

FOND DU LAC BOARD OF EDUCATION
72 West Ninth Street
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
October 23, 2023

CONVENE	Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Moment of Reflection/Pledge of Allegiance President Schreiter called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5 p.m.
ROLL CALL	Members present: Godfrey, Henschel, Hoerth, Moder, Pennau, Uselmann, Schreiter. Administrative Staff members present: Fleig, Gerlach, Lombardo, Reichenberger, Steinbarth, Marien, Williams. A Moment of Reflection preceded the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by the Board.
ANNOUNCEMENTS/ COMMUNICATIONS	President Schreiter announced that following adjournment of the regular meeting, the Board will convene in a workshop to discuss a funding plan for the baseball and softball fields, followed by an executive session to discuss negotiations with the Educational Support Professionals Association (ESPA) as provided for in Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e).
PUBLIC COMMENT	Dannie Mor, 247 E. Bank St., referenced his personal writings at Wordpress. He stated that a class on comparative religion from an Eastern universalist point of view must be made available for free and without excessive supervision to students. He cataloged events since 2019 such as COVID, George Floyd, climate change, and a number of countries and terrorist organizations as reasons and quoted WIDPI social studies standards. Jim Hess, W3678 Sunny Rd., Eden, held a handmade green sign quoting the Reporter about test score results improving. Then he held a pink sign about math scores decreasing. He suspects collusion between the media and education establishment' to deceive the public. He cited Ripon receiving an award but decreasing scores. He blamed teachers learning about DEI and also Jill Underly and then quoted scripture and worried that students were supporting Hamas because of Planned Parenthood.
APPROVAL OF CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA	MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Godfrey, to approve the consent agenda as follows: A. <u>Chief of Finance and Operations:</u> 1. <u>Resignation</u> – Hannah Chancellor, special education teacher at Waters Elementary School, effective October 23, 2023. 2. <u>Employment Recommendation – Limited Term Contract</u> – For the 2023-24 teacher contract year: Andrea Schultz, .75 FTE school counselor at STEM Academy, at Level 4, effective October 23, 2023. MOTION CARRIED, ayes 7-0.
INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS	
Chief of Finance and Operations Consider Administrator Retirement	MOTION BY Godfrey, seconded by Moder, to approve the resignation of John Williams, Director of Facility Services and Safety, effective at the end of the day on December 30, 2023, and that the Board of Education express its deep appreciation for his many contributions and dedicated service to the students and staff of the District these past 38 years. MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0.
Consider Approval of 2023-24 Tax Levy	Mike Gerlach reiterated that all pieces were now in place to finalize the tax levy and the board needed to take action by November 1 by law. The final mill rate will be \$6.46 per \$1000 of value, which is up \$.12 from last year. The state finalized its general aid to the district, and there had been some unpaid levy from last year. Property valuations are up. This is the first year in quite some time that there is an increase in the mill rate. MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Godfrey, to approve the tax levy for 2023-2024 as follows:

Fund 10	\$27,364,035
Fund 39	\$ 6,192,025
Fund 80	\$ 1,695,588
Prior Year Levy Chargeback	\$ 6,225
Total Levy	\$35,257,873

MOTION CARRIED, ayes 7-0.

Consider Approval of 2023-24 Budget

Mike Gerlach explained year over year changes being due to referendum activity. Special education expenses are reimbursed by the state at a rate of 33%. Questions and comments reviewed the voucher system as well as open enrollment between public school districts.

MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Godfrey, to approve the 2023-2024 total revenue budget of \$127,391,957 for all funds and a total expenditure budget of \$131,255,545 for all funds.

2023-24 Budget			
Fund and Description		Revenues	Expenditures
10	General	\$96,584,979	\$99,952,539
21	Special Revenue Trust	\$203,300	\$801,354
27	Special Education	\$16,092,742	\$16,092,742
38	Non-Referendum Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -
39	Referendum Approved Debt Service	\$6,193,025	\$6,234,525
49	Referendum Capital Projects	\$100	\$8,963
50	Food Service	\$3,718,691	\$3,718,691
73	Employee Benefit Trust Fund	\$2,629,207	\$2,476,818
80	Community Services	\$1,969,913	\$1,969,913
Total All Funds		\$127,391,957	\$131,255,545

MOTION CARRIED, ayes 7-0.

Consider Approval of the District's Offer to Purchase 406 Linden Street With Authorization for the Superintendent to Execute and Deliver Closing Documents Per the Offer

Dr. Fleig stated that the opportunity provides both additional safety and a larger footprint for a more adequate entrance to the recreational area behind Riverside.

MOTION BY Godfrey, seconded by Uselmann, to approve the following offer to purchase:

WHEREAS, 406 Linden Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin (the "Property") is contiguous with the District's Riverside Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the personal representative of the deceased owner of the Property is offering the Property for sale; and

WHEREAS, Board of Education has determined that it would be in the District's interest to own the Property because of its close proximity to Riverside Elementary School;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education does hereby approve the District's purchase of the Property, together with all improvements and fixtures relating thereto, for the purchase price of \$45,000.00 (subject to the relevant closing adjustments and prorations, all in accordance with the terms and conditions of the WB-11 Residential Offer to Purchase dated September 27, 2023, as executed by the District's Superintendent (the "Offer");

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary and appropriate to close on the Property in accordance to the Offer; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent or his designee is also authorized to contract for the razing of the Property.
MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0.

Consider Approval of Emergency
Preparedness Manual, Revised
August 2023

It was shared that the effort to be prepared and keep students safe takes a lot of teamwork and diligence.
MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Moder, to approve the District Emergency Preparedness Manual, Revised August 2023, in accordance with 2017 Wisconsin Act 143 and state statutes contained within the legislation.
MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0.

Accept the Written
Safety Drill Evaluations

Uselmann mentioned that the link for the safety video may need a look; it appeared to be dead.
MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Godfrey, to accept, for purposes of Board review at this meeting, the written drill evaluations from each District school submitted by Director of Facility Services and Safety, John Williams, in accordance with 2017 Wisconsin Act 143 and state statutes contained within the legislation.
MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0.

Board Approval
Consider Approval of
Fond du Lac High School
Field Trip to Italy and Greece
From June 15, 2025, to
June 25, 2025

Kim Braatz was present to review the trip and share the itinerary. Milan, Rome, Athens, will be highlights of the 11 day trip through Explorica meant to increase cultural awareness and links to history for students. Students have the opportunity to participate in fundraising activities to defray costs and there is financial aid available. About 72 students traveled on the most recent trip.
MOTION BY Godfrey, seconded by Hoerth, to approve the Fond du Lac High School field trip to Italy and Greece, June 15-25, 2025. MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0.

BOARD/ADMINISTRATOR
REPORTS
Superintendent
2023-24 District Scorecard

Dr. Fleig gave an overview of district scorecard results, focusing on the Achievement Pillar, pertaining to the newly released district test scores. The public can view the scorecard on the district website under Strategic Plan information. Highlights included a five-point increase in reading proficiency grades 3-8 (goal was 3). The middle school showed more gain but started at a lower point. The ACT moved up one point for proficiency, and the goal is to double that goal for the next year. In mathematics 3-8, the new targets are getting closer to ½ than where they were (around ⅓) just a few years ago. At the high school there is also progress, and goals are larger than before based on movement seen.
To clarify, these are all in-district goals and reports, different from the state report cards which will be revealed later in the fall.

Board Members
Student/Staff Activities

Henschel: girls' volleyball playoffs, football playoffs; Uselmann: football game senior night, state band competition and FHS parent teacher conferences; Godfrey: Pier reading visit, Woodworth gym visit, football playoffs

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jen Lucas, 7460 Winnebago Dr., stated that the voucher program is working to decrease scores because they use standards based grading and poor reading programs and parents are leaving. She stated phonics and alphabet should start in preschool so kids can read right away. She is concerned that Neola policy 5310 might be part of the emergency plan, and falsely claimed that the policy allows children to be injected against parent wishes. She talked about the ability to sue over 'vaccine injuries.' She spoke about traveling with teacher trips and volunteering.

ADJOURNMENT TO A
WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS A
FUNDING PLAN FOR BASEBALL
AND SOFTBALL FIELDS,
FOLLOWED BY AN EXECUTIVE
SESSION TO DISCUSS
NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION
(ESPA) AS PROVIDED FOR
IN WISCONSIN STATUTES
19.85(1)(e)

MOTION BY Henschel, seconded by Godfrey, that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting and convene in a workshop to discuss a funding plan for baseball and softball field facility improvements, followed by an executive session to discuss negotiations with the Educational Support Professionals Association (ESPA) as provided for in Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e). MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0. The regular meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

WORKSHOP

CALL TO ORDER

President Schreiter called a workshop of the Board of Education to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Godfrey, Henschel, Hoerth, Moder, Pennau, Uselmann, Schreiter.
Administrative Staff members present: Fleig, Gerlach, Lombardo, Steinbarth.

DISCUSS FUNDING PLAN
FOR BASEBALL AND
SOFTBALL FACILITY
IMPROVEMENTS

The board discussed a funding plan and priorities for the baseball and softball fields. They spoke about possibly paring back the previously presented plan, which came in over \$5M in cost, back to just improving 3 fields: Varsity & JV at Woodworth and the girls' softball at the high school. This would include turf for all along with fencing and regrading. The board would be interested in knowing if community groups would be interested in making donations, given that the board would possibly consider seeding the effort at \$1.5 million or so from fund balance. This is not an action item currently. Dr. Fleig will check into the community funding options at board direction and report back in December.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Uselmann, seconded by Moder, that the Board of Education adjourn the workshop and convene in an executive session to discuss negotiations with the Educational Support Professionals Association (ESPA) as provided for in Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e):
“(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.”

MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0. The workshop adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

President Schreiter called an executive session of the Board of Education to order at 7:13 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Godfrey, Henschel, Hoerth, Moder, Pennau, Uselmann, Schreiter.
Administrative Staff members present: Fleig, Gerlach, Lombardo, Steinbarth.

DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
ASSOCIATION (ESPA)

The Board discussed negotiations with the Educational Support Professionals Association (ESPA).

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Moder, seconded by Pennau, that the Board of Education adjourn the executive session. MOTION CARRIED, ayes, 7-0. The executive session adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Linda Uselmann, Secretary/Clerk