

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
APRIL 8, 2020  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Rosch at 7:00 p.m. in South Campus Room S803.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Bob Rosch, Kent Rice, Sue Schultz, Craig Thompson, Donna Beringer, Amy Hemmer, Tim Langer  
Absent and excused: Darrell Beneker, Dave Dean

Administration present: Laura Myrah, Jeff Gross, Donna Smith

The meeting was properly posted.

Moved by Thompson, seconded by Schultz that the School Board for the Arrowhead Union High School District approves remote Board member participation and voting until further notice. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2020, Regular Board meeting as presented. Aye – 6 and Opposed – 1 (Langer). Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Schultz to approve the operating bill list and pay vouchers 320, 154196-154328, 154330-154364, 201900275-201900280, 201900282-201900284, 201900291-201900296, and 201900298-201900300 in the amount of \$877,380.82 and to approve credit card expenditure transactions as presented in the amount of \$65,923.91. Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT –

Ms. Laura Myrah, superintendent, announced that Ms. Deb Paradowski, South Campus associate principal, has been named the 2020 National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Assistant Principal of the Year winner and congratulated her on this impressive honor. This is a first for Wisconsin in this category.

Ms. Myrah provided an update on virtual learning and commended teachers, staff, and students on the tremendous job they are doing as we all adjust to a new normal under challenging circumstances. Beginning April 1, 2020, a virtual learning four-day instructional week was implemented, with Wednesdays becoming a planning/preparation/ collaboration day for faculty members and a non-scheduled day for students to complete assignments, read/study, or take a break from screen time. Other matters administration is discussing are student assessments, national tests, and final exams. Administration is also developing contingency plans for some form of a virtual graduation ceremony and virtual summer school, should it become necessary.

CURRICULUM – The next Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2020, at 6:45 a.m.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – Chairperson Thompson reported on the March 18, 2020, meeting.

Moved by Schultz, seconded by Langer to approve the 2020/2021 Facility Use Fee Schedule, as recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion Carried.

Moved by Schultz, seconded by Langer to approve the 2020/2021 Student Fee Schedule, as recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion Carried.

Mr. Jeff Gross, director of business services, presented the 2020/2021 Preliminary Budget. He explained the basic school funding formula that includes the revenue limit calculation, state equalization aid, other state aids, and open enrollment. Fiscal year 2020/2021 will mark the second year of the State of Wisconsin’s 2019-21 biennial budget. The Department of Public Instruction has not released preliminary 2020/2021 state equalization aid figures; however, the district is projecting a decrease in 2020/2021. The budget assumptions associated with the revenue limit formula and state aids are based on stable projections associated with the 2019-21 state biennial budget. With this in mind, the budget presented reflects the most up-to-date fiscal information received from the State of Wisconsin and the best estimates available to the district.

Student enrollment is projected to decrease 30 students, from 2,106 students in 2019/2020 to 2,076 students in 2020/2021. This number (which is a significant variable in the revenue limit formula) will not be certified until the third Friday in September 2020. The proposed 2020/2021 budget includes a net decrease of 1.08 FTE teaching positions. The 2020/2021 health insurance premium was initially projected to increase 7.5%. A change to the co-insurance benefit has reduced that projected increase to 1.9%. The 2020/2021 Capital Expansion Fund budget is projected to be \$300,000; the 2019/2020 Capital Expansion Fund totaled \$415,000. The 2020/2021 Buildings and Grounds projects budget is projected to be \$500,000; the 2019/2020 Buildings and Grounds projects budget totaled \$1,950,000. The district is projecting not to use general fund balance to support the 2020/2021 Buildings and Grounds projects budget.

Total non-property tax revenues are projected to decrease \$621,759, or -6.52%. State equalization aid is projected to decrease \$717,090, or -15.01%. The district's property tax levy is projected to be \$17,331,237, a decrease of \$950,754, or -5.20%. Based on a 2.5% increase in the district's equalized value, the mill rate is projected to decrease 7.51%, from \$2.88 in 2019/2020 to \$2.66 in 2020/2021.

Due to current budget uncertainties and budget variables yet to be certified, adjustments to the 2020/2021 Preliminary Budget will be made as necessary. The recommended tax levy for the 2020/2021 school year will be presented to the electorate for approval at the Annual Meeting scheduled for August 19, 2020.

Moved by Rice, seconded by Thompson to approve the 2020/2021 Preliminary Budget as presented. Motion Carried.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee is to be determined.

