

Eau Claire School Board Minutes Monday, September 10, 2018

Generated by Patti Iverson

Members present

Lori Bica, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Laurie Klinkhammer, Joe Luginbill, Eric D Torres, Charles Vue

1. REGULAR MEETING - CALL TO ORDER

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Luginbill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Heidi Wendtland and her husband are teachers in the District and also have children who attend school in the District. Heidi has worked in the District for 26 years. She understands the value of good health insurance and benefits and feels fortunate that Eau Claire values having quality teachers and investing in training and inservice for staff. She said the Board has difficult decisions to make regarding the budget and OPEB. She asked the Board to consider the value of retaining quality teachers and to consider the commitments and promises that were made to teachers while they went through salary freezes and when they negotiated better benefits over more salary.

3. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

3.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hardebeck reported on the Border Battle, which took place recently. She said that 100% of the proceeds will go to pay for items and services needed by homeless students so they can continue their education uninterrupted while they are experiencing homelessness.

Dr. Hardebeck was pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Education recently declared that Flynn Elementary has met the certification criteria to receive the National Blue Ribbon School Award for 2017-2018. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Every year the U. S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools, schools demonstrating that all students can achieve to high levels. More than 8,500 schools across the country have been presented with this coveted award since its inception in 1982. The National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where

students master challenging content. Flynn will be honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. in November. Many members of the Flynn staff were present and were congratulated for this amazing accomplishment.

3.2 Board President's Report

Joe Luginbill shared information about upcoming WASB meetings that Board members may want to participate in. He asked them to contact Patti Iverson if they wanted to be registered.

Mr. Luginbill welcomed the new student representatives to the Board. Abby Green will represent North High School for the first semester and Molly Green will represent North for second semester. Gwen Heywood will represent Memorial. He welcomed them to the Board.

4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

4.1 Student Representative Report

Gwen Heywood said that students will be participating in Club Rush. She said that many teams have been competing in fall sports.

Abby Green said that North will have a Club Dash in the near future. She said that students are getting settled into a new school year.

5. OTHER REPORTS

5.1 School Board Committee Reports

The Policy & Governance Committee met and will be bringing a policy forward for Board consideration later in the meeting.

5.2 Legislative Update

Eric Torres did not have a legislative report.

6. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Chris Hambuch-Boyle moved, second by Eric Torres, to approve the following Consent Resolution Items:

- Minutes of August 20, 2018
- Minutes of Closed Session - August 20, 2018
- Human Resources - Employment Report
- Adopt New Policy 441.3 - Student Assisted Voter Registration
- Revise Policy 723.2 - Employees as Mandatory Reporters of Threats of School Violence
- Formation of Ad Hoc Revenue Committee

- Change Name of Parent Advisory Council to Family Advisory Council to be More Inclusive
- Head Start Grant Addition

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTION(S)

7.1 Resolutions to Send to the WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee

Mr. Luginbill said that school districts can submit resolutions to the WASB Policy & Resolution Committee to bring forward to the Delegate Assembly at the state convention in January. He read the resolutions that were drafted by the Eau Claire School Board. It was noted that Mr. Luginbill serves on the state resolution committee for WASB and that Mr. Torres is the District's delegate.

Eric Torres moved, second by Aaron Harder, to forward resolutions drafted by the Eau Claire School Board to the WASB Policy & Resolutions Committee. Carried by unanimous voice vote.

8. ADJOURN TO COMMITTEE

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9.1 Summer School 2018 Report

Dave Oldenberg, Director of Academic Services, gave an update on the recently concluded summer school term. He said that the summer school program aligns with all areas of the Board's Strategic Plan.

In 2016 there were 5,881 enrolled in summer school and that increased to 8,723 in 2018. Each class a student enrolls in is counted as one; some students may take several summer school classes. There are approximately 45% of the students in the District that participate in summer school programming.

There are 24 partners who provide programming as part of the summer school offerings including Parks and Recreation, Boys and Girls Club, UW-Eau Claire, Children's Theater, and Beaver Creek. Students can receive all-day programming. Families bring their student to a program in the morning and they will be provided a free lunch and be transported to another program in the afternoon. There are also overnight programs, which allow students to be independent and gives them the opportunity to be immersed in a program.

In 2016 there were 294 staff members hired (193 certified and 101 classified). In 2018 there were 296 certified staff and 197 classified staff for a total of 493.

All families in the District receive a Summer School Planning Guide in the mail in late February. This contains information on all the programs offered.

There were several program enhancements in 2018:

- All elementary schools ran kindergarten classes.
- Free breakfast and lunch meals were available at all schools even if students were not enrolled in the summer program.
- There was weekly scheduling at the middle schools to increase diversity of offerings.
- New bussing routes were added between District programs (For example, students could participate in programs at the middle school and be transported to the high school for the Strength and Conditioning Program.)
- Transportation to the Boys and Girls Club was provided from the high schools.
- The high school credit recovery program blended an online learning program. This was very successful and doubled the amount of credits that students obtained from 2017 to 2018.

