

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**SLINGER SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SLINGER, WISCONSIN**  
**January 25, 2021**  
**High School IMC**

**Pending Board Approval**

Routine Business:

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

Members answering roll were: Ken Strupp, Joe Havey, Bruce Hassler, Gary Feltz, Jody Strupp, Roman Weninger, and Cherie Rhodes. Also present was administrator and directors: Daren Sievers, Jim Curler (phone-in), Patrick Armstrong, Karen Hug, Ben Frazer and 6 in person guests and 19 guests on the phone.

Sievers affirmed the public notice.

Motion by Weninger, seconded by Hassler, to approve the 3 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 Havey, 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, there was a motion by Feltz, seconded by Rhodes, to approve payroll check numbers 58672-58680 and payroll direct deposit numbers 901051652-901052723 totaling \$1,569,250.64 and A/P check numbers 135188-135387, A/P ACH numbers 202100567-202100717, and wire transfers totaling \$1,768,255.49. Motion carried.

New Business:

Public Comments and Questions:

**In Person:** None

**On Phone:** None

Correspondence:

Washington County Executive, Josh Schoemann, sent Daren a note to thank Ken Strupp and Bruce Hassler for their years of service to the Slinger School District and Slinger community. The two have been recognized by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards for their 20 and 30 years of service respectfully.

Local mom, Melissa Dietrich, sent Sievers an email to thank him, the administration, the school board, teachers and the entire school district for keeping the schools open so the children can get the best education possible. Other districts in Wisconsin are not as fortunate. She is proud to be a resident of Slinger.

Sievers presented a report on the District's music programs and their efforts to provide holiday concerts. This month's Board celebration is based on the effort our 4K-12 music teachers put into hosting holiday concerts this year despite not being able to have in-person audiences. Extra efforts went into live streaming, set-up, and delivery of the successful programs.

Sievers presented a letter of resignation from HS educational assistant, Maggie Hudson. The board wishes to thank Hudson for her efforts with our at-risk students in the study center. Motion by Hassler, to approve the resignation to take effect February 1<sup>st</sup>; seconded by Feltz. Motion carried.

Sievers and Weninger presented a report from the Building and Grounds Committee regarding a recent discussion about the Gensman property and consider an administrative recommendation to modify the allocation for the mezzanine project.

Village leaders and representatives from Vandewalle presented proposed development concepts and the accompanying costs associated with developing the 65 acres owned by the school district and the adjoining 59 acres owned by the Hetzel family (options of listing together and separately). Both parties agreed to list together and the next step is to agree on a selling price; between \$35,000 and \$55,000/acre is the desired ask. A feasibility study will be done to help with the direction and decision; keeping in mind that the location is great but access is not so good at this time. Plan development will address this issue. For Sale signs will be up soon.

The mezzanine project will stay within the previously approved \$60,000 ceiling so no need for a motion to revise the limit.

Sievers presented a report regarding recent critical matters related to COVID-19 impacting the 2020-21 school year.

1. Slinger School District Dashboard: <https://www.slinger.k12.wi.us/district/covid19.cfm>.  
Armstrong pulled up the district dashboard and Sievers went over the numbers as of the current point in time. The county site was reviewed as well. Both showing the lowest numbers since September in all ages/resident counts. We are out of the urgent category and we are on the right track with vaccines coming soon. There has been no post-holiday surge concern.
2. FFCRA eliminated, now DPCR (District Provided COVID Release): Review of language for local management to grant the balance of the Federally funded EPSL time (80 hours of COVID release time (prorated to percentage of employment) which expired 12-31-2020) to employees through March 31, 2021 at which time the Board will reevaluate. Motion by Feltz to approve the District Provided COVID Relief (DPCR) through March 31, 2021; seconded by Havey. Motion carried.
3. Update from Health Department
  - Director resignation and next steps- Director/Health Officer, Kirsten Johnson, resigned her position with Wash/Oz County to take a new position with Milwaukee County effective Feb 8th. The job is posted nationally for the position.
  - The District will continue to do daily monitoring of the County Dashboard and trends.
  - Masking executive order extended: Governor Tony Evers extended the mask order through March, 19, 2021.
  - Quarantine procedures remain (7 days with negative test/10 days with no test)
  - Update on vaccine dispersal plans (1A 90% done; 15 District employees of 24 eligible, 1B begins today; 680 District employees and volunteers on the list)
  - Who is 1B? employees, volunteers, coaches, subs, bus drivers
  - How will the 1B needs be met? Badges to be provided as proof of District personnel. Distribution will be at Washington Cty Fair Park, 2 weekends in February and 2 weekends in March (for second dose). Concordia University may be a second site. A link will come from county for registration. Once registered a badge will be printed.

