS from Dutton Welding and Millwright Services – Darien, WI, \$500 for FFA and Agri-Science Classes from Fleet Farm, Delavan, WI, \$200 for Phoenix Comet Care Center from Delavan United Church of Christ, Delavan WI, \$1,695 for 100 hardcover books written in English and Spanish for CLC literacy academic programming from Lucie Hake, Founder of International Little Artists Foundation, and \$100 for purchasing one free book per

month through Scholastic for each student at Wileman from The Dance Factory, Delavan, WI; and non-faculty co-curricular contracts for the 2018-2019 school year for Justin Fowlkes – assistant boys basketball DDHS and Avery Rios – assistant boys basketball DDHS.

**Adopt the 2018-19 School District Budget:** Business Administrator A. Klein stated that at the annual meeting best projections were presented on September 24. Since that time equalized values came out, final student membership count was entered, final certification of state aid determined and the district received the amount we had to pay for a district voucher school. Once you approve the budget we will submit a budget change to the paper to publish for the taxpayer. S. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the adoption of the 2018-19 school district budget as presented. J. Andreoni seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0 with the following members voting yes – J. Andreoni, S. Gonzalez, J. Scherer, G. Moses, and D. Grams.

**Certify the 2018-19 School District Tax Levy:** Business Administrator A. Klein stated that the tax levy and mill rate are a little higher than the amounts presented at the annual meeting in September. The increases in the levy and mill rate are primarily a result of the added expense of the district paying approximately \$265,000 to support the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program to St. Andrew's Parish School. By law this charge to support the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program is passed on to the taxpayer. Mr. Klein stated the budget for 2018-19 is \$2.13 million lower than it was last year and the mill rate will still be lower than it was last year with the additional expense. J. Andreoni moved that there be and hereby is levied and assessed against the tax roll properties, both real and personal, within the confines of the School District of Delavan-Darien, to be raised during the coming year. Taxes in the amount of \$15,421,095, including \$1,419,422 to be applied on the long term obligations of the district and \$264,928 as required by law to support the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. S. Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0 with the following members voting yes – J. Andreoni, S. Gonzalez, J. Scherer, G. Moses, and D. Grams.

**District P-Card Manual:** Business Administrator A. Klein stated in an effort to increase usage of the District purchasing cards and realize a greater return through the programs rebate program, the Business Office recently revised the purchasing card manual. This manual has been designed to increase overall usage of the purchasing cards, maintain adequate monitoring of purchases, streamline the District processing of these purchases, and comply with Board policy on the use of purchasing cards.

**Set Community Fitness Center Rates for the 2018-19 School Year:** Business Administrator A. Klein stated that in an effort to improve access to, and use of, this community resource, administration has been in discussions in developing a plan to improve community access and participation. There are more people to be consulted so he asked that the Board table this discussion until the next meeting.

**Review and Discuss 2017-18 PI-1505 Annual Report:** Business Administration A. Klein reported that each year the District is required to submit an annual report showing revenues, expenses, and fund balances for all District funds. This report will be placed on the District's new Business Administration webpage once it is fully up and operational. This report is informational only.

**ACT Scores:** Superintendent J. Sorbie reported that the district ACT scores are up across all content threads. In 2015 students selected to take the ACT but in 2016 the test became mandatory for all students. That requirement totally changed the perspective of the test and the state average also dropped. Dr. Sorbie reported that we are not where we want to be because we are below the state average, but we

are making growth across the content areas. English scores went up from 17.9 to 18.2, math scores went up from 18.1 to 18.5, reading scores went up from 18.3 to 18.9 and our science scores went up from 18.5 to 19.4 which is a significant increase. Our composite score went up from 18.4 to 18.9 but the state average is 20.5. Even though we are still under the average, it's all about the growth right now as a district.

**Birth to Three Program:** Superintendent J. Sorbie told the board that she has been giving a lot of thought to open enrollment and after analyzing the open enrollment out data found that almost 80 4-year old students and 5-year old students open enrolled out of the district without even giving the district a chance. Dr. Sorbie stated she would like to research if such a program would be viable in the district and help to retain students. The district has few child-care options and this program would not cost the district anything because it would be a tuition-based program. Dr. Sorbie stated that Wileman Elementary School might be a perfect location for a child-care center and if that became the use of that building, Darien Elementary maybe could be re-opened. Other districts have programs like this with New Berlin being the closest.

**WASB Survey Board Tool:** Superintendent J. Sorbie passed out a WASB Board Development Tool Survey that was created by WASB. The intent of the survey tool is to give the Board an opportunity to clearly see which areas of governance you are in agreement on and which areas require more discussion. Board President J. Scherer asked all board members to complete the survey by the next meeting.

**Referendum:** Superintendent J. Sorbie stated that an advertisement will be the *Delavan Enterprise* this week explaining the tax impact and why we are going back again and doing a last effort to share information with the community. Dr. Sorbie stated that the referendum meetings have been going well but attendance is not as large a showing as we wanted. Superintendent Sorbie reported that Mr. Klein met with a DDSA alumni group of 15 to 20 people and they seemed supportive and tomorrow night are parent/teacher conferences and she will be passing out information and talking with the parents. On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> will be the last meeting at Luther Memorial and many people are out going door to door knocking and spreading the information.

**November and December 2<sup>nd</sup> Monthly Board Meeting Dates:** Superintendent J. Sorbie brought to the Board's attention that the 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly board meetings for November and December will fall around or on a holiday. She suggested that the board do a board retreat on November 26 on the Strategic Plan and in December do not hold a second meeting on December 24. The board agreed to not hold a second monthly meeting in November or December, but hold a board retreat on November 26 at 7:00 p.m. with place to be determined.

**Superintendent Report:** Superintendent J. Sorbie stated that the last few months the board members have been reading the data behind the Strategic Plan. She provided the board members with the strategies and action steps for their next reading on what have we accomplished and what have we not accomplished and what is relevant to put back into a new plan. This will be worked on at the next board retreat on November 26.

#### **Future Agenda Items:**

**Next Meeting Date:** November 12, 2018 – Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
November 26, 2018 – Board Retreat Meeting 7:00 p.m. (Place TBD)

A motion was made by S. Gonzalez and seconded J. Andreoni to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85 (1)(c),(f) to discuss and take action, if appropriate, discuss personal histories of specific personnel information, and discuss the employment compensation/benefits of employees. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote of all ayes and the regular meeting adjourned at 8:04p.m.

The board went into closed session for discussions. There were no motions made in closed session.

There being no further business, a motion was made by J. Andreoni and seconded by S. Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Karen Logterman, Secretary

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Jeffery Scherer, President