

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE NEW LONDON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
at the District Administration Building  
Monday, November 8, 2021**

**PRESENT:** K. Batten, P. Bosquez, M. Grossman, J. Heideman, C. Martinson, T. Ruckdashel, and T. Wegner.

**I. VISITORS AND COMMUNICATION (PUBLIC FORUM)**

- Esteban Avila, 625 East Washington Street, New London, was present and explained that he is not in favor of masking or vaccinations; he also asked that more information be included on the agenda regarding the Board conduct agenda item
- Ashley Clark, E8871 Cty Rd N, New London, was present and thanked the Board for keeping masking optional at school; she requested making masking optional on the bus as well; she also requested more information be included regarding the board member conduct agenda item
- Holly Schweitzer, W10344 Schweitzer Road, New London, was present and expressed concern that we are not a united board; she hoped that the board member conduct was not involving one of the freedom fighters; she expressed she does not want her child to receive the vaccine and does not want it administered on school grounds; she asked that the Board consider having a live feed for the meetings

**II. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by T. Wegner, President. A quorum was established. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by T. Wegner, President.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, October 11, 2021**

It was moved by J. Heideman and seconded by P. Bosquez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, October 11, 2021. Motion carried.

**B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of Monday, October 25, 2021**

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by K. Batten to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Monday, October 25, 2021. Motion carried.

**IV. REPORTS**

The calendar and director reports were reviewed.

The Board recognized the students highlighted in October's monthly celebrations.

J. Peterson, Parkview Elementary Principal, presented highlights, practices, and actions that support the School District of New London's Guiding Principles of ***providing a safe, secure, nurturing environment***, along with ***fostering students' development assets***.

**V. VOUCHERS/RECEIPTS**

J. Marquardt reviewed the vouchers and receipts. A motion was made by J. Heideman and seconded by P. Bosquez to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$1,274,269.38 as per list of November 3, 2021. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 7-0.

T. Wegner noted receipts from the receipt register of November 3, 2021, in the amount of \$174,178.15.

**VI. MONITORING REPORTS**

**A. State Achievement Results**

D. Sievert reviewed the state achievement results monitoring report.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Kohl Award Nominations**

S. Bleck explained that Alicia Korth, Anne Ferge, Jody Peterson, Lynell Shumaker, Aleah Friemark, and Tom Gauerke were nominated for the Kohl Award. Congratulations to these individuals who were nominated for the prestigious Kohl Fellowship Distinction.

**B. WASB Business Partners ThedaCare**

ThedaCare Medical Center-New London was nominated by the School District of New London Board of Education as a Wisconsin Association of School Board 2021 Business Partnership Honor Roll Recipient. Megan Skalla, Health Coach; Polly Elrod, Account Executive; David Corso, VP of ThedaCare Orthopedic and Spine and Administration; and Kayla Van Handel, Athletic Trainer; were present to accept the certificate.

**C. Review and Potential Approval of Revised 2022-23 School Calendar**

S. Bleck reviewed the changes in the 2022-23 school calendar: change of professional development day from Friday, November 11, to Monday, November 14, and the High School graduation ceremony change from Friday, May 26, to Wednesday, May 24. It was moved by P. Bosquez and seconded by K. Batten to approve the revised 2022-23 school calendar. Motion carried.

**D. Review and Potential Approval of Intermediate/Middle School Project Design and Probable Cost**

It was moved by J. Heideman and seconded by P. Bosquez to approve the Intermediate/Middle School project design and probable cost as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 7-0.

**E. Review of Intermediate/Middle School Water Main Repair**

J. Marquardt explained that a water main repair will need to be completed at the Intermediate/Middle School coming from a water shutoff cover in the south parking lot. This work will be completed on November 12.

**F. WASB 2022 Convention**

S. Bleck explained that the WASB 2022 Convention will be held January 19-21. Board members were asked to contact District Office by December 2 if they wish to attend.

**G. COVID-19 District Operational Monitoring**

S. Bleck gave an update on COVID-19 cases and operations. J. Heideman requested that we provide cups at the water stations that were converted to bottle/cup filled so that students are able to get a drink at the water stations if they don't have a water bottle.

It was moved by J. Heideman and seconded by C. Martinson to remove the mask mandate on the buses. Motion not carried on a roll call vote of 3-4 (M. Grossman-no, J. Heideman-yes, C. Martinson-yes, T. Ruckdashel-no, K. Batten-yes, P. Bosquez-no, T. Wegner-no).

**H. Consideration of Board Member Conduct and Potential Action Related to Same**

T. Wegner turned the meeting over to P. Bosquez. P. Bosquez addressed the concerns of the public regarding how the agenda item was listed on the board agenda. He explained that the language protects the board member as well as the community member who made the complaint. P. Bosquez explained that this does not concern the position of Board members on any other issue.

P. Bosquez explained that an email was sent to a select number of board members from a concerned community member. The email was not addressed to Mr. Heideman, but Mr. Heideman contacted the community member via text. The complainant explained that when she attempted to end the texting, Mr. Heideman responded to her after trying to end the texting. P. Bosquez held a meeting with Mr. Heideman and after investigation, he has found Mr. Heideman to be in violation of Policy 165 (8) and 165 (13).

J. Heideman explained that he reached out to the community member as it's important to try and get back to everyone who contacts the board. He had previous dealings with the community member in which he advocated for her on another matter.

P. Bosquez inquired if a censure was necessary. A censure means that the board publicly announces that they do not agree with the board member's behavior.

P. Bosquez called the question and T. Ruckdashel seconded it. Motion not carried 3-4.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by K. Batten to commend J. Heideman for being proactive in communications with constituents and being transparent in expressing his views and explaining. Motion not carried 3-4.

A motion was made by T. Ruckdashel and seconded by T. Wegner to censure J. Heideman.

C. Martinson explained that he also reached out to the community member, so C. Martinson moved to amend the motion to add C. Martinson to the motion for censure. J. Heideman seconded the motion. It was clarified that C. Martinson was not part of the complaint. Motion not carried 3-4.

P. Bosquez inquired if J. Heideman or T. Wegner wished to recuse themselves from the vote and neither wished to recuse themselves.

It was moved by M. Grossman and seconded by K. Batten to amend the resolution to strike the paragraph relating to violation of 165 (8). Motion carried 4-3.

The motion to censure J. Heideman was carried on a roll call vote of 4-3 (J. Heideman-no, C. Martinson-no, T. Ruckdashel-yes, K. Batten-no, P. Bosquez-yes, M. Grossman-yes, T. Wegner-yes).

## **IX. CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by J Heideman and seconded by M. Grossman to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes as listed on the agenda at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 7-0.

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by M. Grossman to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2021, Closed Session. Motion carried.

*(Closed Session minutes)*

It was moved by T. Ruckdashel and seconded by K. Batten to enter open session at 10:47 p.m. Motion carried.

## **X. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

### **A. Resignation of Personnel**

It was moved by P. Bosquez and seconded by K. Batten to accept the resignations of:

Jim Brown  
Volleyball, Head Varsity Coach

Bailey Mares  
Educational Assistant, Parkview

Paul Olk  
Bus Driver

Motion carried.

It was moved by C. Martinson and seconded by J. Heideman to pay a \$200 COVID stipend to super subs for the spring semester of the 2020-21 academic year. Motion carried.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by K. Batten and seconded by J. Heideman to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.  
Motion carried.

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Tina Ruckdashel, Clerk