

# **MARSHALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **Board of Education**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

#### **Board Room**

**March 16, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Jon Bunch at 6:03 p.m. as duly posted under State Statutes §19.84(1)(2)(c).

#### **Roll Call of the Board**

Board of Education Present: Jon Bunch, Cecil Chadwick, Bonnie Clayton, Debbie Frigo, Sandra Litang-Canon, John Lutz, Michelle Voigts

Board of Education Absent:

Student Representatives Present: Austin Breunig, Bethany Lutz

Administration Present: Lisa Blochwitz, Bob Chady, Rich Peters, Brian Sniff, Barb Sramek, Becca Stein, Brian Sutton

#### **Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Clayton and seconded by Canon. Carried 7-0.

#### **Proof of Giving Public Notice**

A motion that public notice was provided to The Courier on March 11, 2016 was made by Bunch and seconded by Voigts. Carried 7-0.

#### **Extra Effort Award Recognition**

**Gail Leslie**, secretary at the Middle School was recognized for her contribution to staff and students.

**Larry Morris**, substitute teacher and special education paraprofessional substitute was recognized for going above and beyond for students and teachers.

#### **Public Comment**

**Gerry Hansen, 6th grade teacher** - expressed appreciation for Dr. Sramek, Becca Stein, and admin team for their support of students.

**Heidi Killerlain, middle school math teacher** - shared math curriculum initiative that applies student learning to personal finance exercises.

**Julie Schmitz, Elementary Reading Teacher** - expressed support for Marshall Public Schools' administrative leadership.

**Megan Lippins, High School Special Ed Teacher** - shared positive work in district and concerns that negative talk in community is not representative of the District.

**Tara Michalak, 4th grade teacher** - shared innovative initiatives in her 4th grade classroom using blogs.

**Corrie Becker, 4th grade teacher** - thanked Brian Sutton and Becca Stein for supporting Makerspace, a STEM based program and shared feeling of strong support for staff by the elementary principal, Becca Stein.

**Angela Larkins, parent** - acknowledged work of Jami Collins, Emmi Lohrenz and Holli Viken. Expressed concern regarding teachers leaving.

**Heather Siedschlag, 4th grade teacher** - complimented Marshall staff members on accomplishments and thanked the principal, Becca Stein for supporting staff members.

**Michael Jansen, MS bilingual/spanish teacher** - explained that compensation framework gives him an opportunity to stay in the teaching profession and commented on high level of collaboration going on between staff.

**Randy Kulk, Marshall resident** - concerned about information in the local paper and wants information.

**James Cayo, PTA fundraising chair and parent** - expressed concern for daughter that attends ELC because her teachers have left and concerns that no cuts were made to administration.

**Sarah Hart Olson, parent** - expressed criticism of tying teacher evaluation and compensation plan together.

### **Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of receipts and expenditures. General Fund checks #89767 to #89989 and Activity Fund checks #16539 to #16548
- B. Approval of board minutes dated February 23, February 24, and March 2
- C. Disposal of property - none
- D. Approval of Resignations/Retirements -
  - i. Emmi Lohrenz - PreKindergarten
  - ii. Katie McClurg - Kindergarten
  - iii. Beth Schlieger - High School Art
  - iv. Jeff Looze - High School Technology Education
  - v. Leah Glanzer - 2nd Grade
- E. Offer contracts/letters of employment - none
- F. Approval of a request for a one-year leave of absence
  - a. Pam Waters

Motion by Canon, seconded by Voigts, to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented.  
Carried 7-0.

### **Reports**

#### **Administrative Reports**

Brian Sniff high school principal summarized many extracurricular accomplishments of high school students in academics and athletics.

#### **Board Reports**

**Student Representative Report** - Austin Breunig shared information on a high school citizenship award party for scores of 3.25 or higher for citizenship. Principal Advisory Board looked at ways to create incentive for better citizenship grades. Created a bulletin board for teachers to write about how they value students. Next board will be to acknowledge seniors or teachers. Group is considering preferred wifi access as a reward.

**Treasurer's Report** - Michelle Voigts, Board Treasurer, reviewed the February Revenues and Expenses.

**Legislative Report** - Jon Bunch reported on the establishment of the Office of Educational Opportunity. It gives the ability to bypass the school board in Madison and Milwaukee and establish local charter schools which takes dollars from the local public schools.

### **Committee Reports**

**Curriculum Committee** - A presentation was given by the Science Departments at the Middle and High Schools, followed by a discussion regarding incorporation of multi curricular areas. Discussed standards-based grading.

**Committee of the Whole** - All Board committees, with the exception of the curriculum committee, combined to meet as one committee.

**Old Business** - none

### **New Business**

#### **Discussion and potential action regarding a request for an overnight trip by HOSA**

Student members of the high school Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) organization requested permission to attend the HOSA state leadership conference in Wisconsin Dells. Motion to approve the HOSA trip as presented made by Frigo, seconded by Chadwick. Carried 7-0.

#### **Discussion and potential action regarding approval of Youth Options requests for the fall of 2016**

Motion by Frigo, seconded by Bunch, to approve the Youth Options requests, up to 18 credits, and only if there is not a comparable class offered at the High School. Carried 7-0.

#### **Update regarding repayment of funds due to past embezzlement**

Barb Sramek communicated that restitution for an employee embezzlement case dating back to 2008 has been satisfied in its entirety. No action sought.

#### **Presentation and potential action regarding adopting a restated and amended 403(b) plan document**

Motion by Bunch, seconded by Canon, to approve the adoption of a restated and amended 403(b) plan document as printed in the board resolution (*Attachment A*). Carried 7-0.

#### **Discussion and potential action regarding adoption of a resolution establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$3,620,000 general obligation promissory notes**

Motion by Clayton, seconded by Frigo, to approve resolution No. 11E establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$3,620,000 general obligation promissory notes (*Attachment B*). Carried 7-0.

#### **Discussion regarding budget reductions**

Barb Sramek and Bob Chady shared information on the proposed reductions that will need to be made for the 2016-17 school year. The passing of the 3-year referendum cuts the 3-year reduction total to \$2.6 million, rather than \$5 million that would have been needed. The Board has elected to make most of the needed reductions in the first of the three year cycle in order to make fewer reductions overall. No action sought.

#### **Discussion and potential action regarding a request to change the date of the May Board meeting**

Motion by Chadwick, seconded by Lutz, to change the regular May board meeting to May 11th.

Carried 7-0.

**Update on teacher retention**

Jon Bunch addressed the desire to retain good teachers. Shared steps that have been taken to survey employees to increase employee engagement. No action sought.

**Discussion regarding the development of a Community Advocacy Committee**

Jon Bunch talked about the desire to develop a community-based advisory committee. No action sought

**Discussion regarding referendum follow up and informational sessions**

Jon Bunch discussed the desire to continue informational sessions for the public and area municipalities to report what is going on within the schools that is not referendum related. No action sought.

**Discussion of future Board agenda items**

Communication Norms check in

No action sought

**Contemplated Closed Session**

Action to convene into closed session pursuant to section 19.85 of the Wisconsin Statutes

- §19.85(1)(c) for the consideration, including deliberation and action, if appropriate, regarding preliminary notice of non-renewal

Motion to adjourn into closed session made by Lutz, seconded by Canon. Carried 7-0.

Closed session began at 8:31 p.m.

Took action to approve preliminary notices of non-renewal for eight staff members. Carried 7-0..

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Voigts and seconded by Canon. Carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Bonnie Clayton, Clerk