

**THORP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20, 2021 6:30 P.M.  
FLEX ROOM, THORP HIGH SCHOOL, 605 SOUTH CLARK ST, THORP, WI**

The regular monthly meeting of the Thorp Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 2021, in the Flex Room by Marie Karaba, Board President. Members present were Clint Klapatauskas, Amy Penterman, Ty Schneider, Jeanette Kodl and Marie Karaba. Also, in attendance Adrian Foster; 6-12 Principal, Virtual Misti Trowbridge via livestream; Elementary Principal and Director of Student Services, District Administrator; Paul Blanford

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Report on Notice of Meeting**

The notice of time, place, and agenda was published and posted per Board Policy.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion was made by Klapatauskas to approve the agenda, second by Penterman. Voice vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

**Visitor Comments Agenda Items**

None

**Public Hearing: Waiver of Instructional Hours.**

The Board will hear public comments about a request to waive the instructional hour requirements in state law due to COVID-19. Comments may be made at the meeting or will be taken in advance of the meeting via email to mkaraba@thorp.k12.wi.us or pblanford@thorp.k12.wi.us. Be sure to include your name and address with your comments.

No comments

**Public Hearing: Waiver of Educator Effectiveness Requirements.**

The Board will hear public comments about a request to waive the teacher evaluation requirements in state law due to COVID-19. Comments may be made at the meeting or will be taken in advance of the meeting via email to mkaraba@thorp.k12.wi.us or pblanford@thorp.k12.wi.us. Be sure to include your name and address with your comments.

No comments

**Presentation/Demonstration- Middle School/High School Math Presentation**

Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Ciolkosz, and Mr. Literski presented to the board what they have been developing in their PLC meetings for the math department. Their goal is to increase math scores and overall understanding and consistent use of math concepts. It was discovered during professional development training that math terminology is not consistent throughout the grades. They have been working on prioritizing consistent terminology. This is a large undertaking as they need to look at math terminology throughout the grade levels. ACT standards and Common Core math standards do not align with one another. They feel it is important to be teaching our students consistently that will allow them success with both standards. They are thankful for the time to be able to work on this project. It has made them a stronger math team with better communication.

## **Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Meeting Minutes
- b. Approve Expenditures

Motion was made by Penterman to amend December minutes to add Kodl to members present and approve the consent agenda. Second by Kodl. Voice vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

## **Action Items/New Business**

- a. Financial Audit Report- Auditor presentation Baker Tilly  
Kim Shult from Baker Tilly gave a report on the audit. She reported the audit went well and there are several areas the school finances are exceeding industry standards.
- b. Determine Open Enrollment Space  
Mrs. Trowbridge reported that there will not be a cap on any open enrollment for Special Education students. Mr. Blanford reported there will be no cap on open enrollment students.
- c. Achievement GAP reduction (AGR) Program Mid-Year Report- Misti Trowbridge  
Mrs. Trowbridge reported on fast bridge data. There are some dips in scores. Staff is working hard to maintain scores and improve. She reported on the data wall that is used to help teachers see progress and stay focused on students that need additional help. Good things are happening within the teaching staff. They are working together and helping newer teachers.
- d. Approve Renewal of Cooperative Agreement in Cross-Country with Gilman  
Motion by Klapatauskas to approve renewal of Cross Country Cooperative Agreement with Gilman. Second by Schneider. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.
- e. Second Reading of School Board Policies 0000-4000  
Motion made by Penterman to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of School Board Policies 0000-4000. Second by Kodl. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

## **Administrative Reports**

Mrs. Trowbridge reported that everyone is hard at work, trying to stay healthy and keep moving along.

Mr. Foster reported on block scheduling for our high school and middle school. Would like the board to consider adopting the new schedule. He reported on the findings of a survey sent out to the teaching staff. He will be sending out a survey to students once they have been in person learning for a longer period. They are working on identifying challenges to this schedule. Would like to discuss further at the next board meeting.

