

Tawas Area Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting
September 27, 2021

The special meeting of the Tawas Area Board of Education was called to order by President Klenow at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021 in the boardroom at the administration office and through Google Meets or a teleconferencing method.

Mrs. Lentz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Edmonds, Lentz, VanderVeen, Bruning, Butzin and Klenow
Absent: Ulman
Tardy: None

Administrators Present: Klinger

Mrs. Bruning attended the meeting virtually from Tawas City.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Mrs. Klenow asked if there were any public comments on agenda or non-agenda items. Mr. Woelke told the board he appreciates the work the administrative team is doing. He said they have a challenging job and the start of the year is especially tough, but they have worked collaboratively with the staff and it is much appreciated. He thanked Mrs. Mochty, Mrs. Danek, Mrs. Bolen, Mr. Suttle and Mr. Klinger for their efforts. He thanked Mr. Klinger for working with the local health department in an effort to protect everyone, keep everyone safe and work to accomplish the goal of keeping kids in school through this pandemic. Mrs. Hurst said she is a parent and thanked the district for the ongoing communication with families and for respecting the personal choice families make regarding masking and sending their students to school when they appear healthy. Mrs. Jenkins provided the board an article written by an occupational safety trainer in the state who does not support the use of masks. Mr. Malewska is a parent that also supports the choice to mask and is pleased that masking is not mandated. He shared information that supports other options including the spacing of students. He said the information he has indicates children have very mild cases of COVID, compared to adults, and that natural immunity is best. Mrs. Klenow thanked everyone for their comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by VanderVeen, support by Butzin to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 board meeting as presented. There were no additions or corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Klinger said he has received a letter of resignation from junior high football coach, Bill Larion. Mr. Larion indicated he would like to stay on as a volunteer. Motion by Lentz, support by Butzin to accept Bill Larion's letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATIONS & REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Klinger said Mr. Mejeur is recommending the board hire Mr. Jonathan Warner to fill the junior high football coaching vacancy. Mr. Warner has coached in the Ravens program. Motion by VanderVeen, support by Lentz to hire Jonathan Warner as a junior high football coach. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Reports – Mr. Klinger said the personnel committee met to discuss class size numbers at each grade level. They also created a class size number that would have the group reconvene to discuss possible solutions if certain grade level numbers get too high.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Klinger said the MASB 2021 delegate assembly will be held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids beginning November 11th. All voting delegates need to be certified by October 8th in order to vote at the delegate assembly. MASB allows a school of our size to have one voting delegate and one alternate. Mrs. Lentz said she is interested in attending the conference and would agree to be the delegate. Mrs. Edmonds said she would be the alternate. Motion by VanderVeen, support by Butzin to certify Tracee Behnke-Lentz as the delegate, and Ami Edmonds as the alternate, from Tawas Area Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said last month the board approved a bid to replace the concrete basketball court at Clara Bolen Elementary. The contractor is currently unavailable and unable to complete the project, so Mr. Couch is recommending the board consider a secondary bid from Allan Miller Construction at the price of \$19,690. He could begin the project as soon as tomorrow. Motion by Lentz, support by Butzin to approve the new playground concrete replacement bid as presented. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by VanderVeen, support by Lentz to go into closed session for superintendent pre-evaluation review at 6:18 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by VanderVeen, support by Butzin to return to open session at 6:42 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

ADVANCE PLANNING

Motion by Butzin, support by Lentz to adjourn at 6:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.