#### BUILDINGS & GROUNDS –

The in-person school closure due to the current 'Safer at Home' order provides the district with an opportunity to complete projects that would normally displace activities, camps, and education-related operations if they were completed during summer break, such as replacement of the North Campus east gym roof and east gym floor refurbishing. The recommendation from administration is to increase the 2019/2020 Buildings and Grounds Supplemental and Capital Expansion Budget in the amount of \$500,000, which represents the 2020/2021 Priority 1 improvement projects that have administrative approval for funding consideration.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to approve the 2019/2020 budget adjustment associated with the planned roofing projects and potentially also the planned east gym flooring project, as presented. Motion Carried.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2020, at 7:00 a.m.

#### PERSONNEL – Chairperson Rosch reported on the March 30, 2020, meeting.

The committee reviewed the proposed salary increase for employees of 1.5%, which is under the cost of living/consumer price index (CPI) of 1.81%. It was noted that the proposed 2020/2021 spending budget will be reduced from the current year budget, even with this 1.5% wage increase built into the planning.

The committee was informed that the initial health insurance premium increase for 2020/2021 was 12%. After negotiations and the addition of voluntary (employee paid) vision insurance, the premium increase was reduced to 7.5% to maintain the current insurance plan design. Administration recommends a plan design change to a 10% co-insurance model, with the remainder of the plan design remaining the same as the current plan. This plan design change will result in a premium increase of 0.6% from the 2019/2020 rate. Employees who participate in health insurance pay 12% of the premium, or 14% if they do not participate in the biometric screening program. The committee agreed with the proposal of building this health insurance design plan change into the 2020/2021 district budget, which was presented earlier this evening as part of the Finance Committee report.

The committee discussed which employee groups are working and being paid, and which are not, during the coronavirus 'Safer at Home' order and school closed status. Most employees are still working. The district has placed 29 part-time employees under work furlough status, which means they will maintain their employee status and current benefit levels. These employees include lunchroom supervisors, library/study hall aides, and welcome center staff. They may apply for unemployment compensation and participate in the new stimulus, 'Families First Coronavirus Response Act,' if they qualify per that law's criteria.

Moved by Rice, seconded by Langer to approve the 2020/2021 Employee Handbook as presented. Motion Carried.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2020, at 7:00 a.m.

POLICY – The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2020, at 7:00 a.m.

WASB – No report. The Delegate and Alternate to the 2021 WASB Delegate Assembly will be appointed at the May 13, 2020, Board of Education meeting.

CESA – No report. The district’s representative for 2020/2021 and the CESA #1 Annual Delegate Convention will be appointed at the May 13, 2020, Board of Education meeting. The CESA #1 Annual Convention is scheduled for May 19, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were no employee resignations/retirements presented for action by the Board of Education.

Moved by Schultz, seconded by Rice to approve the 2019/2020 cocurricular letter of appointment for Julia Behrend (Asst. Girls Lacrosse Coach-25%); and to approve the 2020/2021 professional staff contract for Terese Neumann-Hayes (World Languages, 0.5 FTE) and Brock Rumohr (Art), as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Schultz, seconded by Langer to issue a preliminary staff contract non-renewal notice to Laura Miller, Richard Meyers, and Sarah Dunmire, effective at the end of the 2019/2020 contract year, as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Rice, seconded by Langer to approve the 2020/2021 CESA #1 Services Contract as presented. Motion Carried.

There were no donations presented for action by the Board of Education.

Board members Amy Hemmer, Kent Rice, Sue Schultz, and Craig Thompson were selected to participate in the Commencement Ceremony on June 6/7, 2020. All Board members are welcome to attend.

Ms. Myrah presented an update on the COVID-19 pandemic as it pertains to Arrowhead High School and answered questions. She noted that the ‘Safer at Home’ emergency order issued by the WI Dept. of Health Services has been extended until April 24, 2020. The WI Dept. of Public Instruction recommends school districts plan for virtual learning to continue through the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year and the possibility of virtual summer school. Ms. Myrah also shared that the district is experiencing a fiscal impact as a result of virtual learning, including the unbudgeted purchase of additional technology for teachers/students and other expenses, refunds/loss of revenue, renegotiation of contracts, etc.

Ms. Donna Smith, director of library media and technology, instructed Board members on the use of video conferencing technology to facilitate potential remote participation and voting during future meetings.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Public hearing on request to the WI Department of Public Instruction for a waiver of the instructional hours requirement for the 2019/2020 school year due to the COVID-19 public health emergency

Moved by Schultz, seconded by Rosch to adjourn. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag  
Recording Secretary

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Susan M. Schultz, Clerk