

Tawas Area Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
September 14, 2020

The regular meeting of the Tawas Area Board of Education was called to order by President Freel at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 through Google Meets or a teleconferencing method.

Roll Call:

Present: Edmonds, VanderVeen, Ulman, Bruning, O'Connor, Klenow and Freel  
Absent: None  
Tardy: None

Administrators Present: Klinger, Danek, Mochty, Suttle, Bolen

**POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS**

Mr. Klinger said Mrs. Bolen will present tonight's positive highlight. Mrs. Bolen said several teachers took advantage of the professional development opportunities this summer to aid in this year's instruction. Ms. Del Rio and Mr. Livingston set up Bitmoji "classrooms" for students to view. The animated virtual classrooms had live links that the students could click on to see such things as welcome-back videos, a class syllabus and various books. It was an opportunity for students to get to know their teacher before the school year began. Mrs. Bolen said new Title I teacher Mrs. Paulson has been organizing the NWEA testing in the middle school and has utilized Google Classroom for staff to use during this process which has been very helpful.

The board thanked Mrs. Bolen for the presentation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

Mrs. Freel asked if there were any public comments on agenda or non-agenda items. Several staff members addressed the board. TAFT President, Katy Jagelewski, spoke first. She thanked the board for allowing her to speak and for listening to the staff when they have concerns. She said these have been challenging times for everyone. When the Return to Learn plan was created we knew it wasn't perfect and adjustments would need to be made along the way. She said there are more students participating in the virtual learning option than first thought and staff is doing their best to instruct these students. However, many staff are feeling overwhelmed and feel they aren't meeting the needs of the students adequately. They are asking the board to work with them to help support the staff with this issue. Mrs. LaJoice spoke and said she has taught for 24 years and doesn't feel like she is a good teacher trying to teach face to face and virtual students. She said she doesn't have enough time to do justice to either group of learners. She feels like the virtual students aren't learning, some parents are doing their children's work, and special ed students are not getting the help they need. She feels very unprepared to do her job. She asked the board to come up with some type of alternative that would give the teachers more time to provide instruction to both groups. Mrs. Grusecki spoke and said this is the most frustrating and exhausting start to the school year she has experienced. She is a veteran teacher but doesn't feel like she is being very effective. She has to spend time cleaning classroom surfaces between each class and is traveling to several classrooms to teach her classes, with one being in the commons. She said the students are fantastic but the teachers need more time to get everything done that is required of them. She hopes the board can work with them to make this situation better. Mrs. Mounts said this is her 7<sup>th</sup> year teaching and she is grateful we already had our 1:1 initiative in place as that has likely helped both students and staff navigate these times. As an English teacher she expects to take work home to read and review, but it's not usually this early in the year. She said she recently completed her Master's Degree in Instructional Technology but she hasn't been able to apply it

yet as there is no time to develop her plan. She said she is managing, but knows she is not doing her best work. She believes more time is needed for teachers to be able to service both face to face and virtual learners. Mrs. Gronda spoke next and said she has taught for 23 years and it has been a whirlwind since school started. It has been hard to keep up. Teachers might be tech savvy, but it doesn't mean they are virtual teachers. The lack of time is causing a problem for all staff to be prepared to support the virtual learners. Some teachers may need to create a video explaining the assignment before they even post the assignment and 52 minutes in a class period is not enough time. She said many teachers feel their goals are almost "unachievable" and wonder what they need to give up to get other things done. Mrs. Loucks said she is a kindergarten teacher and has 25 students, 10 of whom are virtual. She is spending a great deal of time on those 10 students between phone calls, emails and texts, as they need a lot of support. It's difficult for the students to use a Chromebook when they haven't learned the letters of the alphabet yet. She said families are also becoming frustrated with the process. Mrs. Plank said she teaches 1<sup>st</sup> grade and has taught for 11 years. She said she is the "resident tech" person at Clara Bolen and she spent a great deal of time preparing this summer for the virtual learners. She has also spent several hours helping her colleagues prepare for their virtual learners. She said from a "Mom" perspective, her kids are happy to be back in school with their friends. She said she is disappointed that 4<sup>th</sup> grade only has three sections, making the classes large. Last winter there was talk that there would be another section added but that didn't happen. Mrs. Lentz spoke as the grandmother of a virtual kindergarten student. She said as a retired teacher she is very familiar with Google classroom so she is able to work with her granddaughter. However, she doesn't know how others are doing it because she hasn't seen any training on how to use the program. She suggested the board hire and designate some "virtual teachers" that would only teach those students and allow the other teachers to instruct the face to face learners.

