

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2019
MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Arrowhead Union High School District was called to order by School Board President Bob Rosch at 7:35 p.m. in the North Campus Theater. There were 19 qualified electors present.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Craig Thompson nominated Bob Rosch to serve as the Annual Meeting Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Tim Langer. There were no other nominations presented. Bob Rosch was elected by voice vote to preside as the Annual Meeting Chairperson.

Chairperson Rosch welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting and introduced the Board of Education: Kent Rice (Richmond seat), Sue Schultz (North Lake seat), Craig Thompson (At Large seat), Donna Beringer (Hartland Lakeside seat), Tim Langer (Stone Bank seat), Dave Dean (At Large seat), Amy Hemmer (Merton seat), Darrell Beneker (Lake Country seat), and himself, Bob Rosch (Swallow seat). He also introduced the administrative staff: Laura Myrah (Superintendent) and Jeff Gross (Director of Business Services); Diane Hoag is the recording secretary.

Chairperson Rosch noted that the 2018/2019 Treasurer's Report is summarized on pages 17-21 of the Annual Report Document. The complete Treasurer's Report will be available at the District Office when the 2018/2019 audit is complete.

REVIEW OF THE 2018/2019 SCHOOL YEAR –

Superintendent Myrah's review of the past school year began with the district's Focus Plan, which includes a Vision and Mission statement, along with Enduring Goals. Our Vision is that, "Arrowhead will be an educational leader in creating pathways for students to embrace the opportunities of tomorrow." Arrowhead's Mission is to: "Empower students to be engaged, confident, continuous learners who utilize the essential skills to collaborate and contribute within the local and global community." To achieve our mission and vision, we continually strive toward four enduring goals: 1) Prepare students for success beyond high school graduation; 2) Foster a nurturing, positive learning culture; 3) Communicate effectively; and 4) Advance facility infrastructure and technology to support student learning.

Arrowhead High School offers an excellent public education in a fiscally responsible manner. Over the last 10 years, the district has reduced its budget by over \$5 million. Arrowhead maintains a Moody's Aa1 rating, which is better than approximately 90% of the rated school districts in Wisconsin. Fund balance, while healthy at over 25%, has needed to be used for recent one-time improvements. Since 2011/2012, employee benefit changes have resulted in an annual cost savings of \$2.46 million. Despite increasing operational costs, our per pupil expense remains about the state average. Among the 10 union high school districts in the state, Arrowhead High School had the second lowest mill rate in 2018.

The "Arrowhead" portion of property tax bills included \$274,280 in taxes for private/parochial schools in 2018, and is projected to be \$285,497 in 2019. Arrowhead's federal grant monies that went to parochial schools for 'equitable services' was \$25,663 in 2018, and \$31,154 in 2019.

Among Waukesha County school districts, Arrowhead's maximum tax levy revenue per student in 2018 was \$10,030 (high school with average of K-8 schools), which is \$1,616 less per student than the highest school district, or a total of more than \$3 million less to educate our students, yet student achievement is as high or higher.

Ms. Myrah compared student academic achievement among proximate public school districts. In 2017, Arrowhead High School was tied for the highest ACT average composite score of 24.5 among our graduates, and was third highest among all juniors in 2018, with a score of 23.1. Arrowhead High School ranked highest, with 92.4% of students passing an Advanced Placement (AP) exam.

In 2019, Arrowhead High School administered 1,316 Advanced Placement (AP) exams among 27 subjects. The average passing rate on exams was 91.3% (scores of 3, 4, or 5). Students who achieve a score of 3 or higher may obtain college credits as well as high school credits.

Student Participation and Successful Education –

- Arrowhead High School's graduation rate in 2018 was 99.3% (4 years), compared to the state average of 89.6%; the graduation rate was 98.3% (5 years), compared to the state average of 91.5%.

- 87.8% of Arrowhead High School graduates plan to attend a 4-year college/university, compared to the state average of 52.5%; 11.8% of our graduates plan to attend a 2-year vocational/technical school, compared to the state average of 21.1%; 3.6% of our graduates plan to enter the workforce, compared to the state average of 7.8%; and 1.0% of our graduates plan to enter military service, compared to the state average of 3.0%.
- Arrowhead High School has an attendance rate of 97.3%, compared to the state average of 93.9%.
- The discipline rate among Arrowhead High School students is 2%, compared to the state average of 8.2%.
- Co-curricular Participation (2017): 63.0% of our students are involved in academic programs outside of the regular school day, compared to the state average of 37.3%; 59.5% of our students are involved in athletic programs, compared to the state average of 44.1%; 26.7% of our students are involved in our music program, compared to the state average of 18.9%.
- 79.2% of our students were involved in voluntary community activities in 2017, compared to the state average of 33.1%.

