

Chetek-Weyerhaeuser Area School District Board of Education

Special Meeting

April 14, 2021

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m. by President, Carri Traczyk.

Roll Call: Goulette, Hamilton, Haselhuhn, Olson, Reisner, Traczyk and Lentz present
Others Present: Dr. Mark Johnson, Linda Zeman, Larry Zeman, Tyler Nelson, Scott Kowalski, Koll Fjelstad, Austin Chamberlain, Paul Poppe, Bill and Charlotte Iverson, Kathy Krug, Amanda Kohonen, Grace Razim, Pete Mitchell, Keri Poppe, Stacy Malmanger, Benn Malmanger, Paula Holmbeck, John and Heidi Wise, Chelsi Jenness, Stacy Mitchell, 2 others unable to identify

Virtually Present: None

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Olson to approve the April 14, 2021 special meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearing of Visitors: Heidi Wise begins. States that she is a parent of a MS student. Out of respect she wears a mask tonight. States "help us trust you." States it's "downright dangerous" to wear masks and evidence reports benefits do not outweigh the harm. She states there are no studies done to prove the long term effects of prolonged mask wearing. She said she would not go over all the evidence that shows wearing masks are not necessary and actually harmful, but were presented to the BOE at the last meeting and are available on "our website" which is embrace their faces.org. Next, Keri Poppe spoke to the BOE. She states she does not have any children in school, but homeschools her children. She goes on to thank the BOE for their "open mindedness" with allowing homeschooled children in to play sports. She has personal concern seeing her son play basketball being masked the entire time. She says "medicine is not one size fits all". She gives an example of a nurse giving lorazepam to a patient to help them calm down it may work for one patient, but if you give it to another person it could actually have the opposite effect. While deciding about wearing a mask the whole person needs to be looked at, spiritually, psychologically, emotionally, physically. "Freedom of choice for mask wearing" is what the BOE should decide to do tonight. Charlotte Iverson speaks next. She says she has no one in the school district but she is a concerned "grandparent and great-grandparent." She brings up issues she wants the BOE to consider such as "Where do parents rights end? Who decides the issue? What about the next issue? Currently the school is "looking to take parents out of the equation." Parents need a "better say in what goes on." Paula Holmbeck continues stating she currently homeschools her children. She is "thankful to the school for allowing homeschool" into sports and some classes. She states "I love our district." "Thanks for keeping schools open." She then tells a story of her daughter being concerned about the long term effects of long term mask wearing. She wants the BOE to take the "brave road, the courageous road." Paul Poppe has children in sports programs, is a bus driver, and a Pastor at Faith Baptist Church in Chetek. He questions authority. Who has the authority to make decisions over medical issues? He states that the "Supreme Court ruled that Governor Evers" did not have the authority to mandate mask usage. He discussed that there is even a lack of effectiveness with mask wearing. Discussed other effects of masks and then thanked the BOE for their time. The last visitor to speak was Austin Chamberlin. He agreed with parental choice for mask wearing. He thanks the BOE for keeping schools open and states he's "extremely grateful" for that. He brings up the subject of having a specific coach hired to be a track MS coach this spring. He states "Personally I believe it is a tragic loss for this district" not to have this person as a coach again. He continues to say that his overall record speaks volumes.

Open Session - Information and Action:

A. Reopening Plan Updates - Roselawn and HS/MS

Revisit of Roselawn's Reopening Plan.pdf

2020-2021 CWHS-MS Finish Strong Plan.pdf

Masks are recommended by the following Health-Related Organizations:

- *World Health Organization
- *Centers for Disease Control
- *Infectious Disease Society of America
- *Association of American Medical Colleges
- *American Academy of Pediatrics
- *Marshfield Clinic
- *Mayo Clinic
- *Cleveland Clinic
- *Massachusetts General
- *Johns Hopkins Medicine
- *Wisconsin Department of Health
- *Barron County Health

Roselawn's end of year plan was presented. 73 children started the year virtually and now there are only 5 total students that remain virtual at the elementary level.

Larry Zeman addressed the BOE and audience reminding everyone that we are "trying to do what's best for the kids." He reviewed the last year's work and states he's "happy we've been open every day this school year." He compliments the students saying "students are tremendously compliant" with mask wearing. Reports some staff members have been vaccinated against COVID-19, but not all have been. He then reviews the end of year plan for the CWHS-MS.

Motion by Haselhuhn, seconded by Goulette to accept the building level plans as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Reisner to enter into the executive session of the special meeting at 6:03 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Goulette to return to the open session of the special meeting at 6:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Olson to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

A. Human Resources

1. Staffing 2021-22

- a. Michael Miller, Part-Time School Psychologist
- b. Whitney Harmon, Fourth Grade Teacher
- c. Permission to hire the following: Interventionist and Bright Beginnings (0.5 FTE) Teacher

2. Employment

- a. MS Track

Motion by Goulette, seconded by Lentz to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Korie Lentz, Clerk