

ST. CROIX CENTRAL DISTRICT, HAMMOND-ROBERTS, WI
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SCC DISTRICT OFFICE

- 1) Call to Order – President Kruschke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call – Members present: Scott DeGross, John Hueg, Howard Kruschke, David Olsen, Jeff Redmon, and Tricia Rogers. Absent: Kirk Lyksett. Also present: Superintendent Tim Widiker, High School Assistant Principal and Activities Director Jason Koele, Virtual Education Principal Stephani Posta, Director of Teaching and Learning Nic Been, Business Manager Jennifer Kleschold, and Executive Administrative Assistant Pam Katner. Staff: Bill Emery, and Greg Green. District residents were also present.
- 4) Report of Meeting Notification – Superintendent Widiker reported that the meeting was properly noticed and per SCC Employee Handbook, Part I, Section 3.06 (F) he reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.
- 5) Welcome Visitors/Public Comment – President Kruschke called for public comment with no response.
- 6) Highlight on Youth – Nothing at this time.
- 7) Comments by Board Members and Superintendent
 - a. Update from Wage and Benefit Committee – Director Redmon reported good teacher representation at tonight’s earlier Wage and Benefit Committee meeting. He reviewed the current teacher Alt. Comp Model formula which consisted of a \$400 base pay increase, earned educational credits and/or master’s degree, and any leftover money after credit movement goes back to the base. At this time, the committee feels that since the teachers are in the process of completing credits for the 2020-21 contract and that the district made a commitment to this Alt. Comp Model for 2020-21 that it should stay in place one more year. The committee is further recommending that the Alt. Comp. Model be dropped and go to a flat dollar increase based on FTE for the 2021-22 contract. The attending teachers will take the proposal back to their teacher co-workers and get their feedback. The committee will make a formal recommendation at the April 20th regular board meeting.

- b. School Board Consultant Lee Pritzl – Feedback from the Board was given regarding the March 3rd meeting with Lee Pritzl. There was general consensus that the meeting was a “great conversation” and productive. The Board has been invited to present “Best Practices of High Functioning Boards” at the January 2021 WASB State Education Convention. The Board is considering the invitation.
- c. Set Date for Teacher Meet and Confer Meeting – The Board considered setting the date for the Teacher Meet and Confer Committee to meet with the teacher employee group. The committee consists of Superintendent Widiker, Business Manager Kleschold, Directors Redmon, Olsen, and the newly elected board member. The meeting date was set for Monday, May 11th at 4:30 p.m. in the SCC High School Lecture Hall.
- d. Set Date for Support Staff Meet and Confer Meeting – The Board considered setting the date for the Support Staff Meet and Confer Committee to meet with individual support staff employee groups. The committee consists of Superintendent Widiker, Business Manager Kleschold, Directors DeGross, Lyksett, and Rogers. Each employee group will be given the opportunity to sign up for a twenty minute time slot. The meeting date was set for Monday, April 13th starting at 3:30 p.m. in the SCC District Office Conference Room.
- e. Update on Hiring Administrator Positions – Superintendent Widiker updated the Board on the two open administrative positions for 2020-21: High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director and Director of Special Education and Student Services. Currently, there are thirty-seven applications for the HS Asst. Principal and thirteen applications for the Director position. He is pleased with the number and quality of applications. The administrative team is meeting on Wednesday to scale down the applications to six candidates for each position. Interviews are planned for April 1st and 2nd for the HS Asst. Principal position and April 6th and 7th for the Director position. Each interview committee consists of sixteen members and will invite back 2-3 candidates for a final interview with the admin team.
- f. Update on COVID-19 School Closings – Superintendent Widiker gave a review of the COVID-19 timeline and response from the state and federal government. Information and guidance is changing hourly and the administration team is moving quickly to determine how the district should move forward in the best interest of our students and families. **The Board thanked everyone for their hard work during this difficult time.**

8) Scheduled Presentations by Guests and Staff

- a. Support for Outdoor Adventure Class – HS Ag Teacher Bill Emery – The Board welcomed High School Ag Teacher Bill Emery to the meeting to present his proposal of support for the Outdoor Adventure Class. This year there are forty-six students in the Outdoor Adventure Class. The class includes an introduction to winter camping, rock climbing, backpacking, turkey hunting, trout fishing, and more. It also includes an annual trip to

the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Mr. Emery is asking to buy ten canoes and equipment that will allow him to continue offering the annual trip for this year's thirty-six students. The equipment can also be used in his summer rec program and fishing classes. He is estimating that the equipment and canoes will cost about \$3,000. He has worked hard to secure the best prices and feels buying canoes would be more cost effective than renting.

