

Manchester Community Schools - Board of Education Regular Meeting
In-Person; Jr/Sr High School Media Center
December 16, 2024 – 6:00pm

Unofficial Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by President Brandon Woods at 6:00pm.

Members present: Brandon Woods, Sandra Wiitala, Corey Horkey, Michael Tindall, Rebecca Harvey, Ryan Novess, Dan Budd.

The Agenda was amended to add Letter J under New Business for the Manchester Community Schools Athletic Complex Construction Document Drawings. Motion by Woods, support by Tindall. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)

Motion by Harvey, support by Horkey To approve the Treasures Report. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)

Motion by Tindall, support by Novess to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 18, 2024. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)

Motion by Tindall, support by Novess to approve the Minutes of the Capital Improvement Committee Meeting on December 11, 2024. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)

Motion by Woods, support by Novess to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)

COMMUNICATION

A. Public Questions/Comments

- M. Davis - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum
- A. Sidebottom - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum
- P. Hulswitt - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Class of 2025 - L. Harvey presented and requested cap decoration for the graduating Class of 2025. The Board discussed options for the future.
- B. Future for the Wheel - Fall Athletics were recognized for their achievements. (R. Harvey left the meeting)
- C. Board Recognition - Superintendent Bezeau recognized Corey Horkey, Ryan Novess, and Dan Budd for their time and commitment to serving on Manchester Community Schools Board of Education.
- D. Capital Improvement Committee Update - Superintendent Bezeau thanked the Capital Improvement Committee and Heather Place from Moore Trosper for keeping the Bond work moving forward.
- E. Luther C. Klager Elementary Technology Bond Update - B. Bruursema presented on the upcoming Bond work that will be done concerning Technology. Bidding for several Bond projects will begin January 9, 2024.
 1. Klager - Riverside Chromebooks - The Board approved the proposed purchase of Chromebooks for Luther C Klager and Riverside Intermediate Schools. Motion by Wiitala, Support by Tindall. All yes (6-0)
 2. Phone System Purchasing - The Board approved the purchase of the proposed phone system. Motion by Wiitala, Support by Horkey. All yes (6-0)
- F. Luther C. Klager Elementary Construction Document Estimate - The Board approved the Capital Improvement Committee and Superintendent's Recommendation of the Construction Document (CD) estimate for the Luther C. Klager Elementary Bond Project. Motion by Tindall, Support by Novess. All yes (6-0)
- G. Manchester Athletic Complex Construction Document Estimate - The Board approved the Capital Improvement Committee and Superintendent's Recommendation of the Construction Document (CD) estimate for the Manchester Athletic Complex Bond Project. Motion by Horkey, Support by Tindall. All yes (6-0)

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- H. Luther C. Klager Elementary Construction Document Architect Drawings -The Board approved the Capital Improvement Committee and Superintendent's Recommendation of the Construction Document (CD) drawings for the Luther C. Klager Elementary Bond Project. Motion by Tindall, Support by Novess. All yes (6-0)
- I. Manchester Athletic Complex Bleacher Proposal - The Board approved the Capital Improvement Committee and Superintendent's Recommendation for the Bleacher Proposal for the Manchester Athletic Complex Bond Project. Motion by Tindall, Support by Novess. All yes (6-0)
- J. Manchester Community Schools Athletic Complex Construction Document Architect Drawings - The Board approved the Superintendent's Recommendation of the Construction Document (CD) drawings for the Manchester Community Schools Athletic Complex Bond Project. Motion by Tindall, Support by Novess. All yes (6-0)

PERSONNEL

A. New Hires / Position Changes

Department	Position	Name	Hire Date	District	EDUstaff
Athletics	7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	Kaitlyn Wilkins	11/19/2024	X	
Klager	2nd Grade Teacher	Erica Finnegan	12/16/2024	X	
Technology	Help Desk Technician	Ashwak Alshabibi	12/3/2024	X	
Junior/Senior High	School counselor	Carla Freeman	12/9/2024	X	
Special Education	Special Education Director	Menhem Aouad	12/9/2024		X

The Personnel Report was accepted as presented; motion by Tindall, support from Wiitala. Roll call vote: All yes (6-0)

B. Resignations

Relationship to District

Department	Position	Name	Exit Date	District	EDUstaff
Klager	2nd Grade Teacher	Shelby Chartrand	11/26/2024	X	
Special Education	Paraprofessional	Allison Schuelke	11/14/2024	X	
Buildings & Grounds	Custodian	Angela Derby	12/5/2024	x	

The Board stated that they were sorry to see Ms.Chartrand leave. The resignations were accepted as presented; motion by Wiitala, support from Tindall. Roll call vote: All yes (6-0)

C. Open Positions - Available on website

D. Recognition of Changes in Teacher Probationary Status

The Board approved the recognition of changes in probationary status to be accepted as presented. Motion by Wiitala, support from Novess. Roll call vote: All yes (6-0)

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The status of teacher progress in steps of probation as summarized below. Effective immediately and based on the availability of employment, the following teachers and other certified staff are recognized to be at the following stage:

2nd Year Probation

Michelle Champagne
Jenna Boehlke

3rd Year Probation

Kaitlyn Wilkins

Continuing Employment

Kathleen Wahl

DISCUSSION ITEMS/REPORTS

- A. Klager / MECC - Klager Elementary recently participated in the heartwarming "Shop with a Cop" event, a community initiative that brought together students, local law enforcement, and holiday cheer. Grandparents day was a huge success this year at Klager with the highest community registration and attendance we've ever had! We were so excited to welcome our MCS High School students to Klager as they volunteered to make and deliver popcorn for Klager students.
- B. Riverside - An unbelievable day for the entire Riverside Intermediate School Community as we celebrated the annual Senior Citizen Luncheon for all of our area Seniors! Once more, this was exceptional for our staff, students, and almost 200 senior citizens. The Riverside staff, kids, Carolyn Supers, and Katie Altherr are all appreciated. Many thanks to the amazing Katie Altherr for her efforts and commitment to the Riverside Penguin Patch. To raise money, the Riverside Student Council organized a coin challenge. We appreciate Terri Panches's efforts in organizing and promoting this event. We're back with the Riverside Giving Tree! We appreciate Katie Altherr, her generosity and hard work on behalf of our Riverside students.
- C. Jr. - Sr. High School - Students posted "Thankful" messages on the bulletin board to celebrate what they are thankful for during the Thanksgiving season. Holiday school spirit is in abundance! Students and staff alike participate in the 12 days before Holiday Break activities. The teachers enjoyed a Hot Cocoa Bar to kick it off and showed off their creative skills by Decorating The Classroom Door on the "8th Day of Holiday Break"! Mr. Freeman's 7th Grade Industrial Arts class worked with wood to make a Christmas Tree, ornaments and gifts for their families.
- D. Athletic Department - Winter sports have begun. Good luck to all of our winter teams and athletes. After discussions with Dr. Bezeau, Bryan Houttekier, and our spring coaches we have the following plan to accommodate the construction project on the track and football complex.
 - Construction on the bleachers and press box area can begin at first thaw.
 - Track will still be able to practice up until May 23rd, however we are moving our home track meets to away meets. Any track athletes who qualify for State we will arrange practice with a neighboring school after the 23rd.
 - Girls soccer can also still practice on the turf, however we will play their home games at the grass soccer field to the east of the football practice fields.
 - Varsity baseball and varsity softball will not be affected and will play their normal home schedule.
- E. Special Education - None
- F. Technology - Sentinel has configured all of the access points will begin deployment at the start of Winter Break. This will be a great improvement to our network as it will give us better control, better visibility, and most importantly, replace the devices that are either non-functioning or damaged.

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- G. Business Office -Has been busy working on Q4 submissions, and wrapping up tasks for the 2024 calendar year.
- H. Buildings & Grounds - Has been busy planning Bond work while maintaining the various needs of each building, and property. As well as helping support the various activities at each of the schools with setup and clean up.
- I. Student - NHS students are making holiday cards for senior citizens. Spirit Week. Canned food Drive for the CRC, and Senior scholarship Applications are also happening.
- J. Food Service - None
- K. School Nurse - Sent out over 200 backpack holiday COVID tests before Thanksgiving break for those wanting to test during break or prior to returning from break. Scheduled the mobile dentist program for all three buildings for those who qualify, for January 27, 30, and 31
- L. PTSA - None
- M. PTO -Klager / Riverside PTO provided a taco bar for teachers and staff during the parent teacher conferences. Movie night for Klager and Riverside featuring the Grinch. Discussed and approved funding requests from two Klager & Riverside staff members.
- N. Board - (R.Harvey returned)
 - Eighth Grade Required Reading
 - The Hate You Give
The Board discussed the required reading and alternatives for students.
 - B. Woods
 - Public Communication shared
 - Support for resolving Teacher negotiations
 - Is it better to have two buildings vs three buildings
 - Eighth Grade Required Reading
 - The Hate You Give
The Board discussed the required reading and alternatives for students.
 - Congratulations Ms. Yekulis on your article in MLive
 - R. Harvey
 - School Chain of Command
The Board discussed who is in charge and when.
 - D. Budd
 - Thank to everyone who does or has done the Board of Education your time and efforts are appreciated.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- M. Davis - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum reiterated
- A. Sidebottom - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum reiterated
- N. Smith - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum
- A. Aben - Parent concern for 8th grade curriculum

UPCOMING DATES

- December 16-19, 2024 - Klager Penguin Patch
- December 23, 2024 -January 3, 2025- Winter Break-No school
- January 6, 2025- School Resumes
- January 17, 2025- End of the First Semester
- January 20, 2025- MLK day- No School
- January 21, 2025- Organizational and Regular Board Meeting

OTHER - none

ADJOURNMENT

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Motion by Wiitala, supported by Budd to adjourn meeting at 8:36pm. Roll call vote: All yes (7-0)