Mrs. Freel thanked everyone for their comments and said the board will take the comments into consideration.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Bruning, support by O'Connor to approve the special meeting minutes of August 6, 2020 as presented. There were no additions or corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion by Klenow to approve the monthly contractual and prepaid expenses for the general fund in the amount of \$741,298.66 and the lunch fund expenses in the amount of \$22,409.79. There were no sinking fund bills to be paid. She also moved to approve payment of presented bills for the general fund in the amount of \$50,342.20, as funds become available. There was no sinking fund or lunch fund bills to be paid. Motion supported by O'Connor. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

### **RECEIPT OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Klinger said he has received five letters of resignation.

First is a letter of resignation/retirement from middle school science teacher, Todd Kaems. Mr. Kaems has worked in the district for the past 24 years. His retirement effective date was August 25<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to accept Todd Kaems letter of resignation, thank him for his years of service and wish him well in his retirement. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger received a letter of resignation from middle school literature teacher, Mrs. Wynne Erickson. Mrs. Erickson taught in the district for the past 14 years. Her resignation was effective

August 19<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Ulman, support by Klenow to accept Wynne Erickson's letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger received a letter of resignation from elementary school social worker, Danielle Whalen. Mrs. Whalen has worked in the district for the past two years and her resignation will be effective September 25, 2020. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to accept Danielle Whalen's letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger received a letter of resignation from middle school educational assistant, Thomas Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert has worked in the district since last October and his resignation was effective August 25<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to accept Thomas Gilbert's letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger also received a letter of resignation from athletic director, Matt Unke. He has served in this position for more than three years. His resignation was effective on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to accept Matt Unke's letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS & REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Klinger said he is presenting two teachers for hire tonight. Mr. Suttle is recommending Ms. Stephanie Graves to fill the middle school science vacancy that occurred when Mr. Kaems retired. Ms. Graves is a graduate of SVSU with a major in Integrated Science. She comes to us with excellent references and was the top candidate for this position. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to hire Stephanie Graves as a middle school science teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Suttle is also recommending Mr. Pete Scott to fill the middle school 7<sup>th</sup> grade literature position that became vacant when Mrs. Erickson resigned. Mr. Scott holds a Master's of Education in Literacy and a Bachelor's degree in English and social studies. He has 9 years of teaching experience and comes highly recommended. Motion by O'Connor, support by Klenow to hire Pete Scott as a middle school literature teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said Ms. Amanda Jungquist is being recommended for hire as a long-term substitute teacher at the high school in special education. She will be filling Sally Ryan's position and will be co-teaching with highly qualified English teachers. This position will continue to be posted at the universities throughout the year as we try to find a credentialed candidate. Ms. Jungquist has been accepted at SVSU and is taking education courses in special education and is taking an alternative route to work towards becoming certified. Motion by O'Connor, support by Bruning to hire Amanda Jungquist as a long-term substitute teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said Mrs. Danek is recommending Ms. Monica Peach as a K-4 school social worker to replace Danielle Whalen whose resignation is effective September 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Peach will also provide services to our 9-12 students with IEP needs. Ms. Peach has a Master's of Social Work and is fully endorsed as a school social worker. She has many experiences in the social work field including in the school environment. Motion by Bruning, support by O'Connor to hire Monica Peach as a school social worker. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Martin Couch is recommending Mr. Johnny Crouse for hire to fill the current custodial vacancy which occurred when Shelly McArdle retired. Mr. Crouse has worked in custodial/maintenance for the past 17 years and is skilled in plumbing, painting, floor maintenance

