

# Minutes of Study Session/Special Meeting

## The Board of Education Mahtomedi Public Schools

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A **Study Session/Special Meeting** of the Board of Education of Mahtomedi Public Schools was held **Thursday, January 25, 2018**, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Mahtomedi District Education Center - Community Room.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Judy Schwartz.

### 2. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Present: Mike Chevalier; Kevin Donovan; Julie McGraw; Lucy Payne; Judy Schwartz; Stacey Stout and Superintendent Mark Larson, ex officio.

Also present: Nicole Flesner, Human Resources Supervisor; Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services; Mike Neubeck, Mahtomedi Middle School Principal; Beth Sneden, Professional Development and Director of Special Education; and Lynne Viker, Director of Learning and Accountability.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Payne moved, Donovan seconded, approval of the agenda. Carried 6-0.

### 4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

#### A. Superintendent Search

Superintendent Mark Larson and school board members discussed the superintendent search process which included: continuing with a superintendent search subcommittee, pros and cons of hiring a search firm, hiring a replacement or interim superintendent, community and staff involvement and creating a task force to review district/building level administrative structures. Nicole Flesner, Human Resources Supervisor, presented a summary of the top three superintendent search firms' proposals. Payne stated the open superintendent search subcommittee meetings are posted on the district's website along with any related documents for public review.

#### B. N.E. Metro 916 Sponsored Community Survey

Superintendent Mark Larson updated school board members on the cost of a

community levy survey by Springsted Inc., which would be approximately \$18,000 and the NE Metro 916 School District would sponsor \$10,000 of the cost. Springsted will determine the school district's demographics, poll 400 residents on 30-35 questions and present a statistical analysis of the results at the March 22 school board study session. Dr. Larson reviewed the possible survey questions and school board members requested: verbiage on the lack of state funding to keep up with the rate of inflation; a question on open enrollment; what caller ID will show, if it is Mahtomedi Public Schools; data on the number of calls made to reach 400 people; and a multiyear comparison on the survey results, as Springsted completed a levy survey for the district in 2014.

#### C. Student Exit Survey Results

Mike Neubeck, Mahtomedi Middle School Principal, reported on the results of the 2016 and 2017 school years student exit survey, the questions asked and the results so far. The survey was recently emailed to 153 families who left the district over the past two years: 10 families reported moving out of the district's boundaries, 4 families chose to attend private schools, 5 families wanted more challenging academics, 5 families left for social reasons and others left for sports, religious reasons or for online learning. Dr. Neubeck explained going forward the exit survey will be in place for the current school year and as students withdraw the families will be asked to complete the exit survey. School board members requested additional information on open enrolled students and having the data broken down by school building.

#### D. 2018-2019 Budget Options and Scenarios

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, presented on the 2018-2019 preliminary budget overview for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 which included: a budget overview and financial prospects for future years, operating levy information, revenue and expenditure history, enrollment history and projections, the budget process and assumptions, the 2018-2019 financial forecast, fund balance policy 714 and three enrollment scenarios and budget reduction options based on student enrollment of 3,248, 3,288 and 3,303 and the next steps timeline. Menozzi explained the \$1,044 per adjusted pupil unit the district receives in levy revenue is not enough to maintain the current investment in student achievement long term due to state funding not keeping up with inflation and increasing costs. Mahtomedi Public Schools receive and spend over \$1,200 less per student than the average school district in the seven-county metro area. Menozzi will present on the 2018-2019 budget reductions at the February 8 school board meeting.

#### E. 2017-2018 Quarter Two Budget Update

Bill Menozzi, Director of Business Services, updated the school board members on the 2017-2018 budget's second quarter which included: a comparison of the 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 budgets and expenditures as of December 30 of each year and the

total expenditures for the 2016-2017 school year as of June 30, 2017 for the general fund, food service and community services.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

### A. 2018-2019 Open Enrollment - Window #1

Superintendent Mark Larson reviewed with school board members the three options/resolutions for approval of open enrollment applications.

Payne moved, Donovan seconded, approval of the 2018-2019 target enrollment of 3,288 students. Carried 6-0.

Payne moved, Stout seconded, approval to accept all secondary applications:

Grade Six-35 students, Grade Seven-13 students, Grade Eight-10 students, Grade Nine-23 students, Grade Ten-5 students, Grade Eleven-1 student, and Grade Twelve-1 student. Carried 6-0.

Payne moved, Stout seconded, approval to accept the following applications for:

Grade One-12 students and Grade Two-10 students. Carried 6-0.

Chevalier moved to accept 18 first priority applications for Kindergarten, no second, motion failed. All Kindergarten applications will be placed on a waiting list until after Kindergarten registration in March.

Payne moved, Chevalier seconded, approval to accept first priority students in grades Third- Fifth: Grade Three-1 student, Grade Four-9 students and Grade Five-4 students. Carried 6-0.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

Payne moved, Donovan seconded, adjournment. Carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

JULIE MCGRAW, CLERK