

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING November 13, 2018

A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 13, at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. Members in attendance were Rufus Rodriguez, Nicole Green, Del Ellis, Julie Laue, and Dan Brookens. Absent: Danielle Schutz.

A motion was offered by Del Ellis, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the October 23, 2018 school board meeting minutes.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the November 13, 2018 school board meeting agenda.

On behalf of Education Minnesota Fairmont, President Joice Forster acknowledged this week as American Education Week. She noted the long list of activities that EFM is involved with throughout each year in support of public education, including distributing books at the Interlaken Heritage Days parade, ringing the Salvation Army bell, organizing school food shelves, hosting a booth at the Career Fair, and donating money to Dollars for Scholars for an annual student scholarship. EMF is sponsoring a variety of other special activities to commemorate American Education Week, including students composing articles about "Why Education is Important to Me." Four of Mrs. Forster's students did an outstanding job sharing their articles with school board members: Clark Hazard, Caroline Lozano, Dennis Dosela, and Francesca Martin.

Steph Johnson, Coordinator of the Martin County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (MCSAP) spoke about the many ways in which they are collaborating with community members, students, and outside organizations to help our young people make safe and healthy choices. The Coalition meets one time each month and is comprised of adults and students. YOCO is strictly a youth-based coalition. YOCO groups are active in several school districts, including Fairmont, GHEC, and Martin County West. Truman is working to organize a group. A big push is being made to emphasize the importance of reducing access to alcohol and tobacco to our young people. Ms. Johnson commended Fairmont High School's recent effort to help educate parents by providing them information about e-cigarettes and other tobacco paraphernalia. Board member Rufus Rodriguez asked about measures being taken to prepare high school students for the transition to college. Mr. Johnson indicated that the topic has been addressed in the past and agreed that it should receive more focus. In closing Ms. Johnson thanked the many local businesses and organizations who offer programming or donations in support of MCSAP.

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Brown shared an enrollment update for November, indicating the total number of students has increased by 8 at the elementary and has decreased by 5 at the high school.

- Mr. Brown had just returned from the MN Rural Education Association Conference in Brainerd with Principal Andy Traetow and Construction Trades teacher Bob Bonin. They were there to honor Bob Bonin who was one of 4 teachers in Minnesota to receive the MREA Teacher of Excellence Award.
- Mr. Brown acknowledged the awesome job students and staff did in producing last week's high school musical, "Annie."
- Best of luck was offered to the Fairmont High School football team when they play this weekend at the U.S. Bank Stadium in the state quarter-finals competition.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to accept a donation from Carpet Plus to Robotics of a 12' x 16' grey level loop commercial carpet, valued at \$191.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Julie Laue and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to accept a \$1,350 donation from the Fairmont Fire Fighters to purchase shirts for the CER elementary girls & boys basketball programs.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green, and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to accept a \$500 donation from the Fairmont Fire Fighters to help fund the 2nd grade spring field trip to Como Zoo.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Del Ellis and carried to unanimously approve the wire transfers for 10/19/18 – 11/8/18 and payment of the November 13, 2018 bills.

A resolution was introduced by Nicole Green, seconded by Dan Brookens, and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to canvass the votes of the November 6, 2018 school board election as follows: Rufus Rodriguez – 3,159; Martha Myren – 3,015, Michael Edman – 3,010; John Gibeau – 2,010.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Del Ellis and carried to unanimously approve the resignation of Michele Anderson, a special education paraprofessional, effective November 2, 2018.

A motion was offered by Del Ellis, seconded by Nicole Green, and carried to unanimously approve the employment of Heidi Andrews as a special education paraprofessional, effective November 5, 2018 at a salary of Step 1.

A motion was offered by Del Ellis, seconded by Dan Brookens, and carried to unanimously approve employment of winter athletic coaches for 2018-19.

A motion was offered by Del Ellis, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the employment of Katie Hardt as a paraprofessional, effective November 14, 2018 at a salary of Step 1.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Del Ellis, and carried to unanimously approve changing the start date of the superintendent's 2019-2022 contract from July 1, 2019 to July 2, 2019.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Del Ellis and carried to unanimously approve a medical leave for Jan Barnick, high school paraprofessional, beginning November 12, 2018 and extending through January 22, 2019 or per medical recommendation.

A motion was offered by Del Ellis, seconded by Dan Brookens and carried to unanimously approve the EMF Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

Board members reported on the following: Staff Welfare Committee Meeting of 10/30 and the SDCC Meeting of 11/12.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Dan Brookens, and carried to approve adjourning the school board meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Del Ellis, Clerk