

**CEDAR MOUNTAIN I.S.D. #2754
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Conference Room, Morgan, MN
5:00 p.m. March 18, 2024**

Chairperson Sullvain called the meeting to order at 5:00P.M. with members Sorenson, Christensen. Sherman, Sandgren, Heibel and Rose present. Also present were DeWitte, Riebel, Garms, L.Hacker, Robinson, Fisk-Wanzek, Lorang, R. Krenz, C. Jacobson, G. Helget, J. Helget and S.Seifert.

Additions and corrections to the agenda: Under action items, remove a. iii - Angela Ward: Cougar Cub Childcare Aid. Add a. iii - M. Freitag and A. Kerkhoff as Co-head FB Coaches for SY 24/25.

Acknowledgement of Visitors and Special Presentations: Ehlers was present to review the sale of the bond. Also present was Courtney Jacobson, parent of a preschooler. She addressed the board with a letter in regards to the preschool program's changes for SY 24/25.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Heibel, passed unanimously to accept the agenda and the additions and corrections, minutes of the regular school board meeting on Feb. 12th and the special board meetings on Feb. 21st and March 4th, February Bills and the following donations: \$300 CPAC for Preschool and Pizza Night, \$450 CPAC for Winter Formal, \$20 in memory of Clair Fischer from Alumni Scholarship and \$20 in memory of Shirley Potter from Alumni Scholarship. This includes A through D.

Elementary Dean of Students Report by Ms. Julia Garms: Appreciation: The Community Play was held in Morgan on Sunday, March 3. When the power went out Casey quickly came over and helped us continue to perform. Also, the Sullivan and Mathiowetz families brought in generators for the lights. Book Blast was a success. SALT came over to play math bingo with students. READ ACt - this is the new reading program going into effect next year. We are creating a place for MCA testing in the elementary. See handout for full report.

MS/HS Principal Report by Mrs. Misty Riebel: Appreciation: Sub rate of pay increased has been an outstanding thing helping our current staff with a lesser rate of burnout as well as an increase in their mental health and stability within their role while they are able to spend time focusing on their own roles and responsibilities. We are at the end of the 3rd quarter this week. Programming and switching to a 7-period day, looking at how students need courses and structures for the MS/HS has a significant impact on the number of elective courses we are able to offer in the most beneficial way to the learners we serve. See handout for full report.

Activities Director Report by Mr. Jeremy Robinson: Thank you to the players, coaches, families and supporters for a positive 2023-24 winter season for basketball players, dancers, wrestlers and gymnasts. Spring sports are underway. CPAC is moving forward with the purchase of a Daktronics video board for the gymnasium. Tomahawk Conference AD and admin meetings were held in Sleepy Eye on March 6. MNIAAA Conference (State AD) is March 26-28 in St. Cloud. See handout for full report.

Superintendent Report by Kimberly DeWitte: Appreciation: Thank you to Erik Root for an awesome band concert. Thank you to the elementary team that put together Kindergarten Connection Night. The teacher evaluation committee has completed the process of putting a new document together and we are asking for board approval this evening. Preschool for the remainder of the 23-24 school year and beyond. See handout for full report.

Motion by Sandgren, second by Rose, passed unanimously to approve the hiring, pending background checks, of the following: James Koupal - part time custodian, Luke Gohnert - part time custodian, Mike Freitag and Adam Kerkhoff as Co-head FB Coaches and Veronica Schwartz - Agriculture Teacher for 24/25 SY.

Motion by Christensen, second by Sherman, passed unanimously to approve the Teacher Evaluation process for the 24/25 SY. See handout for full report.

Motion by Heibel, second by Sorenson, passed unanimously to approve the Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP). See handout for full report.

Motion by Christensen, second by Sandgren, passed unanimously to approve the resignation of Alycia Rohrbeck-Cougar Cub Childcare.

Motion by Rose, second by Sherman, passed unanimously to approve the resignation of Elizabeth Hynes-MS/HS Social Studies.

Motion by Sherman, second by Heibel, passed unanimously to approve the resignation of Mikayla Rudenick-preschool para - effective 3/27/24. Several board members gave their thanks and appreciation for all the great things she did for the CM preschool program.

Motion by Heibel, second by Rose, passed, with Sullivan abstaining from the vote, to approve the resignation of Sarah Sullivan-Preschool teacher - effective 3/29/24. Board members are forever grateful for all the time and commitment that Sarah put into the preschool program. She will be missed.

