

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**SLINGER SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SLINGER, WISCONSIN**  
**July 27, 2020**  
**High School PAC**

Routine Business:

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Strupp at 7:00 PM in the High School PAC.

Members answering roll were: Ken Strupp, Bruce Hassler, Gary Feltz, Cherie Rhodes (Phone), Roman Weninger, Joe Havey, and Jody Strupp. Also present were administrators and directors: Daren Sievers, Jim Curler, Karen Hug, Patrick Armstrong, and 43 in person guests and 100 guests on the phone and Washington County Insider live streamed to Facebook 127.

Sievers affirmed the public notice.

Motion by Weninger, seconded by Hassler to approve the 4 sets of minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Feltz and Sievers reviewed the highlights of the financial report and asked if there were any questions on the financial report. After discussion, there was a motion by Rhodes, seconded by Weninger, to dispense with the reading of the financial statement and approve as presented. Motion carried.

After discussion and clarifications of the voucher report, motion by Feltz, seconded by Havey to approve check numbers 134108-134240, payroll check numbers 58637-58641, direct deposit numbers 901048354-901048624, A/P ACH numbers 192001148-202100033, the retirement ACH transfer of \$201017.66, and tax deposit ACH transfers totaling \$936333.05 wire transfers (none), and voided check: (202100001 Skyward skipped a number). Motion carried.

New Business:

Public Comments: Jim Curler made a comment to introduce the new online call-in system to handle more capacity. He asked \*6 to mute your phones. Curler apologized if he offended any callers last week when the 90 second time limit was reached.

- There were no questions or comments from call-in attendees.
- Candi Martin: In reference to the hybrid model, she would like to know when the high school schedules would be open so that the parents and students can make scheduling changes to accommodate the hybrid model. Curler: We will be meeting with the administrative team tomorrow to discuss those items and will report back.
- Eric Olafsen: Comment on the mask issue: He says we need to get the kids back to school. But, what happens if we get a COVID case in the school. The masks do seem to help and it does seem to make a difference in minimizing the spread. He feels its especially important at the middle school and high school kids to wear masks as part of their daily attire. Knows it will be difficult for smaller kids.
- Cindy Riemer: She would like to see masks in the middle and high school, especially in hallway passing periods. She believes this is one of the easiest ways to mitigate the risks. Love thy neighbor.
- Carrie Quade: She is very worried about the kids and wearing masks. She believes this is a lot of stress for a child to bear.
- Ann Fahrenholz: She thanked everyone for the countless hours planning the school opening. Question is on the hybrid model. The virtual teachers will just be teaching the virtual kids. Curler clarified that the

online kids would be going with the online program. When the kids are here at school, they will get their regular teacher.

- Chris Graziano: He is asking if a teacher has the ability to require students to wear masks in their classrooms when distancing can't be achieved. He is concerned that without requiring masks that very few will actually wear a mask.
- Linda McTrusty: Schedules being released? Before the survey? Sievers stated that there is a plan to meet with principals in the morning to discuss that very item.
- Craig Adams: Administrator at a hospital, wants to know what the contingency plans are. Sievers stated that we are waiting on the Health Dept. for more parameters on this for Washington/Ozaukee County. Once we have that information, we will share it.

Correspondence: Nothing at this time.

Sievers presented an administrative recommendation to accept one letter of resignation from Jayden Courtney, special education aide, who is going back to school. Motion by Hassler, seconded by Weninger, to accept the resignation. Motion carried.

Rhodes presented a WASB (WI Association of School Boards) update from her role as Director of Region 15. She was selected to be the Director of Region 15 to finish the term vacated by Lester Spies of Germantown. She will be up for re-election in October to serve a 3 yr term. She represents 28 schools in the area and CESA 1.

Sievers presented an administrative recommendation regarding the International Club's trip to Costa Rica. Sievers said they would like to consider cancelling the trip. If the decision is made by July 31<sup>st</sup>, the students can get a refund except for their deposit. Sievers is asking to reimburse the deposit to the five seniors. All other families would like to allocate the money to a potential 2022 trip to Thailand. Advisor Sue Henkel gave the board more information about the cancellation of the Costa Rica & 2022 Thailand trip.

- These are service learning trips.
- It is difficult to find a service learning trips that are in a non-Spanish speaking country. She has been to Thailand many times and feels like it would be a very good experience for the students.
- There is very little interest from the students if it's a trip domestically.
- If they cancel more than 90 days before the date of the trip, their money would be returned.
- The group would even have to pay fees to do service learning in Europe.
- It is preferable to give families 18 months or more for families to plan.
- There is the potential to still obtain approval of early booking discounts if we waited on the 2022 Thailand trip decision.

After discussion, motion by Havey, seconded by Weninger, to cancel the Costa Rica trip. Motion carried.

After discussion, motion by Weninger, seconded by Rhodes, to approve the reimbursement of the \$239 deposit of the 5 seniors booked. Motion carried.

