

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MAERCKER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60  
HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017  
MAERCKER SCHOOL, 7:00 P.M.**

**1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call:** At 7:00 p.m. President Art Andersen called the meeting to order, the following members were present: Lisa Bishop, Cindy Bondlow, Tim Casey, Patty Dieball, Mike Gombosi, Amy Sullivan, and Art Andersen.

District personnel in attendance: Sean Nugent, Superintendent; Sue Caddy, CSBO; Cathy Fisher, Directory of Teaching and Learning; and Kathy Spina, administrative assistant/ recording secretary.

**2.0 Student Spotlight at Maercker School:** Peer jury student leaders hosted a Maercker School classroom tour for all Board members, parents and community members, highlighting programs from the Seaperch Grant, Bill Nye the Science Guy science videos, Seesaw, Ecology Club projects, and “One Book One School” literacy curriculum.

**3.0 Recognition of Visitors and Public Comment:** Visitors in attendance: Barb Fair, Kristie Wyssman, Lailas Chalabi, Haidee Yan, Nanika Kotta, Korie and Jeff Soudgeroth, Gopika Malholn, Eileen Redding, Collin Ryamek, John Thormodsgard, David Thormodsgard, Lija Thormodsgard, and many Maercker staff members.

**Public Comment:** There was no comment.

**4.0 Consent Agenda:**

**4.1 Approval of Minutes:** Open and Closed Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 17, 2017, Special Meeting of 1/30/2017, and Board Committee Meeting of 2/6/2017.

**4.2 Approval of Treasurer’s Report** for January 2017

**4.3 Approval of Bills and Payroll** for February 2017

**4.4 Accept Letter of Resignation:** Abel Orelove, Assistant Principal for Holmes and Maercker

**4.5 Accept Letter of Intent to Retire** June 2017: Patricia Sebak, Sp.Ed. (M)

**4.6 Approval of Employment:** Alyssa LaBrash, (.5) Sp.Ed. teacher and (.5) Instructional Assistant at Maercker School; Keith Sellers, Bus Driver; Jon Goldstein, WHMS 1:1 Aide

**4.7 Approve 8th Grade Promotion Date for the Class of 2017:**

Mon., May 29	Memorial Day (No School)
Tues., May 30	Material Collection and Last Day of Academics
Wed., May 31	Yearbook Distribution; 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner Dance – Gym (6:00 PM – 9:00 PM)
Thurs., June 1	8th Grade Great America Trip
Fri., June 2	Awards Ceremony and Promotion Practice – Gym. (Last day of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade attendance.) & Promotion Ceremony (7:00 – 8:30)

**Motion:** Casey moved, and Dieball seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**5.0 Reports:**

**5.1 Parent-Teacher Association:** Kara Kuo, PTA President, shared that this weekend is the Band Spaghetti on Friday evening from 4:30-8 p.m., at a cost of \$6 per person. The Fun Fair will be

held the following day on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations of home baked goods are needed for both events, as well as volunteers to help with games. Several new games have been added as attractions. The Science Fair ribbon ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m., February 27<sup>th</sup>, in the WHMS Commons just prior to the PTA meeting.

**5.2 Maercker Educational Foundation (MEF):** Eight grant applications were submitted by District staff and are being reviewed by the committee. Presentations will be made at the April meeting.

**5.3 SASED:** Mr. Nugent shared a communique from SASED outlining upcoming events including spring institute offerings for staff.

**5.4 Board of Education:**

**Board President Review of Agreements:** This month the Board reflected on contacting the Board President or administration with questions about the board packet prior to the meeting, and reviewed meeting effectiveness results from the December Board Meeting.

**Candidate Forum:** A school board member candidate forum will be held March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the PTA meeting at Westview Hills Middle School.

**5.5 Principals:**

**Holmes:** Jump rope for heart raised \$12,850 this year. Kindergarten registration took place this month. Over 90 packets were handed out and 75 have been completed and returned. Of those, 42 families will be screened for EL services. Inquiries are coming in about the blended pre-school program. The Honey Bees are preparing for the next school-wide celebration for good behavior.

**Maercker:** Maercker School won the 2017 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools Award for their achievements in energy efficiency, healthy environments, and environmental literacy. Maercker School raised approximately \$10,000 during the Jump Rope for Heart event. Mrs. Gorey will be observed on March 1<sup>st</sup> as a finalist for the Golden Apple Teacher's Award.