Mr. Oldenberg reported that overall, 88% of parents rate the quality of ECASD's summer school program as a 4 or 5.

It was noted that the increase in programming brings in increased revenue to the District and builds community partnerships.

Board members were pleased with the enhancements made to the program and the increase in students who participated. They were also happy to see that all schools provided free meals to students.

Gwen Heywood said she has taken part in the summer programming and can attest to the positive statistics. Abby Green added that it is great to see students be able to receive meals, particularly those who experience food insecurity. She also heard from students who were able to catch up earning credits, which benefits everyone.

It was suggested that the data be disaggregated by race and class next year. Mr. Schmitt said that summer school enrollment will be done in Skyward so that can be done.

9.2 Discussion and Possible First Reading of New Policy 453.7 - Student Mental Health and Wellness Education

President Luginbill said there are currently no policies at the state level regarding student mental health. If adopted, this will become the sample policy for the state.

Joe Luginbill shared a first reading of new Policy 453.7 – Student Mental Health and Wellness Education:

The Eau Claire Area School District recognizes that offering mental health counseling services provides significant benefits to the social and emotional well-being of students.

The District shall utilize a framework that includes universal exposure to practices that promote high levels of wellness to include:

Tier I – Universal Practices: Relationship building, resiliency, and rich social-emotional learning, trauma sensitive practices, conflict resolution, and mental health and wellness education.

Tier II – Targeted Services: Early identification, screening, progress monitoring, effective individual and group interventions, and co-planning strategies with students, families and community providers.

Tier III – Intensive Services: individualized plans/strategies for students including School Based Mental Health services and a coordinated system of care.

School-Based Mental Health

The District shall work with licensed clinical behavioral health providers to facilitate School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) services for students within the hours of the school day and on school grounds. Such on-site accommodations serve students who might not seek these services in clinical settings or would not have means of transportation to a clinical setting.

The purpose of the SBMH program is to:

1. Improve accessibility; provide opportunity for timely access to services and treatment.
2. Reduce and prevent suicide and/or violence against others among school-age children by early identification and intervention.
3. Engage students and family members in mental health services offered by licensed clinical staff.
4. Promote coordinated treatment and services by interfacing with school student service professionals to improve student success when there is a written consent to permit exchange of client information as authorized by FERPA.
5. Improve school performance and minimize student absences.

Public or private behavioral health clinics or providers can, through a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the District and licensure from the State of Wisconsin, locate a clinic within a school building (known as a "school branch office"), and provide direct mental health services to students utilizing a clinic-employed, mental health provider. SBMH services shall be billed through Medicaid, private insurance, self-pay, or other external sources. The remaining continuum of mental health services for students, particularly at universal and selected levels may be supported as part of the District service delivery model.

The District shall promote equal access to school-based community mental health services and strategies to allow for collaboration and coordination of services by other government agencies, the community provider, school personnel, and families.

Coordinated Services/Sharing of Information

Care shall be coordinated between the school branch office and school personnel whenever possible. Information from the school branch office therapist including assessments,

treatment plans, school evaluations, and educational plans may be shared to inform and support each other with the informed consent of the parent/guardian.

Nondiscrimination Protections

The District shall exclusively enter into agreements with health clinics and/or providers that agree to abide by the District's Nondiscrimination Policy for Students - Policy 411. The District shall prohibit the practice of "Conversion Therapy" (as defined by the American Psychological Association) by school branch office therapists.

Review of Policy

The Superintendent and Director of Student Services shall be responsible for the development of Administrative Rules to correspond with this policy.

The Board agreed to move this policy on to the next meeting for approval.

Public Comment

Bobbi Green had some questions about the "clinics within school buildings." She wondered if this meant that schools could have a satellite branch from a private mental health provider. Mr. Luginbill clarified that the District has coordinated services; there are teams that can be put together to provide mental health services for students. She also asked if counselors would be involved. Mr. Luginbill said that school social workers and counselors provide different services to students. He said that after the recent school shootings across the country, the Board asked administration to do an audit of the caseloads for social workers to be sure the District has adequate staff. The policy would address something different than staffing.

10. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chris Hambuch-Boyle asked if the District would be participating in the production of a video being made by the Chamber and other businesses that will promote Eau Claire.

Ms. Hambuch-Boyle also asked for a Report to the Board about the District's partnerships with the Confluence Project and what that will look like over the next five to ten years related to the District's Strategic Plan, curriculum, budget, revenue, and alumni connections. She wants to know which staff may be connected to the confluence and how they are participating in promoting this partnership. She asked for updates going forward.

Ms. Hambuch-Boyle asked for a report on the protocol for using donated funds for student food accounts. She asked if the accounts are paid in full with these donated funds, does the family start over with a zero balance. Or if families eventually pay, does that amount come off what was donated?

11. ADJOURN

Chris Hambuch-Boyle moved, second by Charles Vue, to adjourn the meeting.
Carried by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.