

Minutes for December 2, 2020
School Board Work Session
Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen called the Work Session of the school Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:06 PM in the High School meeting room using social distancing.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ed Feia, Ben Christensen, Lori Opatz, Robb Knettel, and Pat Meier. Member absent: None.

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Secondary Principal Angela Safran, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Business Manager Beth Heinze, and Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka.

Mr. Swenson reported the District COVID dashboard has been updated and he is watching to see if there will be an increase after Thanksgiving gatherings. This information will be used to determine the plan for after the New Year. The District COVID Advisory Committee meets tomorrow, the Regional COVID Advisory meeting is set for Friday, Dec. 18 @ 1:00 pm.

Mr. Stang reported the RTI Committee met to discuss sixth grade students struggling in Distance Learning. Some accommodations have been offered to help these students be successful.

The Board discussed delaying bringing students back for a week after the winter break in case of expositors. Using the information from the Advisory Committees a decision will be made and parents will be notified in the next week.

Mr. Swenson reviewed the COVID Athlete Return to Play document with the Board. The document mirrors the same protocols as the concussion return to play process. The MSHSL will meet to determine the decision for winter sports on Thursday 12/03/2020.

December 21 and 22, the two days prior to Christmas break Grades PreK-6 will have no students to allow for additional teacher prep time required under Executive Order 20-94.

Mr. Swenson presented solar data for 2019. The District does save money by having the current solar options. Mr. Swenson has been contacted to possibly expand on the District's solar participation. He will research if there are any contractual conflicts and the options for adding solar gardens.

The World's Best Work Force committee met on Nov. 23, 2020. Ms. Ebnet reported with limited testing taking place due to COVID this past spring the majority of the goals are being rolled over.

Other items discussed included: Happy Belated Birthday to Mr. Stang!

Ms. Opatz asked about survey results sent to Jr/Sr high students, parents and staff. Ms. Safran will have a summary of the survey at Dec. Board meeting. Ms. Opatz also asked about the committee being formed with parents and staff. Ms. Safran is in the process of forming a Distance Learning parent/teacher committee with the first meeting scheduled for Dec. 7th and will continue to meet bimonthly. Lastly, Ms. Opatz expressed a goal for the Board should be keeping communication transparent. She thanked Mr. Swenson for the job he is doing!

The agenda was completed at 7:15 PM with a motion to adjourn by Knettel, second by Opatz. Motion carried. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by
Evelyn Martini, Clerk