Motion by Rose, second by Sorenson, voting was done by roll call, with all voting yes, passed unanimously to approve the resolution ratifying the issuance and sale of bonds. See handout for full report.

Committee Reports: The Childcare Committee met with Jody Rose last week. Topics of conversation included: letter to preschoolers, From The Top newsletter - an article from the daycare would be great, FB posts, share staff with school/daycare.

The next regular board meeting will be April 15, 2024 at 7:00 pm, in Franklin.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

**CEDAR MOUNTAIN SCHOOL #2754
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
CONFERENCE ROOM, MORGAN, MN**

March 26, 2024 - 5:00 pm

Google Meet

Chairperson Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:00 with the following members present in Morgan: Rose, Christensen and Sorenson. Sandgren and Heibel were present over their phones. The following were present through Google Meet: DeWitte, Riebel, Garms, C. Hoffmann, L.Hacker, R. Krenz, Lorang, Pietig and Johnson. Apex: Corey Schlosser and Robert Krukoski. Motion by Sorenson, second by Rose to approve the agenda as stated. There were no additions or corrections.

Acknowledgement of Visitors and Special Presentations: Apex presented the single use bathroom remodel at the Franklin Elementary building. There was much discussion about the grant and remodel of the bathrooms. School Board members were concerned about going down in the number of toilets for the children and the amount of time that it will take for a class to have bathroom break. They want to hear from the teachers so Julia will include this in the survey that she's currently started. With much discussion there was a motion by Christensen, second by Sorenson, voting was done by roll call, with all voting yes. Passed unanimously to keep the process of the grant for the bathroom moving forward and entering into a contract with Apex. Heibel and Sandgren were unable to vote because they were in the meeting by phone only. See handout for full report.

Motion by Christensen, second by Rose, voting was done by roll call with all voting yes, passed unanimously to approve the PreSchool Transportation policy for the remainder of the school year. This will amend the current policy. See handout for full report.

The next regular meeting will be on April 15, 2024 in Franklin at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm.

Enrollment

- Preschool
 - 3's - 18
 - 4's - 17
- K - 29
- 1 - 32
- 2 - 31
- 3 - 29
- 4 - 26
- 5 - 23
 - Total Enrollment - 205

Appreciation

- Special Person's Day was held on April 5. This was a huge success. Thank you to the team - Jen, Angela, Andrea, Brianna, Beth - for putting it together.
- Pizza and Preschool was held on April 4. This event had a huge turnout. Many families came for pizza, ECFE activities, and to sign-up for preschool. Emily and Dawn put together the ECFE activities. Rachel and Molly organized the pizza and preschool sign-up.

Acceleration

- Survey - I asked the staff to complete a survey. Questions included the bathroom question, Accelerated Reader, Prep times, standards-based grading, room maintenance, etc.
- **READ Act** - This is the new reading program going into effect next year. It is required K-2. MDE is releasing updates as to the requirements.
 - Fastbridge - 50% of our staff are comfortable with this program.
 - We are going to use UFLI for a foundations/phonics-based curriculum (K-2) for next year.
 - LETRS (required professional development) - I will have LETRS facilitator training on May 13-16 and June 3-6.
- **Preschool** - We have been meeting about preschool for next year. The numbers reflect the 24-24 school year.
 - 4-year-olds - 25 4-year-olds - will offer all-day classes on M/W/F (15 students and T/TH (10 students)
 - 3-year-olds - half-day classes on M/W/F (14 students)
 - Room movement - because of two rooms of preschool some teachers will be moving rooms -
- **Bathrooms** - See survey results.

- We are now in testing season. 3, 4, 5 take the math and reading MCA's. 5 also takes the science MCA.

Anticipation

- Teachers are planning the end-of-the-year field trips.
 - K - May 20 - Ramsey Park
 - 1 - May 16 - Marshall Planetarium
 - 2 - May 28 - Amazon' Farmyard
 - 3 - May 22 - Target Field
 - 4 - May 24 - Mill City Museum
 - 5 - May 21 - MN History Museum
- Street Dance is on May 17

**Cedar Mountain Middle/High School
School Board Report
Submitted by: Misty Riebel, Principal
March 2024**

Enrollment Updates:

Middle School (gr 6-8): High School (gr 9-12):

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| • 6th - 34 | 9th - 26 |
| • 7th - 28 | 10th - 42 |
| • 8th - 25 | 11th - 44 |
| • | 12th - 24 |
| • TOTAL: 87 | TOTAL: 136 |

