

Dale's School Board Meeting Recap

November 19, 2018 School Board Meeting

Our Mission Together

**Empowering students with
knowledge and skills to succeed.**

Our Vision

**To be the school district of choice, inspiring
excellence in academics, arts, and activities.**

NOTE: This review is authored by the Superintendent, intended as information for the District employees, to keep them informed of the important decisions made by the School Board. This review includes selected items as determined by the Superintendent, and does not include all items of business conducted by the Board. This review is not intended to replace the official minutes of the School Board. Additional information can always be obtained from the official Board minutes or by contacting Dale.

Student Achievement and Student Support

Teaching and Learning Feature: Terri Engel presented on Professional Learning Communities. Great job Terri!

Special Education K-6 Setting IV Update: Director of Special Education Heather Harms and Assistant Director of Special Education Deanna Gronseth provided an update to the School Board on progress being made with expanding services for students with special needs. The objective continues to be to increase therapeutic services (Setting IV) to meet the increased demands of mental health and behavioral struggles of students in kindergarten through sixth grade. A Setting IV program provides students with additional staff support, mental health support, and high structure without the distractions of a traditional school setting.

In July, the Board gave approval and support for the school district to participate in a cooperative agreement at a projected cost of \$10,000 to \$15,000 following a presentation by Heather and Deanna. Since then, the four districts (NRHEG, JWP, WEM, Waseca) have continued to examine other options as it was determined the cooperative may not be the best model.

The Board was not asked to take any action, but may be asked to take action on a follow-up proposal at a later meeting. Heather and Deanna reviewed options that continue to be examined including:

- Continuing with the plan of forming a cooperative
- Join another cooperative that is already established
- Join an “Intermediate District”

2018-2019 World’s Best Workforce Plan: The Board approved the 2018-2019 WBWF Plan as presented by Terri Engel. Goals and objectives including performance targets within each of the five performance measure areas were reviewed. The plan is on the District website on the front page under World’s Best Workforce.

Finance

Donations -- We are fortunate to have community members, organizations, and businesses who make donations to the school district. Often the donations are designated toward specific programs or activities. The Board approved the following donations.

NRHEG PTO	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
FSB Farmers State Bank	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
Main Street Dental	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$50.00
CFS	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
Lion’s Club Ellendale	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$500.00
Steele Co Storage	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$98.00
AW Ag LLC	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
First National Band	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
NR Lions	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$98.00
Morreim Drainage	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$50.00
L & D Ag	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
Morgan’s Meats	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$25.00
Duffy Moberg	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$25.00
Brekke Construction	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$40.00
Sorenson’s Appliance & TV	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$25.00
S&S Classics	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
Allen Lee	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$50.00
State Bank of New Richland	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$200.00

Wagner's	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$50.00
Jaguar	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$98.00
Geneva Fire	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$300.00
Lundberg Lee Post 266	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$200.00
Daikin	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$200.00
Dagry Tools	5 th Grade Eagle Bluff	\$100.00
Schwan's Shared Services	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$58.13
Commerce Bank Geneva	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$100.00
Randy Schumacher	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Klimmek Hog Finishing	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$250.00
Schumacher Construction	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Patrick Teigen	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Scott/Suzanne Dickson	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Robert/Kathy Slegh	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Susan Denherder	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Patsy Slegh	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$20.00
Susie Veldman Trust	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$20.00
Barbara VanWyngereen	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$25.00
DenHerder Trucking	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$50.00
Chad Johnson	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$100.00
Sorenson's Appliance & TV-Geneva	Comm Ed Competitive Cheer Mats	\$25.00
Brad Root	Supplies for Shop	\$850.00
Football Boosters		\$534.38
St Peter's WELCA	Elementary Picture Fund	\$200.00
Hartland Firefighters	Eagle Bluff	\$1,500.00
Freeborn Co Partners in Prevention	Guidance	<u>\$890.00</u>
	Total	\$7,731.51
	Total to Date	\$19,085.60

2018-2019 Staff Development Funding Waiver: The Board approved the 2018-2019 Staff Development funding waiver as voted by the Teacher's Association in the amount of \$50,000. Per Minnesota Statute 122A.61: *Reserved Revenue for Staff Development*, public schools in Minnesota must reserve 2% of a district's basic revenue for:

- i. Teacher development and evaluation
- ii. Principal development and evaluation
- iii. Professional development
- iv. In-service education for programs

Staff development revenue may be used for "staff development plans, . . . curriculum development and programs, other in-service education, teachers' mentoring and evaluation, teachers' workshops, teacher conferences, the cost of substitute teachers for staff development purposes, preservice and in-service education for special education professionals and paraprofessionals, and other related costs for staff development efforts."