Mr. Blanford reported update on high school athletics. Unfortunately, Varsity boys and girls are out due to close contact of Covid-19. There are no positive cases on either team. Both JV Boys and girls can practice and play. Mr. Blanford met with RVA (Rural Virtual Academy) for mid-year meeting updates. They are increasing enrollment from 1500 in 2020 to 1800 for 2021- 2022 school year. Parents will need to contact them ASAP if they wish to enroll their students in RVA. The school district does not do the paperwork, parents are responsible for completing the paperwork on behalf of their child. There is another round of stimulus money for the district. Looking at possible ways to utilize these funds. They will need to be used before September 30, 2023.

## **Board Reports**

Klapatauskas would like to see our youth programs opened back up and allowed to practice at the school again. Will need a plan for parents for drop off and pick up.

Penterman- would like to see a change into our student photos. Parents have expressed seeing pictures from Interstate Studio and the quality is better than our current company. Would like to see an extracurricular "fair" in the spring or fall for students to see the different clubs/sports they can be part of at the school. Get our captains and leaders to promote each of their sports/clubs etc.

Kodl asked if the students with block class schedule have classes every day? A parent/student had mentioned they only had 1 class a week. Wanted to clarify students were expected to have daily classes even when virtual.

Karaba would like to address the vacant spots on the board. There will be no names on the ballot. She apologized to Clint for not notifying him of the paperwork that needed to be filled out to run for the open board seat. Karaba encouraged board members to engage our community in write in candidates.

#### **Hear Visitors Regarding Non-Agenda Items**

none

#### **Motion to Convene into Closed Session**

Under Wis. Stat. §19.85(1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, (f) Considering financial, medical, social, or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons.

- a. Review/Approve Hire of Temporary Special Education Teacher Position
- b. Review/Approve 2021-2022 Instructional Staffing Proposal
- c. Review/Approve Student Request for Early Graduation
- d. Review Administrative Contracts
- e. Discussion/Approve Response Letter-Student Matter
- f. District Administrator Annual Evaluation

Motion made by Klapatauskas to adjourn into closed session under Wis. Statutes 19.85(1)(c). Second by Schneider. Voice Vote. Karaba- yes, Klapatauskas- yes, Schneider- Yes, Penterman- Yes, Kodl- yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

#### **Motion to return to Open Session**

Motion to return to open session made by Schneider. Second by Klapatauskas. Roll Call vote- Kodl- yes, Klapatauskas- yes, Karaba- yes, Schneider- yes, Penterman- yes. Motion carried at 9:54 p.m.

#### **Action as a result of Closed Session**

##### **a. Review/Approve Hire of Temporary Special Education Teacher Position**

Motion made by Schneider to approve hiring of a long-term sub for the special education teacher position through the end of the school year. Second by Klapatauskas. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

##### **b. Review/Approve 2021-2022 Instructional Staffing Proposal**

Motion made by Penterman to approve the staffing recommendation by Mrs. Trowbridge for the 2021- 2022 school year. Second by Schneider. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

##### **c. Review/Approve Student Request for Early Graduation**

Motion made by Schneider to approve early graduation request for Student A. Second by Penterman. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Penterman to approve early graduation request for Student B. Second by Klapatauskas. Voice Vote. 4 Aye, 1 Abstain. Motion Carried.

##### **d. Review Administrative Contracts**

No action taken on District Bookkeeper.

No action taken on Elementary Principal, Student Services Coordinator.

Motion by Penterman to approve renewing a two-year contract with School psychologist. Second by Schneider. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Klapatauskas to approve a 1-year contract for Middle/High School Principal. Second by Schneider. Voice Vote. All Aye. Motion carried.

##### **e. Discussion/Approve Response Letter-Student Matter**

No action taken.

**f. District Administrator Annual Evaluation**

No Action taken.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Penterman. Second by Kodl. All Aye. Motion carried. Adjourned at 9:56 p.m.



Marie Karaba, Board President



Amy Penterman, Board Clerk