

**Ewen-Trout Creek Board of Education  
Regular Board of Education  
Virtual Meeting, January 20, 2021**

Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. by the President S. Schutz.

Board Members In Attendance: Samantha Schutz, Shawn Brown, Victoria Hahka, Maggi Brown, Heather Borseth and Matthew Urbis

Board Members Absent: Cindy Ellsworth

Also in attendance: Superintendent Dave Radovich, Principal Patti Witt and Business Manager Tammy Gibson

Others in attendance: Josh Urbis

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Approval of Agenda: Motion by Shawn Brown, support by Maggi Brown, roll call vote all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Minutes read and approved from the past December 16th, 2020 meeting: Motion by Shawn Brown, support by Samantha Schutz to approve minutes from previous meeting, roll call vote all in favor none opposed, motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Admin Reports: Superintendent Dave Radovich's administrative report will be covered throughout the agenda, time was deferred to Principal Patti Witt.

Principal Patti Witt provided an update to the board that the entire 8th grade class has been placed into quarantine until Tuesday, January 26th, pending no symptoms in the class. The decision was made when one 8th grader tested positive and after contact tracing over half of the class had a potential for contact as per recommendations by the health department. No days of instruction were lost as the teacher will be conducting classes virtually. All parents were contacted by phone.

6- virtual learners came back into the classroom at the beginning of the year. The school welcomed one new student from Wisconsin and at the Senior meeting, 10 out of 14 students had been accepted into a college. First round of scholarships are out. 3rd and 4th grade chrome books were replaced due to the age of current devices. Throughout K-12 there are 52 new chrome books for the Junior High and 32 additional to come.

The Intermediate School District is establishing a pilot Lake Superior Virtual Academy to assist students especially in the time of the pandemic. This allows for students to remain enrolled in ETC school, but will be participating online. 12 teachers were hired to

support all these classes and will not impact our staff. The Edgenuity Company online was hired to provide a certified foreign language staff. The school is looking at providing summer school for grades 9-12.

Business Manager Tammy Gibson provided an update on the USF application for Category 2 funds for Network Cabling. The Impact Aid Application was submitted which generates about \$126,000 in revenue. The long distance provided for the school from Powernet Global will be changed to Ontonagon County Telephone Company. Assistance will be provided to the GOISD/Watersmeet for submission of the Impact Aid Application.

Board Committees Reports: None currently.

Discussion and Action Items:

- Financial Report & Accounts Payable: Motion by Samantha Schutz, supported by Shawn Brown to approve the financial reports, pay the bills and approve mid-month payables. Roll call vote; All in favor, None opposed. Motion carried.
- Hire of Full-time Title Aide: Position was internally posted. Administration recommends Katie Hemming for the Title Paraprofessional. Congratulations to Katie. Motion by Shawn Brown to hire Katie Hemming for the position, supported by Maggi Brown. All ayes and no nays, motion carried.
- Bank Signature Resolution: Removal of previous board members John Pinkerton and Carol Maki. New board officers are to be added and authorized as signatories for Gogebic Range Bank ETC School General Fund. Motion by Maggi Brown, supported by Shawn Brown and roll call vote all ayes. Motion carried.
- 3% Retirement Healthcare Contribution IRS Closing Agreement: Administration recommended to not enter into the agreement. To this point the school has been processing the deduction as tax exempt. Motion by Shawn Brown to not enter into the IRS 3% Closing Agreement at this time, supported by Matt Urbis. Roll call vote, all ayes and motion carried.
- FFCRA Paid Leave Extension: The Federal Cares Act Paid Leave Extension has expired. If a person falls sick they will have to use their personal sick days. If administration was to continue to cover additional paid sick leave for COVID, it would come from the school general fund. Recommendation was not to extend the leave for employees to provide additional sick days. Virtual teaching options have proven to be a flexible option for not using personal sick days for COVID related symptoms. Motion by Shawn Brown to not extend the FFCRA Paid Leave for COVID, supported by Heather Borseth. Roll Call vote 5 Ayes and 1 Nay. Motioned carried with majority support.
- Letter of Retirement: Joanna Holmstrom submitted her letter of retirement. The board expresses gratitude to Mrs. Holmstrom for her time and service to the ETC School. The board accepted the letter of retirement. Further recommended to

post vacancy for the Elem SPED Teacher. Motion by Shawn Brown, supported by Maggi Brown. Roll call vote, all Ayes motion carried.

- Exhaust Hood- Fab Lab: Ventilation for the metal cutting is needed. Recommendation is to use Fab Lab funds to have RC Mechanical move forward with installation of exhaust hood, estimate is \$10,015.00. Motion by Matt Urbis, supported Maggi Brown, roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried.
- Extended Continuity of Learning Plan Monthly Update: Since return to school after Christmas vacation K-12 is face to face with virtual Wednesdays. Principal Patti Witt continues to provide transparency reports, COVID and health department updates to the State and on the school public website. Superintendent Dave Radovich reported that he has been having unofficial conversations with various staff in regards to returning to school 5-days a week. Currently, the considerations are for the virtual students and the need for teachers to have Wednesdays to connect with the virtual students twice a week. Monitoring will continue and reevaluation each month. New sanitizer has been ordered and 500 sturdy disposable masks for the athletic departments have been ordered. All protocols have been working to date.
- Athletic Directors for the conference have been discussing contingency plans and clarifications are needed from the State and local health departments for what winter sports looks like moving forward.
- Principal Patti Witt thanked the Booster Club for their continued support for the athletic program. The Booster Club recently discussed several scenarios for the large summer fundraising event "Steakout", tentatively scheduled for July 17th, 2021.

Meeting Adjournment was motioned by Victoria Hahka and supported by Heather Borseth. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

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President

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Secretary