**Westview:** This month 8<sup>th</sup> graders visited the Skokie Holocaust Museum, 6<sup>th</sup> graders visited the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Art Institute, and Spanish classes practiced their skills at The Crazy Burrito. A fun all-school reward assembly was held with students and teachers competing in games of Hungry, Hungry Humans and Shoot the Puck. Unit plans continue to be updated and refined using information gleaned from last year's CEC assessment. Several teachers were able to join an assessment visit in another district.

**5.6 Director of Teaching and Learning:**

**Blended Pre-school:** Mrs. Fisher hosted two parent meetings for the blended pre-school program. By the following Thursday morning she received 18 pre-enrollment applications. There are 18 positions open, 9 for 3 year olds and 9 for 4 year olds. March 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the lottery for selection. Parents will have until April 20<sup>th</sup> to commit to the program. Once the list is finalized, wait lists may be created.

**Student Support,** Mrs. Fisher noted that student mental health issues are becoming more prevalent in younger students. In anticipation of this increase, the district partnered with SASED over the past two years to provide training to all staff. The District continues to monitor student needs and will be making programmatic and/or staffing changes to best meet student needs.

**5.7 CSBO:**

**Financial Overview:** Ms. Caddy shared a document giving an overview of District finances. This same document was shared with the MEA during a pre-negotiations meeting.

**Major Facility and Technology Projects for Summer 2017:**

**All Schools:** Parking lot sealcoating and re-striping (2 year cycle); servers, cloud storage and disaster recovery.

**Holmes:** Complete window installation that was not completed last summer; replace exterior,

gym and lunchroom light fixtures with LED lights; add controllers to all mechanical equipment.

**Maercker**: Masonry remediation; replace certain light fixtures with LED lights; replace VCT tile in all student bathrooms with low-maintenance flooring (tiles continually popping).

**WHMS**: Replace certain exterior light fixtures with LED lights; add controllers to all mechanical equipment.

**Gas and Electric Services**: A third party vendor, Satori Energy, is able to guarantee lower rates for the next 18 months, estimated to save the District approximately \$43,590 annually.

**Bus Lease Renewal**: Ms. Caddy recommends replacing the current 7 leased buses with 7 gasoline-powered buses instead of diesel-powered, and to trade the 2 currently owned buses for 2 leased gasoline-powered buses. This will save the District high repair costs and per mile driving fees. The District is also having conversation with a neighboring school district about potentially sharing a bus to reduce costs to both districts.

## **5.8 Superintendent:**

**Enrollment**: The total student count currently is 1,394.

**FOIA**: Report shared with Board.

**Student Suspensions**: Report shared with Board.

**Strategic Plan Update**: Mr. Nugent explained that the Strategic Plan was refreshed from the original document created under leadership of previous superintendent, Dr. Berning. In the plan, there are four focused goal areas: Student Growth and Achievement; Organizational Health and Development; Communication and Community Partnerships; and Fiscal and Operational Stewardship. Leadership teams have worked together to draft “We will” statements specific to each goal, and are working collaboratively to define the details and improve processes to that end.

**Tentative 2017-18 Staffing Plan**: Mr. Nugent shared a draft of his recommendations for staffing needs for the 2017-18 School Year. The total projected decrease in staffing would be -0.8 FTE. Highlights are:

**Holmes School**: Kindergarten would have a minimum of 8 sections, there would be 8 sections at 1<sup>st</sup>, and 8 sections at 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Administration is looking at a schedule to provide common plan time for teams of 4 teachers, they are therefore recommending increased P.E. time for students bringing the allotted FTE from 1.3 to 2.0 FTE.

**Maercker School**: The plan calls for 7 sections of 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 6 sections of both 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade; one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade sections will be a sheltered language class based on current projections. There is also a recommendation for 3 full time special education teachers in order to be adequately staffed for the entire year. The Board and administration agreed to review how lower student enrollment in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade might impact the Maercker Band program.

**Westview Hills Middle School**: Currently the Library Media Specialist is designated as 1.0 FTE media specialist, however in reality she serves as a .5 FTE technology coach and a .5 LIB/MED specialist. Administration would like her job title to accurately reflect how she spends her time. The reading specialist is seeing fewer students at the middle school on a regular basis because of the current design of the program, so it is being recommended that she be assigned as a district-wide reading specialist to be available to all three buildings as needed.

All non-classroom teaching positions are continually evaluated to ensure they are meeting district priorities. In particular, instructional coaching positions will be short term and tied to a specific action plan. The Board will take final action at the March meeting.