- 9) Financial Reports – Board Treasurer Scott DeGross read the treasurer's report with a balance of \$841,115.08. Motion Director Olsen, 2nd Director Hueg to accept the financial reports, including the treasurer's report, as presented. Unanimously carried. **Exhibit 9**

- 10) Consideration of Consent Agenda – Motion Director Hueg, 2nd Director Olsen to approve the consent agenda. Unanimously carried.

a. Approval of Minutes

Exhibit 10a

- i. SCC School Board Meeting – February 17, 2020
- ii. Wage & Benefit Committee Meeting – March 2, 2020
- iii. SCC Board Learning Meeting – March 2, 2020

b. Approval of Bi-Monthly Bills for March 2020

Exhibit 10b

c. Approval of Resignations and Retirements

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| i. Jeanne Jeske | 7.75 Hr. Elem. SPED Paraprofessional | June 4, 2020 |
| ii. Lynn Goss | 7.5 Hr. MS SPED Paraprofessional | June 4, 2020 |
| iii. Laura Anderson | 7 Hr. MS SPED Paraprofessional | March 3, 2020 |
| iv. Ty Ketz | 1 FTE Head Girls' Basketball Coach | March 3, 2020 |
| v. Peggy Snyder | 3 Hr. Elementary Assistant Cook #2 | March 26, 2020 |

d. Approval of Appointments and Contract Modifications

e. Approval of Curricular Modifications Requests for Students to Enroll in Full-Time and Part-Time Virtual Courses for 2019-20 and 2020-21

f. Approval of Student Participation in Early College Credit Program – Fall 2020

Exhibit 10f

11) Administrative Reports

- a. Student Enrollment Update – An overview of March's enrollment figures which showed enrollment down by five students from February's "in the seats" enrollment total for a total of 1,597. The district's Free and Reduced Meal percentage increased slightly from 20.57% to 20.96%. Open enrollment is at 309 students open enrolled into SCC (241 in 18-19) and 107 students open enrolled out of the district (109 in 18-19). There are 29 full-time virtual resident students and 60 part-time virtual resident students. At this time, there are 201 virtual charter students compared to 138 students last year. **Exhibit 11a**

12) The Key Work of Our School Board

- a. Student, Staff, and Community Recognition – Director Hueg read this month’s recognition and thank you cards which included:
 - i. Thank you to Melanie Neumann, Leah Tritz, and Alycia Benzer for making the middle school play a huge success.
 - ii. In recognition of Ellie Fraser, Austin Albright, Max Larson, and Braeden O’Brien for their outstanding representation of SCC in their role in The Phipps production of *The Little Mermaid*. Keep up the great work!
 - iii. Thank you to Donna Reed for her generous donation for the middle school blanket club. Your generosity will help us help others.
 - iv. In recognition of Thomas Lane on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. A job well done.
 - v. In recognition of Isaiah Kasay for his great work as a basketball game PA announcer this season. You are pursuing your interests and finding ways to be the best possible “you”. Great job!
 - vi. Congratulations to Morgan Siler and Kolbi Juen for being recognized as All-Conference members of the Middle Border Conference. Thank you for four years of dedication to the Girls’ Basketball program.
 - vii. Congratulations to Gabe Siler for being recognized as a 1st Team All-Conference basketball player of the MBC.
 - viii. Congratulations to Jackson Pettit for being recognized as a 2nd Team All-Conference basketball player of the MBC.
 - ix. Congratulations to Devin Wasley for achieving individual State Runner-Up at the WIAA Wrestling State Tournament.
 - x. Congratulations to Zac Holme and Wyatt Sundby for being recognized as a 1st Team All-Conference hockey player of the MBC.
 - xi. Congratulations to Jacob Roussopoulos for being recognized as an All-Conference member of the MBC and for four years of dedication to the hockey program.
 - xii. Thank you to Roberts Lion Club, Doreen Kruschke, Chuck Pizzi, and Michael Odden for coming to the middle school and providing free vision screening. Your generosity is appreciated.
 - xiii. In recognition to Sean Conway for bringing members of the UWEC band program to work with our students. The opportunity to learn from outstanding musicians will have a powerful and lasting impact.
- b. Discussion on Future District Needs and Priorities – A Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding communication services was sent to two companies who will present and review their services at the April 6th Board Learning meeting. Joe Donovan will present at 6:00 p.m. with Dorreen Dembski to follow at 7:00 p.m.

