March School Board Meeting

March 16th, 2021

The Wheeler Central Board of Education special meeting was held on March 16th, 2021. Chairman Patrick called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. She pointed out the location of the Open Meetings Poster. Members present were: Patrick, Freouf, Wright, Derner, Kasselder, Olson and recording secretary Wagner. Absent: Pokorny. Roll call: Patrick aye, Derner aye, Freouf aye, Pokorny absent, Wright aye, Kasselder aye. Wright made the motion to excuse Pokorny, Kasselder seconded. Roll call: Patrick aye, Wright aye, Kasselder aye, Derner aye, Freouf aye. Others present were Patti Jensen, Cheyenne Pokorny, Teresa Smith, Ranotta Nordhues, Justine Smith, Marcia Smith, Jaci Palmer, Hailey Genereux, Carol Seamann, Lu Plugge, Calvin Wagner, Jessi Swick, Brent Swick, Makayla Reiter, Kendra Croxen, Sara Skorcz, Sherry Tetschner, Jay Johnson, Rex Day, Larry Day, Christy Freouf, Dave Collins, Brad Plugge, Adoria Plugge.

Patrick opened the meeting by welcoming visitors. President Patrick called upon visitors individually to speak if they wished to do so.

Accept the resignation of a school board member. Patrick presented a letter of resignation from member Brandi Pokorny to be effective immediately. Wright made the motion to accept the resignation of Brandi Pokorny and thank her for years of service on the Board, Freouf seconded. Roll call vote Patrick aye with regret, Wright aye, Kasselder aye, Derner aye, Freouf aye. The Board and District wish to extend their sincerest gratitude to Brandi Pokorny for her many years of dedication and service. It was noted that the board would look to elect a new member whom would need to reside in Ward #1.

Choose to elect vacated office (Treasurer) Wright nominated Kasselder. Freouf made the motion to cease nominations, Derner seconded. Roll call vote: Patrick aye, Wright aye, Kasselder aye, Derner aye, Freouf aye.

Review Covid protocols including remote instruction feasibility and procedures. There was discussion on how to safely have students in small groups which would require close proximity. There was also discussion on how to handle a positive case once masks are no longer required. Wright shared with the Board an email from the director of LBPHD on Covid recommendations in the school setting. There was additional discussion on current CDC quarantine guidelines. There was discussion on the option of remote instruction for teaching staff. Kasselder made the motion to allow staff to work remotely until April 18th at which time they will have had the option to be fully vaccinated and remote learning for students; implementing social distancing in every classroom when possible and temporary masking in the event of close contact when social distancing is not feasible; in the event of a possible exposure to a positive case that the district will switch to two week mandatory masking, Freouf seconded. Roll call vote: Patrick aye, Wright aye, Kasselder aye, Derner aye, Freouf aye.

 Derner made the motion to adjourn, Wright seconded. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. Next regular meeting will be April 12, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.