After discussion, motion by Feltz, seconded by Hassler, to approve the 2022 Thailand trip as presented. Motion carried. Henkel thanked the board for allowing them to save the money for the families.

Rhodes reminded the board that in addition to the spring Social Studies trip to Italy, there is a Spanish Club trip to Peru in June. Sievers said he is aware of those and will be working with the advisors.

Sievers presented an administrative recommendation to freeze lunch prices given the state of the economy and the hard times many of our parents are experiencing. Current and proposed lunch prices are: \$2.50 for elementary, \$2.75 for middle school, \$2.95 for high school, and \$4.25 for adults. Motion by Havey, seconded by Jody Strupp

to approve freezing the lunch prices for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried. Sievers commended Fassbender for overseeing the federal lunch program who served 53,000 meals during the shutdown. He also thanked her staff, other paraprofessionals and teachers who helped to get lunches out the door.

Curler presented an administrative recommendation to approve the following annual notifications:

- Resolution 21-1 Notice of Educational Options (Jody Strupp called attention to the correct number)
- Resolution 21-2 Notice of Academic Standards
- Special Needs Scholarship Program
- Nutritional Guidelines--Updated
- Food Service Management
- Wellness Policy

Motion by Havey, seconded by Weninger, to approve the notifications as presented with the correction of the Resolution numbers. Motion carried.

Sievers presented a follow-up on supplemental insurance policies (riot, terrorism, and flood) through R&R Insurance. Rioting is covered under our existing policy; terrorism insurance would be about \$3,000. Sievers recommending turning down terrorism insurance because of the extremely narrow language. For an additional \$1,000, we could get additional flooding policy that would include the new PAC. Frazier believes we would catch anything before more than \$25,000 (deductible) worth of damage would occur. Weninger asked Frazer what kind of alarms we have for the PAC pumps. Frazer responded that we have audible and visual alarms below the stage for those pumps. We also have three shifts of personnel that check, however there are no weekend crews. Havey asked if we have generators for backups and Frazer confirmed that we do. Feltz moved, Hassler seconded to add flood insurance for \$1,000 to protect the PAC investment. Motion carried.

Sievers and Hug presented an administrative recommendation for allocation of funds and local levy for the 2020-2021 school year. Sievers and Hug gave a final report on how the 2019-2020 budget ended up and how we are positioned for the coming year. Bldgs & Grounds and Technology used some of the savings for projects. We had efficiencies with our substitute budget, with Dental claims, we have staff development conferences that were cancelled, etc. There was \$1.4 million remaining in the 2019-2020 budget due to the COVID situation. Sievers recommended the board leave the money in the fund balance for expected increased costs in the year ahead. Motion by Hassler, seconded by Weninger to allocate the remaining \$1.4 million by adding it to the fund balance to assist us in unknown expenses which may or may not be COVID related. Motion carried. Sievers discussed the Cost per Student chart and that Slinger is at the bottom of the spending in our area. The state allows districts in the lowest 10% to levy local funds for \$100 per student to help equalize Cost per Student. Mill rate is still declining, and would not increase the budget a lot.

Sievers and Curler presented an administrative recommendation regarding the plan for reopening schools and the communication to parents on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sievers supplied answers from questions at the 7/22 Board Meeting:

- Slinger data in June compared to CESA 6 data in July (Clarification on who was surveyed): School Perceptions provided the other district names of Omro, Oakfield, North Fond du Lac.
- Youth infections since baseball opened with youth sports. Sievers asked the Health Dept. and they could not report it at this time, but will do that moving forward. They said it may be challenging to just separate Slinger students out, but they will report to us.
- Can a middle school student opt out of middle school electives? Mr. Goneau has already planned for that, and students will have other options. They can opt out and take a study hall.
- Contact tracing incident limits Is there a limit to the amount of times a student will have to be quarantined if they continue to test positive? Heath Dept. response: There is no limit to the number of times someone may be asked to quarantine.
- Transitions at the high school and block scheduling: Mr. Ourada met with 14 department heads and they will be piloting the block schedule for this year. 16 out of the top 20 schools in the state have block

scheduling. This would cut the number of transitions in half. We currently have some blocked classes already, so they believe they can move it to a block this year.

- WIAA update based on 7/23 and reported on news media. They have recommended the delay of all fall contact sports. They can't start practice until Sept. 7. Non-contact sports can start on time on Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Health Department update: Positive tests "recommended" quarantine for 10 days and 72 hours of being asymptomatic, Contact Tracing: "recommended" 14-day quarantine. Health dept. would notify the district of staff and student positive cases, but they don't have the staffing to do the contact tracing. They are looking at perhaps a team approach with the District. Jody Strupp asked if the Health Dept. is looking at getting temporary help in the Health Dept. to assist, and Sievers replied that yes, they are checking into that.
- Key dates:
  - 7/27 (Plan approval),
  - 7/28 meet with principals
  - 8/3 offerings announced (Survey out to parents) The survey will go out through Family Access: Enrollment decision, meals, bus counts, and potentially mask accommodations.
  - 8/7 offerings deadline
  - 8/10 planning around responses including learning modalities, food service and transportation.
  - Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> School Starts.
- Stance on masks revisited: Final wording and the expectations. Sievers said we are trying to find the exact words to do the best we can to have safety for all, yet a system that will account for individual situations. After consulting with legal department, using the word "required" has to specify all the lists of consequences for students coming without masks, and specifically identify every situation in which a student would be exempt from wearing a mask. A specific medical condition does not need to be specified on the opt out.
  - To provide the safest education setting as possible, and stay in school full time....
    - Requesting face coverings wherever social distancing cannot be maintained
    - To account for personal needs and stances.... We will ask parents to opt in or opt out of our face coverings.
    - Out of respect for their personal safety, staff may choose to not get closer than 6 ft to students who are not wearing face coverings.
    - Face coverings will be available to all students at all times when a student would like to use one
    - Ideally, Sievers doesn't want to separate the kids wearing masks from those who can't wear a mask. We need to unite in our efforts of have respect for each other.
  - Sievers thanked Curler for his exhaustive efforts to get PPE equipment for staff and students. He is looking at all layers of protections. It was confirmed that staff have the right to stay 6 ft. from students who are not wearing masks. Curler said that every day there is something new that is being researched by the team. Some we are moving forward on, others we are not yet moving on.
  - Sievers read the statement he proposes for the face mask survey question:  
"To provide the safest educational setting possible and achieve our objective of in-person learning five days per week, the Slinger School District is requesting that students wear face coverings whenever social distance cannot be maintained. To account for individual needs and personal circumstances of all kinds, we will be asking families to opt their student "in" to the District face covering request or opt their student "out" of the District face covering request through our fall registration process. Staff will be required to wear face coverings whenever social distance cannot be maintained but out of respect for their personal health circumstances, they may choose to not get closer than six feet to students who are not wearing face coverings. Face coverings will be made available for situational use by the District for all students at all times."

After discussion, motion by Feltz, seconded by Havey to approve the plan as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Questions:

- Nan Lipp: She is confused as to what the opt-in and opt-out question would result in. Sievers said it would communicate the family's intent to the staff. Are there any differences in the grade level interactions? Sievers responded that families can discuss their child's ability based on their age and that will be part of the Aug. 3 survey.
- Luke Tennies: He believes that everyone has good intentions to keep safe, but he is concerned about the ages 4, 5, 6 & 7 year old's mental state with teachers wearing masks. He is worried how often they will be told to keep their distance and will keep the kids in a constant state of worry. He wants his child to have the most normal, mask free experience as possible.
- Cindy Raimer: If the parent opts in, but the student doesn't wear a mask, would there be a consequence to the student? Sievers stated that he could see this as a positive encouraging situation. She does appreciate the switch to block scheduling—thinks it's a great change.
- Monica Lohry: When she is deciding to opt-in or opt-out, her kids will be wearing masks, but she doesn't want them to "have" to wear it all day long. She wants her student to be able to take off the mask if needed. Traveling in the hallways to class would not be a problem.
- Craig Adams: Earlier he asked about the contingency plans. He thinks it is being short-sited to rely on the health dept. What happens when the first teacher gets sick? What happens when a student gets seriously sick? These are real world items that the district needs to be concerned about. Sievers stated that they will be digging into those situations, and we know that we need local decisions.
- Courtney Rogaczewski: If students are quarantined at home, how does instruction continue? Curler stated that they will treat that the same as if a student was sick or on a vacation. Classroom teacher would continue instruction with those students through handouts, etc. They would not move to the virtual learning. The teacher would be providing homework similar to what they do now. Sievers stated that staff will have to assess where they are in a unit and provide instruction as best they can. Also, Rogaczewski would appreciate any shut down plans in advance for those families who do work outside the home. Please overcommunicate with families.
- Angie Alton: Are kids who test positive required to quarantine? Sievers: Yes, they would be asked to stay home 10 days and 72 hours asymptomatic.
- Alex Calarco: Sanitization process that is being proposed...what products and who is applying those products. Frazer responded with several products (Vitaloxide and Re-Juv-Nal). He has products for hard and soft surfaces that will dry in less than a minute. His staff is trained and certified in these processes. Calarco will contact Frazer via email to discuss the product he mentioned online.
- Yvonne Cunningham: Opt in and out with the face masks. Teacher would not get within 6 feet of that student. Are you going to be separating that student from the rest of the students who are wearing a mask? Curler, we may have students w/out masks in one section and those with in another section, but invariably, they may be closer than 6 ft at times and it will depend on numbers. We hope that the clear barriers will be beneficial in those types of situations if we decide to purchase those.

**Future Dates to Remember:**

August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Buildings & Grounds Meeting	6:30 PM in IMC
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Special Board Meeting	5:00 PM in TBD
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Closed Session	5:30 PM in IMC
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Board Meeting	7:00 PM in TBD

Motion by Weninger, seconded by Rhodes, to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherie Rhodes, Clerk