## **6.0 Action:**

**6.1 Approval of the First Reading of Policies**: The following policies were prepared and recommended by the Board Policy Committee for approval of First Reading.

<b>Section</b>	<b>Policy</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>School Board</b>	2:120, Board Member Development	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses	Policy text is amended to inform the general public that school board members are volunteers and serve without compensation.
	2:200, Types of School Board Meetings	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	2:220, School Board Meeting Procedure	Policy and subtitles updated in response to legislation.
<b>Operational Services</b>	4:55, Use of Credit and Procurement Cards	Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	4:60, Purchases and Contracts	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	4:110, Transportation	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	4:170, Safety	Footnotes Updated.
	4:175, Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications	RENAMED. The policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.
<b>General Personnel</b>	5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	5:30, Hiring Process and Criteria	Policy, Legal References, Cross References updated in response to legislation.
	5:60, Expenses	The policy is rewritten in response to the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act
	5:100, Staff Development Program	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	5:125, Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	5:185, Family and Medical Leave	Policy, terminology, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	5:190, Teacher Qualifications	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to ESSA legislation.
	5:250, Leaves of Absence	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	5:260, Student Teachers	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	5:280, Duties and Qualifications	Legal References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.
	5:330, Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
<b>Instruction</b>	6:15, School Accountability	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:50, School Wellness	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:60, Curriculum Content	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:140, Education of Homeless Children	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:145, Migrant Students	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:160, English Learners	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to ESEA and ESSA legislation.
	6:170, Title I Programs	Policy and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	6:340, Student Testing and Assessment Program	Policy, Legal References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
<b>Students</b>	7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools	Policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes updated in response to legislation.
	7:60, Residence	Policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.

	7:70, Attendance and Truancy	Policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.
	7:190, Student Behavior	Renamed (formerly known as Student Discipline); policy is unchanged.
	7:250, Student Support Services	Policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.
	7.305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries	Policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.
	7:310, Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools	Renamed (formerly known as Restrictions on Publications) to restrict it to elementary students.
Community Relations	8:30, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property	Policy, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to legislation.

**Motion:** Sullivan moved, and Dieball seconded, that the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education approve the First Reading of policies as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Casey, Dieball Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**6.2 Approval of Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements:** The Resolution is a new requirement based on legal updates to policy 2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses.

**Motion:** Bondlow moved, and Casey seconded, that the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education approve the Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Dieball, Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**6.3 Approval of Architectural Services Agreement with ARCON:** After recent interviews, administration is ready to move forward with ARCON Architectural Services as their architect of record. **Motion:** Bondlow moved, and Gombosi seconded, that the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education approve the Agreement for Architectural Services with ARCON as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**7.0 Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items:**

Teacher Mary Beth Bleifuss asked for clarification on staffing plan projections for teacher sections at Maercker School, and asked the Board to please keep in mind the growing needs of students as they determine class sizes for the next year.

Mrs. Lynn Gorey, thanked the Board, MEA, PTA, and administration for their ongoing support and provisions to classroom teachers, stating that she is a better teacher for having worked in the District.

**8.0 Closed Session to Discuss: Motion:** At 8:48 p.m., pursuant to section 2a of the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1.01, 120/2(c) Casey moved, and Sullivan seconded, to close the meeting to the public relying upon exceptions set forth in 2(c)(1) (the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees); 2(C)(2) (Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees). A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Gombosi, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**Move Out of Closed Session: Motion:** At 9:37 p.m., Bishop moved, and Sullivan seconded, to move out of closed session. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Gombosi, Sullivan, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**9.0 Action Items on Personnel:**

**9.1 Approval of Superintendent Contract:** The Board unanimously offered a contract to Superintendent Nugent to employ him in Maercker School District 60 through June 30, 2022.

**Motion:** Casey moved, and Bishop seconded, that the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Contract as amended. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**10.0 Agenda Items for Consideration:** The Board will discuss the Assistant Principal position.

**11.0 Consensus for Communication Items on Twitter:** PTA events, and Maercker student presentations.

**12.0 Adjournment:** President Andersen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m. **Motion:** A motion was made by Casey, and seconded by Bondlow. A voice vote was taken. Voting Aye: Casey, Dieball, Gombosi, Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Spina, Recording Secretary

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Secretary, Maercker 60 Board of Education

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President, Maercker 60 Board of Education