

Board of Education Workshop

Monday, January 8, 2024

4:45 PM

Board Room

214 - 1st Ave NE

Buffalo, MN 55313

MINUTES

Present: Matt Hoffman, Amanda Lawrence, Bob Sansevere, Adam Bjorklund, Sheila Smude

Absent: Sue Lee, Melissa Brings

1. Presentation: Discovery Elementary/ECFE/ECSE

Mat Nelson Discovery Principal, Kim Carlson Director of Community Education, Jen Greenhagen ECFE Coordinator, Amy Ernst Director of Special Services

Mat Nelson - DES – WIN time (What I Need). Time is scheduled daily for structured student interventions - 30 minutes per day at each multi-grade level. ESPs and teachers each have a group for a specific intervention. Saw student gains last year. Teachers review their student data in their PLCs (2 x per month), and students are moved around according to their needs. Excited to be able to provide this within the schedule.

Kim Carlson - On average, 208 pre-schoolers served in School Readiness programs. Early Childhood screening coordinated in this department. ECFE offers about 29 classes every year with 11 licensed teachers. Pre-school students are transported by parents. Would like to be able to provide transportation.

Amy Ernst - ECSE – early intervention is B-3 and ECSE is ages 3-6. Currently support 184 ECSE students. Have had 107 referrals as of December. Constantly receiving referrals. 11 ECSE teachers provide services.

Jen Greenhagen – Former teacher and now the ECFE Coordinator. Working on connecting the program with Portrait of a Graduate. Shared examples of this taking place in classes.

2. Financial Projection

Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and Operations

Projections always use the best information we have at the current time. Information is constantly changing and projection is being revised. First budget revision is a \$1,366,416 increase in revenue. Most of the additional dollars have corresponding expenditures. Change in expenditure projection is an increase of \$1,481,821. Much is due to unemployment and retirements and new hires. The district is in a good spot having filled many vacancies. Major budget factors are enrollment projections, final contract settlements, final budget to actual expenditures and state and federal legislative funding changes. Provided financial forecast scenarios with zero staff cuts for 2024-25 and moving all cuts to 2025-26. Also a scenario with half-staff cuts for 2024-25 and remaining staff cuts for 2025-26. More discussion will take place at the Board retreat on January 16th.

3. 2024-25 School Calendar

Scott Thielman, Superintendent

A draft 2024-25 calendar was presented in November. After the successful referendum, discussions began regarding scheduling the construction projects. Due to the lead time needed for obtaining construction materials, we will not be able to do the construction projects until the summer of 2025. Proposing to start school a week early in 2024-25 so that we can get out of school a week earlier, end of May, giving an additional week for construction that summer. The early start moves the Spring Break to the last week in March and shortens the Thanksgiving break by one day to provide 174 student days.

Will look at providing a 2025-26 calendar this spring.

4. Committee Reports

AL – AMSD

BS – Teacher negotiations, WTC

Adjourned at 6:09 pm