#### 4. In-person learner and virtual learner update

- Open Enrollment outs- 2 more out because of no choice of synchronous learning
- Surge of students returning – 40-45 students are returning to in-person learning at semester or sooner (19 at Addison alone). On-line teachers are able to give more attention to the learners with less students. Many are coming back due to masking and it is working.
- Administration asked the Board to begin to think about the long-range view on masking, in the event the local executive order expires and/or no federal mandate is in place in March. To be revisited monthly.

#### 5. School Events for Consideration

- Euro-trip - New CDC guidelines because of new strain of COVID. Board concerns: quarantine of 7 days once students return, may need a negative test to come home, limited agenda if they go, and not getting their monies worth. A meeting is scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion to reschedule the spring break Euro-trip by Weninger; seconded by Feltz. Motion carried.
- Musical – Thoughts to move the performance to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of June in order to have rehearsals after graduation and all sports.
- Spring Concerts – Thoughts to allow two guests per senior performer if it will remain within the social distance regulations that are currently being enforced with sporting events. Currently allowing 10-15% capacity; two per sport is okay but three would go over the 25% capacity limit.
- Honours, Inc.- Would like to have more than a mailer go out highlighting the recipients for this year. Possible two per child to stay within 25% capacity limit.
- Prom – Thought was going to allow a double prom (last year and this year combined). Time will tell if it can be held at all.
- History Night – Possibly delayed to next fall.
- Graduation - Same as last year if group restrictions stay status quo.

Review the above school events for updates monthly.

Sievers presented an administrative recommendation to make a minor change to the approved 2021-22 academic calendar. Consider adding December 23, 2021 to the winter break and extending the school year by 1 day in June; making June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the last day of school. After discussion, there was no change to the approved 2021-22 calendar. A motion was not needed.

Sievers reviewed the 2021-22 Open Enrollment capacity recommendations from last month's meeting and asked if there are any questions. Motion by Hassler to accept the Open Enrollment caps/limits as presented to stabilize total enrollment counts; seconded by J Strupp. Motion carried.

Rhodes, board member and WASB representative, presented a report regarding the WASB Delegate Assembly. The annual Wisconsin state convention was held virtually this past week. Ten resolutions were presented and ten resolutions were passed. Slinger voted NO on four of them. Convention was successful with good general session speakers all three days. On-line/virtual experience was unique and positive but it will be hard to replace in-person sessions and camaraderie. Sessions were recorded and available for the remainder of the year on the WASB site for board members to view.

#### **Public Comments and Questions:**

**In-Person:** Candi Martin has a son who is a senior and took the hybrid option of learning for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester (will be in-person 2<sup>nd</sup> semester). His virtual experience went well because of Mrs Bartelt. She did an awesome job with the juniors and seniors.

David Leider – In reference to the school events listed earlier to include elementary school events such as Allenton Angels, Allenton musical, music class with recorders, will we have these events in spring? Sievers will bring up all events per building at the next Administrative Counsel meeting.

Julie Ayers – In reference to the school events listed earlier, please consider having one parent in-person to each event (concerts) for the one that had to drive the student to the event. Either they have to rush home to watch the event virtually or stream in from the phone and watch from the car while they wait for the student to finish.

**On Phone:** Bill Brewer - Welcome back to Jim Curler. Can we BoxCast all concerts and events during the social distancing requirements? This will allow for live streaming as well as a recording to be viewed.

Kristina Mueller – She is one of the 2 families that switched to Hartford school district for synchronous learning and her son is noticeably different. He is learning and socializing and it is doing great. No one reached out to her once they left the District and this is very disappointing. Her advise for all virtual learners is to leave the district.

**Future Dates to Remember:**

February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Building and Grounds Meeting	6:00 PM
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Regular Board Meeting	7:00 PM
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Regular Board Meeting	7:00 PM

Motion by Hassler, seconded by Weninger, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherie Rhodes, Clerk