However, the statute allows a school district to annually waive the requirement to reserve their basic revenue if a majority vote of the licensed teachers in the district and a majority vote of the school board agree to a resolution to waive the requirement. The Board was asked to approve the decision by the NRHEG Teachers' Association to waive the requirement by not reserving a portion of the required 2% in the amount of \$50,000 for the 2018-2019 school year which represents about 0.83% of the basic revenue.

It was noted that the \$50,000 approved by the Association is less than the previous three years. \$72,000 in 2017-2018, \$72,615 in 2016-2017, and \$69,500 in 2015-2016 was approved. The District had initially

planned and budgeted \$72,000 to be used for salary and benefits applied to staff development days. This will have to be adjusted accordingly.

Resolution Authorizing a New Board Approved Referendum Authority: The Board approved a resolution authorizing a new \$300 Board approved operating referendum. At the October 15, 2018, School Board meeting, Karla Christopherson presented information for the Board to consider approving a new \$300 Board approved referendum authority that would be applicable for five (5) years beginning with taxes payable in 2020. The original 10 year operating referendum expires in 2019, so to maintain the same level of referendum we have had the last five years, the Board needed to consider passing a new \$300 board approved referendum authority. The Board needed to take action no later than the summer of 2019.

2018-2019 Budget Revisions: The District's annual budget development calendar calls for the Board to approve a revised budget at its November meeting. The Board approved budget revisions resulting in a deficit budget of approximately \$237,744. At the June, 2018, School Board meeting, the Board adopted a budget that included a planned deficit of about \$153,824. A significant factor is the purchase of the property across the street from the Secondary School with a budgeted expenditure of \$58,000.

Workforce

Winter Coaching Contracts: The Board approved the following contracts. Thank you coaches!

- Jr High Girls Basketball Coach—Bruce Nielson
- Jr High Boys Basketball Coach—Kylie Voigt
- C Squad Girls Basketball Coach—John Schultz

Employment – The Board approved the following 2018-2019 employment assignments.

- Amber Holdeman, Secondary School Paraprofessional. Step 3. Starting date planned for November 12, 2018. Welcome Amber!

Teacher 2018 Seniority List and License Expiration Dates: The Board approved the 2018 Seniority List and License Expiration Dates. Under Article XI of the Teacher Master Agreement, the “School Board shall annually cause a seniority list (by name, date of employment, qualifications, subject matter or field and current assignments) to be prepared from its records. It shall thereupon post such list in an official place in each school building of the District not later than October 31 of each school year. Each teacher will review the list and, if in agreement with the order of seniority and the license expiration date, indicate so by initialing near his or her name.” The seniority list was available in the staff break rooms in each building and also available online to review.

Superintendent 2019-2022 Contract: The Board approved a 3-year superintendent contract for 2019-2022 that reflects a 3-year total costing package increase of 8.47% when compared to the current total package base.

Early Dismissal Staff Development Proposal: Board members were asked to offer input in response to a proposal presented by Jennie Bunn on behalf of the District Staff Development Committee to move from the present 2-hour “late starts” to 2-hour “early dismissals.” Thank you to Jennie for presenting! Principals Anderson and Bunn also shared their support of the proposal with the Board. Board members were receptive to the change. Next steps will be to incorporate the four “late starts” into the 2019-2020 school-year calendar that is currently being drafted and reviewed. There remain some logistical details needing further follow-up with the transition to “early dismissals” that will be addressed in time for a draft calendar to be presented to the School Board at the December 17 School Board meeting.

Board Governance

Resolution to Combine Polling Places: The Board approved the recommended combined polling places as presented. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for school district elections are those precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The board must confirm those precincts and polling places so established by those municipalities.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the board may establish a combined polling place for several precincts for school district elections not held on the day of a statewide election. If the Board decides to combine polling places, it must do so annually prior to December 31. Each combined polling place must be a polling place that has been designated by a county or municipality. The following combined polling places are established to serve the precincts specified for all school district special and general elections not held on the same day as a statewide election:

Combined Polling Place: New Richland Secondary School, New Richland, Minnesota

This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 2168 located in Waseca County; and the City of Hartland and Hartland Township in Freeborn County, Minnesota.

Combined Polling Place: Ellendale Elementary School, Ellendale, Minnesota

This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 2168 located in Steele County; and the City of Geneva and Bath, Geneva and Freeborn Townships in Freeborn county, Minnesota.

Public Comments – The Ellendale Community Action Group (ECAG) addressed the Board and provided an update on the Ellendale Digital Sign Project, its purpose, the benefit to our district and their fundraising efforts. No action was taken by the Board.