13) Core Agenda Items

- a. Consideration of Approval of 2020-21 CESA Shared Service Contract – The 2020-21 Shared Services Contract with CESA 11 was presented along with a comparison summary of this year's services to next year's services. The comparison showed an estimated increase of \$7,257.02 in costs for 2020-21 due to adding a service package of Science, Math & Technology Resource Center and an estimated of 3% increase in services. The administration recommends renewing the CESA 11 Shared Services Contract as presented. Motion Director Redmon, 2nd Director DeGross to approve the CESA 11 Shared Services Contract for 2020-21 as presented. Unanimously carried.

Exhibit 13a Summary and CESA 11 Contract

- b. Consideration of Approval of Short-Term Borrowing – Business Manager Kleschold explained that short-term borrowing will be necessary due to processing payroll and accounts payable before the District receives state categorical aid on March 23rd. As District payrolls increase there is less flexibility in the timing of these expenditures. Currently, payrolls require the District to submit payroll taxes the day after the payroll date. This is a timing issue of payroll dates verses state aid receipts that could come up again in June. She is recommending a 7-day loan from March 16th to March 23rd in the amount of \$600,000. The interest rate is 3.5% and will cost an estimate of \$400. Motion Director Olsen, 2nd Director Hueg to authorize short-term borrowing of \$600,000 for cash flow purposes for the March 20th payroll and March 16th accounts payable. Unanimously carried.

Exhibit 13b

- c. Consideration of Approval of Contract for Lawn Care Services for Summer 2020-2022 – The District received four lawn care service bids for the summer of 2020 through the summer of 2022. After serious consideration, the committee is recommending that the contract be given to Fern's Lawn Care. The company is offering free Roundup services for the athletic fields if awarded a contract for all sites. Motion Director Redmon, 2nd Director Hueg to approve offering a lawn care service contract to Fern's Lawn Care starting the summer of 2020 through 2022 as presented. Unanimously carried.

Exhibit 13c

- d. Discussion Regarding Preliminary 2020-21 Budget – Business Manager Kleschold reviewed a preliminary 2020-21 projected budget. She included revenue changes which included: adding 9 FTE to the September 2019 count, \$300 increase in the per Pupil Revenue Limit, no change to per Pupil Adjustment Aid, additional five open enrollment students, increase in Open Enrollment tuition from \$7,771 to \$8,125, increase of 4% in special education Categorical Aid, and assumes a 1% increase in all other revenues. The expenditure changes includes: 2% wage increase for 2020-21, staffing additions that were added mid-year in 2019-20 (.5 FTE Gifted and Talented Teacher, .5 FTE ESL Paraprofessional, .5 FTE Virtual Education Enrollment Coordinator, 4K Paraprofessional at Trinity Lutheran 4K site), savings from January 2021 teacher retirement, and an increase in required retirement distributions. Ms. Kleschold also reviewed changes in Object Series 300-900. She also shared that with current projections, she is estimating

that the District's Fund Balance would be at 17.00% just within the recommended 17-19% of expenditures at the end of the 2020-21 fiscal year. **The Board thanked Ms. Kleschold for her work in preparing the preliminary budget and will continue to monitor budgetary decisions at the State level.** *Handout 13d*

14) Other

- a. President Kruschke noted that the April 1st CESA Joint PAC/BOE meeting in Turtle Lake has been cancelled and will be re-scheduled for a later date.
- b. The New School Board Member Gathering will now be held online on three different dates: April 21st, 22nd, and 23rd from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- c. The Board discussed the format of future board meetings in light of the COVID-19 restrictions.

15) Important Upcoming Dates

- a. April 6, 2020 – Wage and Benefit Committee Meeting at 4:30 p.m. – Join remotely at <https://meet.google.com/pdq-xgrx-sks>
- b. April 6, 2020 – SCC Board Learning and Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. – Join remotely at <http://meet.google.com/nqc-hmzy-rig>
- c. April 7, 2020 – 2020 Spring Election for SCC School Board
- d. April 13, 2020 – Board of Canvassers at 4:00 p.m. in the District Office
- e. April 20, 2020 – SCC School Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the SCC District Office at 915 Davis Street, Hammond

16) Convene to Closed Session – The motion was made by Director Olsen, 2nd by Director Hueg to convene to closed session. Roll call vote: all ayes.

- a. Per WI State Statue 19.85(1)(f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.
 - i. Student Assessment Exemption Requests

Time: 9:12 p.m.

17) Return to Open Session – The Board Returned to open session at 9:16 p.m. No one joined the meeting.

18) Announce Any Action Taken in Closed Session if Appropriate – A motion was made by Director Hueg and seconded by Director Redmon to approve the four test exemption requests. Motion carried.

19) Adjournment – Motion Director Olsen, 2nd Director Redmon to adjourn. Unanimously carried.

Time: 9:17 p.m.

Jeff Redmon, School Board Clerk