TOTAL Enrollment MS/HS: 223

Appreciation:

- 4th Quarter is kicked off and has begun
- Thank you to all who have had a part in the 24-25 school year 7-Period Day master schedule - each department team that will be working in that schedule have had a set of eyes on it and opportunities for feedback within the schedule.
- Thank you to our MS/HS team for collaborating and responding to our event on Tuesday in a quick and efficient manner.
- Thank you to Mr. Palokangas for the organization and coordination for all of the testing items happening in the last few weeks and upcoming weeks (pre-ACT, ACT, MCA, MTAS, etc)
- Thank you to Mr. Root for organizing the music trip to Chanhassen
- Thank you to all of the 6th grade staff that went on the Career Fair to South Central
- Thank you to Ms. Sorenson and Mr. Robinson for all of the work and collaboration you both have done for the organization for CM hosting the Visual Arts Competition on Wednesday this week!

Acceleration:

- PE classes and free time after lunch has been able to access our spaces outside and be active as the weather has been nice
- Registration for classes for students for the 24-25 school year began today (April 15th) and the second day of registration will be Monday, April 22nd
- MCA testing begins this week
- Applicants for both PE/Health and Social Studies positions are coming in. The PE/Health position closes today and interviews will be set up soon. The Social Studies position closes April 20 and interviews will be set up after that.

Anticipation:

- Cedar Mountain MS/HS is hosting the MSHSL Visual Arts Competition this Wednesday, April 17th. There will be a community viewing opportunity from 1pm-2:30pm. We want to extend a formal invitation for you each to come in and view the art pieces displayed by 17 CM students as well as approximately 90-100 students from 8 area schools!
- We are in mid-April and many activities are coming up - FFA competitions, athletics, Prom, and then end of the year preparations - Many events coming up!
- We are working on our plans for the end of the year grill-out on Friday, May 24th as well as planning in place for 5th grade coming over for a tour

April 2024 AD Report

- I. We are hosting the Region 2 South Visual Arts Festival on Wednesday. We're expecting 90-100 students from 9 schools in south central Minnesota. Thank you to Mrs. Sorenson and our custodial staff for help coordinating and setting up.
- II. Region 2A meeting was held in Mankato on April 10. Sports advisory proposals were shared with feedback given. Discussions were held on seeding and format of section tournaments now that subsections are gone.
- III. MNIAAA conference was held March 26-28 in St. Cloud. It was great to connect with colleagues from across the state. I attended sessions related to event management, navigating and managing coaches on the MSHSL website, sponsorship and marketing, student-led communications & media, eligibility, and a small school roundtable in addition to the general assemblies of the association.
- IV. CPAC is purchasing a Daktronics video board for the hs gymnasium. Be on the lookout for more information and details soon!
- V. The first of our 3 conference golf tournaments was held today at New Ulm.
- VI. Schedules are mostly complete for 2024-2025, besides some small shuffling.
 - A. Football vs. Nicollet will take place on Thursday, October 11.
 - B. Volleyball vs. Nicollet will be played on Friday, October 12.

Cedar Mountain School District
School Board Report
Submitted by: Kimberly DeWitte
April 2024

Cedar Mountain School Vision:

Excellence, accountability, rigor and high expectations are the educational cornerstones that make Cedar Mountain the school of choice.

Cedar Mountain School Mission:

Cedar Mountain Schools, in partnership with parents and community, provides an environment where learners can develop to their fullest potential in a changing world.

Appreciation:

- Thank you to the preschool team (teachers, paras, parents, kids). The transition to Franklin has been going great. When I see the kids get on the van or get off the van in Morgan, they are always smiling and the parents are also smiling!
- The preschool and pizza night was a huge success!
- Thank you to Jody Rose at the daycare. The numbers are really looking good!
- Thank you to all of the elementary staff for the Special Person's Event.

Acceleration:

- The preschool team met and right now we have 25 4 year olds so we will be offering a 3 day per week and a 2 day per option. We also have 14 3 year olds that are going to enroll. These are fantastic numbers to have in April.
- We were able to purchase a new van. Mariah is taking suggestions for a name.

Anticipation:

- Hiring a elementary music teacher
- Hiring 2 MSHS special education teachers
- Hiring for summer rec positions
- Hiring Physical Education Teacher
- Hiring a Social Studies Teacher