

# BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting May 11, 2022

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

## Public Participation

- Chuck Palosaari, JHS science teacher, recently attended some training on an Esports program. The school did a survey and there was interest in 19 students that they would want to join an Esports club. The cost to the district would be in new computers, which could also be used for other programs, such as CAD. Mr. Keteri said that there will be a lab being upgraded anyways so the computers could be purchased with the dual use in mind. Esports is a new offering that is popular at the collegiate level and is beginning to start at the high school level.
- The Board presented a plaque to Lisa Pyykkonen, third grade teacher, for her service of 30 years to the district. They thanked her for all the lives she has touched.

## Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Mr. Keteri acknowledged that there have been issues in bussing lately. The problem is the lack of drivers in the area. There are no subs so if a driver is out or having bus issues, there is no other option. Lamers has been providing good service with their limited staff and is actively trying to find more drivers.
- The state budget is taking place slowly. There will be areas of increase, such as for mental health.
- The new Young 5s program at SRE will be sustainable this year with the number of enrolled. Having this new class split like this will be a good thing.
- Summer school plans are set.
- Graduation plans are set.
- Negotiations with the union will be the third week in June.
- They received two bids of the same cost for mowing the SRE lawn this summer.
- The JHS truck is old and should be replaced. They can get \$7,000 trade in for it. The new truck can also be used for transportation.
- He has been doing interviews for the trades position. The problem is the lack of housing available in the area for any out-of-area hires.
- The saunas that the trades class have been building with Mr. Miller are beautiful.

### **Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary**

- They recently did ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) day, courtesy of Portage Health. It's nice when local agencies reach out to do stuff with the students.
- She thanked Mr. Palosaari and Mrs. Schuett, SRE science teacher, for teaching Human Growth and Development.
- A local author, Dan Wohlleber, came to the school recently and read to lower el classes.
- Upcoming events include Muffins in the Morning, Donuts with Grownups, Camp Nesbit, and a new Career Day.
- She thanked Ms. Bertucci, counselor, for her phenomenal job with testing which is almost done. Mrs. Lishinski, SRE technology teacher, for her help as well.
- Mrs. Irizarry, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, will move into the Young 5s teacher next year. The open 1<sup>st</sup> grade position will be posted.
- For the open 4<sup>th</sup> grade position, she highly recommends the hiring of Eric Segula. He taught at SRE a few years ago.
- The Headstart program will be back in the building next year.
- The summer program will be 7 theme based weeks, ran by Mrs. Irizarry, Mrs. Schuett, and Ms. Myers, kindergarten teacher. It will be 3 hours a day and free.

### **Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School**

- Mr. Lishinski submitted a written report including the following:
  - Ms. Bertucci did a wonderful job coordinating M-STEP testing which is wrapping up.
  - Mrs. Pera, math and science teacher, is taking the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the planetarium and also organizing a geospatial engineering program for the junior high students.
  - The upcoming freshman class will be around 45 students, including an expected 6 students from E.B.
  - Class Day will be Friday, May 27 at 9AM with Commencement at 6PM. Both will be in the new gym and streamed through the NFHS network.
  - Exam week will be June 7-10, with half days on June 8, 9, and 10. June 10 is the last day.
  - Spring sports are underway.

### **Action Items**

- The Board discussed several action items.

*Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary*