



Newsletter of the Board of Education

Board Happenings

Our goal is to distribute this newsletter shortly after each Board meeting that will communicate discussions, actions, and other items of interest. We welcome your comments and thoughts as we Empower and Inspire Every Student to Success. Questions or comments? Please [Click Here](#).

Welcome to the January 25, 2021 edition of Board Happenings, a semi-monthly Board of Education publication.

Video of [Finance Committee](#)

Video of [Regular Board Meeting](#)

Regular Board Meeting - January 25, 2021

- District resident Scott Hefle addressed the Board regarding the current and next year budget. District resident Jan Miller addressed the Board regarding the budget, communication, technology, Board meetings, selling of property, and open enrollment. District resident Sandy Dobrogowski addressed the Board regarding moving staff into buildings and state aid. Board President Soderberg added that no students would be affected if District Office staff relocated into school buildings.
 - Director of Business Brittany Altendorf and Director of Human Resources Michael Nowak presented a COVID-19 expense report to date and indicated the District requested extra precautionary measures for disinfecting of buses for the safety of students and therefore is sharing some costs with GoRiteway. COVID expenses, which were unforeseen and unforecasted will impact the budget by nearly \$400,000.
 - Performing Arts Center Coordinator Heather Pulkowski updated the Board on the Peter and the Star Catcher production running at the PAC February 5-7, 2021.
 - Board President Soderberg informed the Board and the public that he has been in contact with the Village President to discuss dates for future joint meetings with a tentative date of August 30, 2021 but would like to try for sooner if possible. Mr. Soderberg also indicated that the District shares a
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good collaborative working relationship with the Village with many shared services and is looking forward to the joint meetings.

- Recommendation from Finance Committee was approved to begin the process of investigating the selling the District Office located at N104 W13840 Donges Bay Road, Germantown, WI 530222. Alternative spaces in current buildings will be explored. Background is that this past summer, the District was approached by an individual to purchase the District Office. Subsequently, the building was appraised for a sale price of \$1.0 - \$1.2 million dollars. Due diligence is being preformed by the District for space needs and if there is space in one of our building(s), discussion at the Board meeting suggested that if this would move forward, the sale monies would go into the fund balance. In addition, there would also be an average savings of \$50,000 in District office building operating expenses.
 - Finance Committee Chair Michael Loth and Brittany Altendorf updated the Board on remaining items discussed in Finance Committee including recordings of Finance Committee meetings now available on the District website with the regular Board meetings, budget review and variance report updates. It was presented that the district could face up to a \$1.8 million dollar deficit due to declining enrollment largely due to the current pandemic as some families have chosen private schools, home school or alternative online schools. A cost reduction plan is moving forward to ensure a balanced budget.
 - Superintendent Brett Stousland, Kennedy Middle School Principal Susan Climer, and Germantown High School Principal Joel Farren discussed return to school planning, current COVID numbers, catch all days, and communications to parents. Board President Soderberg thanked the
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administration and staff for their efforts in successfully managing the pandemic response and recovery.

- Approval of 14 new open enrollment seats in grade 4 (Rockfield), grade 5 (Amy Belle, MacArthur, Rockfield), and grade 8 (Kennedy) for the 2021-2022 school year in addition to any applications for existing students already attending Germantown schools that have moved out of the District, and approve no special education seats as presented.
 - Approval of six new summer school courses and a budget of \$270,000 for 2021 as presented.
 - Approval to rotate board meetings through all schools in the district and when not at a school site for them to be at the PAC through 3rd quarter. Approve remaining locations for Board and committee meetings through August, confirm a joint Board of Education and Village of Germantown meeting in March 2021, and revisit dates and locations again after May to develop the final Board meeting calendar for 2021-2022.
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Board Member Contact Information:

Bob Soderberg, President, [Email](#)
Sarah Larson, Vice President, [Email](#)
Michael Loth, Treasurer, [Email](#)
Amanda Reinemann, [Email](#)
Tom Barney, Clerk [Email](#)
Brian Medved, [Email](#)
Ray Borden, [Email](#)

Meeting Video Archives: [Click Here](#)



Board Meetings

February 8th: Building Committee
and regular board meeting

Tentatively scheduled times -

Committee Meetings (6 PM) & Board
0HHWL030

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Our mailing address is:

N104 W13840 Donges Bay Road
Germantown, WI 53022

Our phone number is:

(262) 253-3900

Our website address is:

www.germantownschoools.org

Our Facebook address is:

www.facebook.com/GtownSDWI/

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