

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING December 11, 2018

A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. Members in attendance were Rufus Rodriguez, Nicole Green, Julie Laue, and Dan Brookens. Absent: Del Ellis and Danielle Schutz.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Dan Brookens and carried to unanimously approve the November 27, 2018 school board meeting minutes.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the December 11, 2018 school board meeting agenda.

Jaime Grundman, Judicial Law Clerk for District court Judge Mike Trushenski, is serving this year as a Mock Trial coach at Fairmont High School. Chris Johnston is also coaching. This is the first year that Mock Trial has been offered and currently 9 students are participating. Emily Kerekes and Bergen Senf are junior students who spoke about what they need to know and do during the Mock Trial competitions. Approximately 85 MN schools have Mock Trial teams.

Kim Breamer, elementary band instructor and Katie Koenning, orchestra instructor, expressed thanks to the Schmeeckle Foundation for the \$50,000 grant they recently awarded to Fairmont School's music department. These dollars have provided many new, and much needed band and orchestra instruments. The instruments will benefit all students and will be especially beneficial to those students who are financially unable to purchase or rent instruments. In addition, some grant dollars have been used to purchase shelving in the band rooms so instruments can be properly stored and kept in good condition. Mr. Brown noted that the District may apply every 6 months for additional grant dollars from the Schmeeckle Foundation.

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Brown reported that student enrollment remains stable with last month's figures.
- Board members were given information regarding another Saturday Welding Academy. This will be a 60-hour welding course that will begin January 5, 2019.
- Mr. Brown shared some final facts & figures related to dollar savings the District will incur as a result of an LED Project. The project will be completed over Christmas break. The annual savings that will result from lighting costs and rebates is \$72,013.91, with a total project payback expected in 8.1 years.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to accept a donation of \$500 from Louise Hendricks as part of the 3M Cares Program. The donation will be used at the high school for Robotics, Band, and the Cardinal Fund.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to accept a \$300 donation from Baarts Trucking for the Welding Academy.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve the wire transfers for 11/21/18 – 12/6/18 and payment of the December 11, 2018 bills.

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve board members' overnight attendance at the MSBA Winter Conference January 17 & 18, 2019.

A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Dan Brookens and carried to unanimously approve the 2019-2020 school calendar.

Board members reported on the following: Board / HS Student Breakfast of 11/28; Operations Committee Meeting of 12/3; Board / HS Staff Meeting of 12/7.

Bradley Carlton, business manager, presented a power point related to the school district's 2018 Payable 2019 tax levy. He recommended that the Board approve a total levy amount of \$5,711,897.31.

A motion was offered by Rufus Rodriguez, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve the 2018 Payable 2019 tax levy in the amount of \$5,711,897.31.

Fairmont's Economic Development Coordinator, Linsey Preuss, presented a tax abatement hearing related to a request by business owners Shari DeJong and Jan Bosma to add a 12,000 square foot addition to their Arthur Andrews Properties building. It would be a 10-year tax abatement with plans for have the addition completed in less than 2 years. The business owners guarantee that building the addition will allow them to hire 8 new full-time employees within the next five years and the positions would pay a minimum of \$12.50/hour plus benefits.

A resolution was introduced by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to approve a 10-year tax abatement and authorize execution of a tax abatement and business subsidy agreement.

A motion was offered by Dan Brookens, seconded by Nicole Green and carried to unanimously approve adjourning the school board meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Julie Laue, Treasurer