

Milaca Public Schools

BOARD UPDATE AUGUST 20, 2018

ELECTION - NOVEMBER 6, 2018

Before approving the resolution calling a special election in November, the board needed to narrow down the questions they wanted to include on the ballot. To start the discussion, Brandon Baker made the motion to call a special election to include the following questions:

Question 1: Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization increase in the districts general election revenue by \$415 per pupil, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation; and Question 2: Required Capital Maintenance to issue general obligation of school building bonds in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$4,105,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including various required capital maintenance projects inclusive of roofing, pool, windows and security. Todd Quaintance seconded the motion and the resolution was unanimously approved.

Brandon Baker believes the district was asking for too much, too fast in May when they brought forth the question including deferred maintenance, performing arts space, CTE space, and fieldhouse. Although he would like all these items, they are not essential. For the better good of the district as it currently stands, the operating levy and maintenance is essential. Todd Quaintance agrees with Baker. Quaintance believes all the projects that were on the May ballot are necessary and can be focused on in future years, but the operating levy and required capital maintenance are immediate needs.

While he agrees with Baker and Quaintance, Bryan Rensenbrink struggled with the need for a third question to include CTE space. He feels the public expressed the need for CTE space through the surveys and meetings conducted in preparation for the May election; however, he has concerns the additional CTE space would require more operating costs.

Aimee Struffert would like it all, the operating levy, deferred maintenance, performance arts space, CTE space, and fieldhouse, but does not think the community would be supportive. She supports calling a special election with the questions Baker proposed.

Jeff Larson heard from the community the district needs to focus on the current situation. He would like to see the operating levy, deferred maintenance, performance arts space, CTE space, and fieldhouse pass, as it would serve the district well, but the timing is not right. The board will bring the other questions to voters at a later date.

Quaintance commented if the deferred maintenance question does not pass, the district will need to break the projects into small chunks to be completed on a time line, as opposed to at once. When breaking the projects into smaller chunks, the costs will increase. Larson commented that breaking the projects into a piece meal process will eat up the district's long term facility funds. Quaintance commented it would also hinder plans for other changes in the building.

The cost for capital maintenance would be \$17/year and \$74/year for the operating levy on a \$100k home. This totals \$91/year, or approximately \$7.58/month, on a \$100k home.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

High School Principal - provided staffing update; targeted services daily attendance was 13.5 students; ESY daily attendance was 6 students; Data Analysis/Goal Setting, Olweus, and CCR/Ramp Up groups met to prepare for school year; alumni Laura Stobb is a finalist for National American Star Farmer Award and Milaca Chapter FFA is interested in attending the event on Oct. 24-26 in Indianapolis

Elementary Principal - provided staffing update; MES Writing Task Force will train teachers on new writing process; year 3 of ECCE Milaca Connect assessment/conferences; adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) training held at teacher workshop; Family Fun Night is Oct. 11; as of Aug. 8 PreK- gr. 6 enrollment is 1040; 25% of enrolled PreK- gr 6 students are SPED

Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator - reported MCA results received but embargoed until Aug. 30; renegotiated NWEA contract and other contracts resulting in savings to continue providing ACT test; curriculum spaces and continued curriculum writing; flexible professional development update; literacy focus in Elem is writing and in HS is reading across content areas and vocabulary; social emotional learning with additional school counselor in HS and ACEs training; hosted Lake ECMECC

Welcome!
Rachelle Nelson
Appointed School Board Member
Term: Sept. 20, 2018 - Jan. 7, 2019

AP of Student Activities - reported new timing system, starting blocks, pace clocks, tile work installed or ordered for pool area; new uniforms, weight room equipment, and athletic equipment purchased with Gorecki donation; fall sports began Aug. 13

CE Director/Facilities Manager - reported fall brochure delivered week of Aug. 20; completed facility upgrades include outdoor lighting, effis repair, and installation of music storage system

Business Manager - reported preliminary audit work complete; audit fieldwork scheduled for Oct. 15-19; working on year-end reports; new school menu program; presented [financial picture of the district](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds (7/24) - discussed roof repairs/assessment and the 2017 construction project warranty walkthrough

Policy (7/31) - reviewed policies and continue to work on social media policy

Committee of the Whole (8/8) - community task force listening session

Administration Negotiations (8/15) - met with the principal group and reached a tentative agreement for two, 2-year contracts with a MOU that allows reopening the 2019-21 contract, if necessary

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Truebenbach reported the Principals and Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator will present assessment results at the September meeting. He is pleased to report the scores are generally heading in the right direction.

Superintendent Truebenbach presented at the annual Chamber of Commerce picnic. During his presentation, Amber Kent gave a summary of the P & I Grant and its mission, which provided an opportunity to recruit Community Coalition members for the upcoming year.

Superintendent Truebenbach reported the policy committee is drafting a social media policy. The committee will bring the first reading of the policy to the board by the October 15 meeting.

Superintendent Truebenbach was approached by City Councilmember Dave Dillan. The City of Milaca is taking bids on painting the water tower. An American eagle will be painted on one side of the water tower and the sports wolf logo with "Home of the Wolves" on the other side.

Superintendent Truebenbach attended the committee meeting for Family TIES and was elected chairperson. He is working with Family TIES to determine what level of service will be available for Milaca, since the district is not paying for the services.

Superintendent Truebenbach accompanied Homeland Security as they conducted a school facilities assessment. Homeland Security will provide a list of continued improvements to work on throughout the school year to continue to ensure safety for our school community.

Superintendent thanked Jeremy Mikla, Steve Bistrup, Amy Goebel, and MaryJo Vickers for their work in hosting Lake ECMECC and congratulated those who were recognized in the Town and Country Best edition: Shannon Lepper, Best Teacher; Damian Patnode, Best Principal, and Milaca School District, Best School District.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda - *Motion carried*

Treasurer's Report - *Motion carried*

Resolution Filling School Board Vacancy by Appointment (Rachelle Nelson) - *Motion carried*

Resolution Relating to Determining the Necessity of Approving a New Referendum Revenue Authorization Increasing the General Education Revenue of the School District and Issuing General Obligation Bonds; Calling a Special Election Thereon - *Motion carried*

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Student Activities Account

First Reading of Policies:

- Policy 504 – Student Dress and Appearance

- Policy 616 – School District System

Accountability

- Policy 902 – Use of School District Facilities and Equipment

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

B. Baker requested a community relations meeting to discuss the election.

T. Quaintance toured the building with admin and Homeland Security. Everyone commented on how nice the building looks.

A. Struffert reported the MSBA Advocacy Tour is September 15 at 5:30 p.m.