and snow removal. Motion by Bruning, support by O'Connor to hire Johnny Crouse as a custodian. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Jan Sancrant has two 3-hour cook's helper positions to fill. Mrs. Sancrant is recommending Ms. Janet Macha to fill one of the positions. Janet has several years of experience in school food service and will be a great asset to the program. Motion by O'Connor, support by Bruning to hire Janet Macha as a cook's helper. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Sancrant is also recommending Ms. Terri Trinklein as a cook's helper. Terri also has years of experience in school food service and working with children and is familiar with the duties and responsibilities of the position. Motion by O'Connor, support by Ulman to hire Terri Trinklein as a cook's helper. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Suttle is recommending Mrs. Jennifer Dzuris be hired to fill the vacant special education educational assistant position created when Mr. Gilbert resigned. Jennifer has a Bachelor's degree in business and has spent the last two years' substitute teaching. Motion by Bruning, support by Klenow to hire Jennifer Dzuris as a special education educational assistant. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said Ms. Jen Busch is being recommended to EduStaff for hire as the freshman volleyball coach. Ms. Busch is a Tawas graduate and has experience and a passion for the game. Motion by Ulman, support by O'Connor to recommend Jen Busch to EduStaff for hire as the freshman volleyball coach. Motion carried unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Committee Reports – Mr. Klinger said the personnel committee met on August 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss concerns about quarantining protocols and the effects it could have on staff sick days. The committee agreed to allow Mr. Klinger the ability to draft a letter of agreement for all staff to grant them a "Tawas COVID-19 Quarantine Sick Bank" which would provide all employees 10 days for a documented quarantine. They also established how to use these days. Staff will use the Families First Coronavirus Response Act paid sick leave provided by the Department of Labor first. If these days are exhausted, then staff can draw days from the Tawas COVID-19 Bank. If all of these days are used in full, staff will then use their own district provided days established in their contract. Mrs. Freel added that the committee agreed that staff could run through sick days quickly if they were required to quarantine for any length of time. She said these 10 days are only being awarded on a temporary basis, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are only in place for this year.

Legislative Report – Mr. Klinger said he will discuss more legislative information under New Business when he speaks on the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Cindy Scott, CPA, from Stephenson & Co. P.C. presented the audit report for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Cindy began by referring to the Audit Opinion letter and stated that the district received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level of assurance and best report available. She then referred to the Management's Discussion and Analysis which recaps the current year activity and encouraged the board to read through it when they get a chance. She then went on to the Government-Wide Financial Statements which combines all funds of the district. These statements incorporate all long-term activity such as fixed assets, long term debt, etc. She noted

that these are the only statements where the GASB 68 Net Pension Liability and GASB 75 Net OPEB Liability are recorded. The district's ending net position is (\$9,264,224) because of the liability that is required to be recorded. Most districts in the state are in this same situation. This does not mean the district is in a deficit situation. She said there were big changes from last year due to GASB 84 and the COVID closure. The net pension liability increased \$2,296,961 based on the proportionate share assigned to us by the state and the net OPEB liability decreased \$361,763 also based on the proportionate share assigned to us.

Mrs. Scott said the fund financial statements are made up of two major funds, including the general fund and sinking fund. The non-major funds include the lunch fund, the student activity fund and the 2015 school building and sites bond fund. She said the general fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$3,460,989. Of that amount \$1,727,781 is unassigned which equates to about 14.54% of our operating expenditures. She said we have \$1,267,415 in assigned fund balance, \$415,000 in committed expenditures, and \$50,793 in non-spendable funds. She said the 2015 school building and sites bond monies are 100% restricted. The lunch fund is made up of non-spendable and assigned monies. The sinking fund ended the year with a balance of \$107,847. The student activity fund ended the year with a balance of \$276,987, which are restricted funds. Mrs. Scott displayed various charts and graphs comparing the last three years' revenues and expenses which were very consistent from year to year. She said approximately 83.14% of our expenses are made up of salaries and benefits, which is typical for schools.

Mrs. Scott referred to the Notes to Financial Statements. She said there was a change in accounting principal GASB 84 this year. The district was required to implement GASB 84, Fiduciary Activities, which improves guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. Implementation of this standard resulted in a prior period adjustment to move \$246,433 in previous Fiduciary Fund assets into the Governmental Funds of the district. She indicated that for 2022, the district will be required to implement GASB 87 regarding Leases. It will eliminate capital leases versus operating leases. All leases that exceed one year are required to be recorded as a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset. The district will need to consider adjusting the capitalization policy accordingly.

She indicated there were several commitments at year end which included curriculum purchases in the amount of \$141,784. There was also one subsequent event on July 13, 2020, which was the approval of a purchase in the amount of \$75,000 for personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies in response to COVID-19. There was also a prior period adjustment due to GASB 84 which increased fund balance and net position by \$246,433. The required pension and OPEB information shows the plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability of 60.31% and the plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total OPEB liability was 48.46%.

Cindy said the supplementary information pages in the audit shows the general fund revenues came in within 4.75% and the expenses came in within 0.0005% of the budgeted numbers. She said that shows excellent budgeting practices by the Central Office staff. The goal is to have less than a 5% variance.

She said the Single Audit had no major program findings. The Management Letter is made up of two appendixes. There were no comments in the first appendix. The second appendix shows no material weakness, no significant deficiency and no written matters to be addressed. There was one verbal comment regarding credit card documentation. There was one invoice that was unable to be located from an individual that left the district at the end of the year.

She asked the board if they had any questions, which they did not, and they thanked Mrs. Scott for her presentation.

Motion by Ulman support by O'Connor to accept the 2019-20 audit report as presented. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said the governor signed House Bill 5913 into law as Public Act 149 on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Section 98a states that in order to receive state aid for 2020-21, districts must provide for instruction under an extended COVID-19 learning plan that has been approved by an intermediate district or authorizing body. The plan does not replace the COVID-19 preparedness and response plan; it is an additional plan that includes new assurances and sections on educational goals, instructional delivery, grading and equitable access. The educational goals must be established no later than September 15<sup>th</sup> and submitted in their plan to the ISD no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> for approval. The ISD will transmit the approved plan to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Treasurer. The approved plan will be accessible through the transparency reporting link on the district's website. The district will make a report available on the transparency reporting link concerning progress made in meeting the educational goals no later than February 1, 2021 for goals expected to be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school for the 2020-21 school year for the goals expected would be achieved by the end of the school year. The district will also report on: benchmark assessments, equitable access to technology, ensure that students with disabilities will be provided equitable access to instruction and accommodations, ensure that two 2-way interactions occur between a pupil and the teacher, or at least one of the pupil's teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled. The district will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each board meeting where it re-confirms how instruction is being delivered and will make those rates available through the transparency link on the website each month for the 2020-21 school year. Title programs, CTE, Early Middle College, dual enrollment and AP offerings will continue to be available to students. Mr. Klinger asked if there were any questions. Mr. VanderVeen asked how we will be able to monitor the level of understanding of our virtual students. Mr. Klinger said we will be able to assess the students regardless of the learning option they have chosen. He said we are currently trying to address teacher concerns of delivering instruction to both face to face and virtual learners. We are planning to hold a virtual open house this week to assist students and families with online learning. We are using one platform, Google classroom, in an attempt to bring a balance between face to face and virtual learners. We are currently looking at a potential plan to see if some things can be shifted around in the schedule that would provide more time for our staff. Mr. Klinger said when he and the personnel committee met with union representation they indicated they didn't want to open the contract. He said on September 4<sup>th</sup>, three administrators met with five union representatives to discuss ideas that might help ease some of the time issues, while attempting to find the least disruptive solution to the schedule.

Motion by Ulman, support by Bruning to approve the extended COVID-19 learning plan as presented. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said that Mrs. Mochty has provided an updated invoice for our science resources. It was discovered that the company gave us a middle school resource quote and then shipped middle school resources, when they should have been high school resources. The company informed us that the appropriate high school resources were \$1,068.93 more than the original quote. The company corrected the issue and worked with us in other areas to keep the increase as low as possible by providing free shipping and other free resources. Motion by O'Connor, support by Edmonds to approve the resources as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said since we are offering a virtual learning option to our students this year we need to update our course description listing to reflect that these courses are being offered. Language clarifying the circumstances and means in which we provide virtual learning is provided in the listing. Motion by O'Connor, support by Ulman to approve the course description list as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Governor Whitmer signed Executive Order 176 which reopened Michigan's gyms and pools in regions where they had remained closed and allowing for organized sports practices and competitions to resume in those regions, subject to strict protections meant to limit spread of the virus. Mr. Klinger met with former Athletic Director, Mr. Unke, on September 4th to discuss his concerns about discrepancies within the executive order, MHSAA, and MDHHS. At that time, Mr. Unke was recommending we not proceed with fall sports without further clarification in several areas like legalities, liability, and providing a safe environment for the student-athletes to compete. At that time, Mr. Klinger believed a special meeting might need to be called to explore the information Mr. Unke provided to determine if the District wanted to hold fall sports. After consulting with district legal counsel and other stakeholders throughout the day on Tuesday, September 8th, we determined that we had information to move forward holding our athletic programs. It was also determined that within our existing COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan approved on August 6th by the Board of Education, we had the support necessary to hold our athletic programs. On Wednesday, September 9th, Mr. Klinger met with Mr. Unke concerning the increased time it was going to take to establish safe parameters to host events. He asked Mr. Unke to provide some information documenting how much more time he believed was necessary to help provide a safe environment. Mr. Unke followed up later that day to share that to help mitigate COVID-19 during events, there would be a need for additional hours added to each season totaling 372 hours. At the end of that discussion, Mr. Unke submitted his letter of resignation stating he was uncomfortable taking on the responsibility for hosting large events. On Thursday, September 10th, administration reached out to former Athletic Director, Mrs. Lynn Kosto, about providing the district support for this new vacancy. Mrs. Kosto is willing to help the Athletic Department until October 14th on an interim basis as we search for a new Athletic Director. Mr. Klinger is recommending that the Board consider providing the hours mentioned above, which will be covered through CARES funds, and can be adjusted as needed. He said some CARES funds have already been used for food service, maintenance and transportation expenses that have been directly related to COVID-19, and this would qualify in the same way. Mrs. O'Connor asked if the CARES funds are restricted. Mr. Klinger said they are in some cases, but they can be used to pay salaries directly related to the COVID health emergency mitigation. He explained that the athletic director position is currently scheduled for 1100 hours for the year. These 372 hours would be in addition to the 1100, so a total of 1,472 for the year. Mr. Unke's recommendation included adding 111 hours to the fall season, 109 hours to the winter season and 152 hours to the spring season. Mr. VanderVeen asked if the AD posting is for a part-time position. Mr. Klinger said it is still a part-time position. Motion by Klenow, support by Ulman to approve the additional hours needed to help provide a safe athletic environment while providing athletic programming. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Klinger said the school year is off to a good start. Students are excited to be back and staff have said it's great seeing students again. The advanced planning helped prepare for many logistics that has made the transition back to school go smoothly. Mr. Klinger thanked everyone for all they have done to help support our reopening including educational assistants, transportation, maintenance, technology and food service departments. He also thanked the teaching staff as they continue to go above and beyond in supporting both our virtual and face to face students. He said we will need to continue to adapt and adjust as new challenges arise. We are continuing to monitor our quarantine rooms for functionality. We are also monitoring mask

breaks and encouraging staff to provide those when possible. The other challenge being worked on is the increased demands on the staff with communication responsibilities. Administration met with union representatives on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to listen to their concerns. Our teachers are working diligently to try to meet the new requirements for pupil accounting documentation, supporting digital navigation for parents and virtual learners and ensuring the curriculum support is being provided. We also surveyed our staff to get feedback on creating an after school event to support our virtual families with their digital navigation skills. Mr. Klinger said the beginning of our year began with professional development regarding several types of technology tools. Staff has the ability to choose the tools that work best for them and implement them in a variety of ways. These experiences helped provide and prepare them for our virtual open house as well as expanding their skill sets in technology. He said we will continue to work through the challenges we encounter as we move through the year.

Mr. Klinger said the district has received USDA funding through the extension of the summer feeding Meet Up to Eat Up program. This program allows us to serve up to 7 free breakfasts and lunches to all students in our community under the age of 18. Mr. Klinger has worked with food service director, Jan Sancrant, to build a plan for families to access these meals through the school. Currently, all virtual students are preordering their meals and we want to continue this process. Our face to face students are eligible to receive meals for the weekends if they choose to. This is a reimbursement program and meals are being distributed curbside every Thursday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The program is scheduled to run through the end of December or until funding runs out. Mrs. Ulman asked who is helping distribute the food on Thursdays. Mr. Klinger said Mrs. Sancrant and the food service staff are doing that. Mrs. Klenow asked if we know how many students we might plan to provide for in the distribution program. Mr. Klinger said we really don't know that number yet, but we have had around 25 virtual students already preorder.

### **INFORMATION & PROPOSALS**

Administration – Mrs. Danek said Clara Bolen is off to a great start and she is proud of the job her staff is doing. She said they are providing one mask-free recess per day and many classrooms are able to maintain 6-foot spacing while the children are seated which allows them to have a mask break. She said picture day is tomorrow. They are problem solving and making adjustments as needed. Mrs. Bolen said students in the middle school are excited to be back in school and the staff is doing amazing things. NWEA testing is currently going on and we will be anxious to see where the students are academically. There will be a virtual open house for our virtual learners and their families Wednesday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Mochty thanked the people leaving the district and welcomed the new hires. She said the staff is working very hard and their efforts are appreciated. She said the Powderpuff game and Homecoming dance have been postponed for now but they are looking to see if there are other activities that we might be able to provide. She said the digital resources have been very helpful, especially this year, and thanked the board for providing those. Mr. Suttle said there are 351 middle school students, 88 of which are virtual, and 392 high school students, 91 of which are virtual. Sports are again underway and we expect to start after school tutoring very soon. He thanked the staff for the great job they are doing. Mr. Klinger said FEMA used the high school parking lot in August to support flood victims in our area and 34 families were assisted. He said there has been discussion about extending the provision that high school students may fulfill part of the foreign language requirement needed for graduation by taking a CTE or an advanced fine arts course. That legislation was set to expire but he is hearing that an extension may be granted.

From the Board – Mrs. Edmonds asked if the personnel committee will meet with the teacher representatives before a recommendation comes to the whole board. Mrs. Freel said the personnel committee will meet to work towards a resolution with the teaching staff. Mrs. Edmonds thanked



the teachers for sharing their concerns with the board. Mr. VanderVeen also thanked the teachers for bringing their concerns to the board and he expects a committee meeting will be scheduled soon. He said he is hearing the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are unable to take a mask break in their classroom because the class numbers are too large. He asked Mr. Klinger if we can provide funding for staff and assistants to clean the classrooms between classes. He said he feels there should be a budget committee meeting soon so we have a better handle on where we really are financially since the proration didn't occur as was originally planned. He feels like we are in a better place than we first thought, and we should take a look at where the numbers are now and adjust the budget accordingly. Mrs. Bruning thanked the teachers for working hard and doing their best in these trying times. She welcomed the new hires and thanked Mrs. Kosto for stepping in to serve as the interim AD. Mrs. Klenow thanked the outgoing staff and welcomed the new hires. She thanked Mrs. McCoy and Mrs. Huitema for doing a wonderful job with the audit. She thanked the teachers for coming forward and she believes we can work together to make them even more successful. She said she would like to see the high school students get mask breaks throughout the day. Mrs. Ulman thanked Mrs. Bolen for the positive highlight showing the digital options some of the teachers are using. She thanked the teachers for coming forward and expects we can work together to come up with a solution. She welcomed the new hires and thanked Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Huitema and Mrs. Scott for their great work with the audit. She hopes there may still be some type of activities planned for homecoming week. She thanked Mrs. Sancrant and her staff for their work with the food service distribution program and will be anxious to hear the results of the NWEA testing. She thanked everyone for their hard work in so many areas and said she is truly grateful for everyone's efforts. Mrs. O'Connor welcomed the new hires and thanked those that have decided it was best for them to retire or leave during these extraordinary times. She said last week she was very disappointed with the unnecessary comments made on social media and wants to give a special thank you to Matt Unke who performed his job for all the right reasons. He cares for the students, the district and this community. She wished him the best. Mrs. Freel said we can rise to the challenge and work together to find the best solution during these times.

### **ADVANCE PLANNING**

Mr. Klinger said he will be reaching out to various committee members to schedule some meetings in the very near future.

Motion by Klenow, support by O'Connor to take a short recess before going into executive session at 8:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ulman, support by Bruning to go into executive session at 9:01 for a student discipline hearing. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ulman, support by Bruning to return to open session at 9:40 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Klenow, support by VanderVeen to expel student 2020-21-#1 for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. The student may petition the board at the August 9, 2021 board meeting to return to school for the 2021-22 school year. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Klenow, support by O'Connor to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.