The Arrowhead Experience – Ms. Myrah shared many examples of academic highlights and recognitions, special events and recognitions, co-curricular highlights, as well as staff recognitions. Although there are too many volunteers and donors to list, our supportive and generous community members are the backbone of the ‘Arrowhead Experience.’ The Arrowhead Scholarship Fund gave over \$84,000 in scholarships to 82 graduating seniors. During the 2018/2019 school year, nearly \$300,000 was donated by generous individuals and organizations to Arrowhead High School for projects, initiatives, and departments within our school.

Ms. Myrah concluded by sharing several initiatives for the 2019/2020 school year, including continued focus on college, career, and life readiness through academic rigor, social, emotional, and life skills enhancement, positive learning culture, integrated technology to support learning, and Academic and Career Exploration for students; support services for individual students in the areas of academic, social, and/or emotional needs; strengthening communications and public relations for the district; and enhancing technology, safety, and physical plant infrastructure.

Ms. Myrah answered questions; she also thanked everyone for coming to the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting this evening, and also for their support of Arrowhead High School.

Moved by Kent Rice, seconded by Dave Dean to authorize the Board of Education to set the date and time of the Annual Meeting between May 15 and October 31, 2020. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Moved by Dave Dean, seconded by Sue Schultz to approve the book rental fee of \$55.00 for the 2019/2020 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote. The book rental fee has remained the same for the past 9 years.

At the present time, the annual salaries of school board members are established at \$3,400 per board member.

Moved by Craig Thompson, seconded by Tim Langer to set school board member annual salaries at \$3,400 per board member. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

A tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$300,000 is recommended for the 2019/2020 school year.

Moved by Steve Eckels, seconded by Dave Dean to set the tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$350,000 for the 2019/2020 school year, as per the Capital Expansion Fund Resolution below.

RESOLUTION CREATING A CAPITAL EXPANSION FUND
AND LEVYING A TAX IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the Arrowhead Union High School District that a Capital Expansion Fund is hereby created pursuant to Section 120.10(10m) of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of financing remodeling, maintenance, repair, and improvement projects at various district buildings and sites; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tax in the amount of \$350,000 be levied for the 2019/2020 school year to be deposited in the Capital Expansion Fund created above to be used only for the purposes specified above.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose and parameters for the creation of the Capital Expansion Fund (segregated Fund 41) and the effect that setting the Capital Expansion Fund tax levy in the amount of \$350,000 would have on other areas of the 2019/2020 proposed budget.

After discussion, Chairperson Rosch called for a voice vote on the motion to set the tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$350,000 for the 2019/2020 school year, as per the Capital Expansion Fund Resolution above. Motion Failed by Voice Vote.

Moved by Kent Rice, seconded by Craig Thompson to approve the recommended tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$300,000 for the 2019/2020 school year, as per the Capital Expansion Fund Resolution below.

RESOLUTION CREATING A CAPITAL EXPANSION FUND
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BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the Arrowhead Union High School District that a Capital Expansion Fund is hereby created pursuant to Section 120.10(10m) of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of financing remodeling, maintenance, repair, and improvement projects at various district buildings and sites; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tax in the amount of \$300,000 be levied for the 2019/2020 school year to be deposited in the Capital Expansion Fund created above to be used only for the purposes specified above.

After further discussion, Chairperson Rosch called for a voice vote on the motion to approve the recommended tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$300,000 for the 2019/2020 school year, as per the Capital Expansion Fund Resolution above. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Craig Thompson, seconded by Kent Rice to approve the recommended tax levy for Operations and Long-Term Debt Service in the amount of \$18,762,157 for the 2019/2020 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The total 2019/2020 tax levy is \$19,062,157 with the inclusion of the Capital Expansion Fund levy.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS – None.

Moved by Sue Schultz, seconded by Darrell Beneker to adjourn. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk