

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PRENTICE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Tuesday, January 2, 2024 – 6:00 PM  
Prentice School Library

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Erickson at 6:00 PM.

Board members present: Adams, Blomberg, Erickson, Gierman, Gladson, Gruber, Isaacson and Pierson.

Board member Palmquist was absent.

Erickson started the discussion regarding running of the operational referendum. Handed out was a sheet showing three scenarios, Recurring 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 million dollars. Emailed to all by Wendy Sielaff were scenarios showing 1.7, 1.8 and 1.9 million dollars. Discussed were all the scenarios. All of the scenarios show budgets in the red eventually. All are reflecting the current trend of declining enrollment. There is no way of knowing if that will continue. Thoughts are that it probably won't continue. Brought up was looking for efficiencies in the budget, this has been done and will continue. Thoughts were also asking for an amount that will cover what dollars are needed. Mr. Bergman commented that the depleted Fund Balance needs to be restored. Consensus seemed to be to go with the recurring option. Key is educating the public regarding the needs for the referendum. The tax levy now has been declining for the last six years. Wendy said when a dollar amount is selected she and Mr. Bergman can help with preparing documentation to distribute to the public showing the Districts needs. If the referendum didn't pass it could be run again in August or November of 2024.

Motion Gladson, second Adams to run a 1.9 million dollar recurring operational referendum. 3 yes, 5 no the motion failed for lack of majority.

Motion Gruber, second Blomberg to run a 1.8 million dollar recurring operational referendum. Carried

Erickson started the discussion regarding the search for a District Administrator. He said some options could be using WASB (WI Assn. School Boards) working in conjunction with WASDA (WI Assn. District Administrators). The Phillips District used CESA 12 which has a hiring firm. Could do it ourselves using WECAN (WI Education Career Access Network). Possibilities could be to hire an interim Administrator or go for a permanent position from the start. After discussions the board favored hiring a permanent Administrator from the start and doing the process in house listing the position on WECAN.

Motion Adams, second Gladson to advertise the District Administrators position on WECAN. Carried

Mr. Bergman and Erickson will get together tomorrow to draw up and post the application. Will ask for applications be submitted by January 31, 2024. It would be good if someone could be brought onboard while Mr. Bergman is still here. Mr. Bergman said most Administrators contracts start on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He will be on vacation in June. In the past the entire board had conducted interviews, this will also be done this time.

Motion Blomberg, second Adams to adjourn. Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darrell E. Pierson, Board of Education Clerk