

Eau Claire School Board Minutes
Monday, January 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Blended Model – ECASD Administration Building and Livestream
Generated by Terri Grzyb

Members present

Lori Bica (arrived at 6:03 p.m.), Joshua Clements (not in attendance for closed session; arrived at 7:18 p.m.), Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

CONVENE (GC-1)

President Nordin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Board Secretary Terri Grzyb confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. A roll call was conducted to verify quorum.

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Erica Zerr to move to Closed Session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility for the purposes of considering the Superintendent's evaluation and the issuance of preliminary notice of nonrenewal of an administrator's contract pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 118.24.

Motion carried

Yes: Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr
Not Present at Vote: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements

RECONVENE (GC-1)

President Nordin reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the Board approved the Superintendent's annual evaluation letter and acted on a personnel matter during Closed Session. Rosalie M. from Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (GC-2)

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to adopt the Board agenda for January 22, 2024.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr
Not Present at Vote: Joshua Clements

RECOGNITION (R-1)

Superintendent Johnson recognized National Board Certified Teachers (1 new, 2 extended certification) and Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School for their Baby Blanket Donation.

PUBLIC FORUM (GC-2.3c)

The following students and parents addressed the Board regarding the orchestra and jazz band programs at Memorial High School: Charlie Johnson, Cole Wojciechowski, Mile/Elise Keyes, Faith/Students and Parents, Bergen Schoelen, Candace Kretchmar, and Lisa Quinn-Lee.

REPORTS

Referendum Committee Report (GC-5)

Commissioner Johnson provided an update. The committee has not met since January 5. They hope to meet in the last week of January or the 3rd/4th week in February. Commissioner Johnson thanked the public speakers and said it looks like we have a potential agenda item to add to referendum topics.

Legislative Liaison

Commissioner Farrar provided a Legislative update, which included the following:

The Senate Committee on Education will hold a public hearing on January 23 to discuss eight different bills that range from various changes to teacher licensing, mandates for access to school grounds and curriculum, increasing open enrollment transfer payments, and changing the school start date.

Additionally, the Transportation & Local Government Committee will hold a public hearing on SB 916, which would require all local governments within 100 miles of a federally resettled refugee to designate an individual to consult on a committee regarding refugee resettlement assistance and necessary community measures for accommodation. The Universities & Revenue Committee will hold an executive session on SB 367, relating to a UW guaranteed admission program and establishing class ranking systems in high schools.

WASB Delegate Assembly

President Nordin provided a report on the WASB Delegate Assembly. All 11 of the original proposed resolutions passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Erica Zerr, second by Jarrett Dement to approve items 8.2 through 8.6 and 8.8 (*item 8.7 was pulled by Commissioner Johnson for discussion*):

8.2 Human Resources - Employment Report

8.3 Financial Report - November 2023

8.4 Gifts in the amount of \$18,317.98 for the period of December 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023

8.5 Open Enrollment for 2024-2025

8.6 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

8.7 Administrator Contract Renewals

8.8 Referendum Project Bids

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Commissioner Johnson pulled item 8.7 Administrator Contract Renewals and led discussion.

Motion by Marquell Johnson, second by Erica Zerr to table item 8.7 Administrator Contract Renewals for further discussion. Discussion on motion.

Motion failed

Yes: Marquell Johnson

No: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Motion by Tim Nordin, second by Lori Bica to approve item 8.7 Administrator Contract Renewals. Discussion on motion.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

No: Marquell Johnson

BOARD'S CONSENT AGENDA (GC-2.5)

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Stephanie Farrar to approve the following Board Consent Agenda Items:

9.2 Minutes of Closed Session - January 8, 2024

9.3 Minutes of Board Meeting - January 8, 2024

9.4 OE-11: Asset Protection

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

FOCUS ON RESULTS

Mandy Van Vleet, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning; Tim Mulrain, Director of Secondary Programming; Michelle Radtke, Director of Post-Secondary Readiness; and Heather Grant, Director of

Early Learning and Elementary Programming presented information on Creating a Strong Universal Level of Support in our schools. The key to this is providing a strong foundational framework within a supportive learning environment and eliminating barriers from the very beginning so students can be successful in a universal system and not need additional supports. Creating high quality instruction and a guaranteed and viable curriculum that will impact student results was the focus of this presentation, along with the importance of professional learning. Sixth grade ELA teachers, Elissa Fromm and Andrea Benedict, shared how this is being accomplished at Northstar Middle School. Discussion and questions followed.

MONITORING DISTRICT RESULTS

Superintendent Johnson presented the monitoring report for OE-5, Student Success.

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to accept the monitoring report for OE-5 Student Success. *No action taken until after amendment.*

Motion by Jarrett Dement, second by Erica Zerr to amend to strike the administration's recommendations.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Lori Bica to approve the monitoring report for OE-5 Student Success, as amended.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business Services, provided referendum information. Updates regarding the 2022 referendum can be found on our website. The Referendum Committee has been meeting to discuss the upcoming referendum in November. Topics include soliciting bids for a community survey and reviewing budget projections, referendum amounts, sample questions, and ESSER funded positions. A timeline was also shared. Administration has formed a Budget Committee to review ideas provided by System Leaders. Discussion and questions followed.

BOARD DEBRIEF (GC-2.3)

Commissioner Johnson led the Board Debrief.

ADJOURN

Motion by Stephanie Farrar, second by Erica Zerr to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried

Yes: Lori Bica, Joshua Clements, Jarrett Dement, Stephanie Farrar, Marquell Johnson, Tim Nordin, Erica Zerr

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.