

# Ashwaubenon superintendent stresses importance of transparency

BY JOSEPHINE HINDERMAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ASHWAUBENON – Superintendent Kurt Weyers opened the April 12 school board meeting by celebrating the Ashwaubenon School District's referendum, which passed April 4.

He emphasized the importance of trust and transparency regarding the referendum, as well as with any and all future projects.

"Trust is built every day with every conversation that you have with your community... it's built by the work of our school board, our teachers and the relationships you build every day. That's how you pass referendums," Weyers said.

## Golden Apple awardee

Along with the referendum, Weyers also honored a local teacher as the recipient of the area's Golden Apple Award.

Recognized for "his dedication to the classroom," Michael Smits, a middle school science teacher in the district, said "I've had a wonderful time here [in the district], and I really



Superintendent Kurt Weyers opened the April 12 school board meeting by celebrating the Ashwaubenon School District's referendum which passed April 4. **File photo**

appreciate [this award]."

## Naming the high school track and field facility

Of the items on the board's agenda, the most significant was the naming of the Ashwaubenon High School's track after Al Vandenberg, a beloved coach in the district's recent history.

Several former students and athletes that knew Vandenberg were present for the naming of the track.

Vandenberg served as the Ashwaubenon High School track coach from 1968-94. During that time, he led the boys team to the

1974 State Championship.

He also taught physical education from 1965-94 and was the district's first head football coach from 1967-72.

"It's long overdue... I have a lot of fond memories of Al, and this is something that's long overdue," a 1973 graduate stated.

The board unanimously approved the tracking naming.

## Other items

Also on the board's agenda was the unanimous approval of the extension of Student Services and Work Experiences programs in the middle and high schools.

# Unified School District of De Pere looks at building repairs

BY LEE REINSCH  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

DE PERE – Schools in the Unified School District of De Pere may need millions of dollars in repairs over the next 15 years, according to results of a facilities study by Somerville.

The firm recently toured all six schools in the district — Dickinson, Heritage and Altmayer elementary schools; Foxview Intermediate; De Pere Middle and De Pere High School — with an eye to physical condition, capacity, optimal design, safety, conduciveness to learning and social development along with other factors.

Melanie Parma, vice president of Somerville, balanced her critique with the caveat that the firm was hired to look for weaknesses.

Across the district, the consultants found school buildings with traditional school designs "which is indicative of the time they

were constructed."

They found minimal collaborative learning areas, and spaces that are too small to function appropriately, including the instructional spaces, storage areas, activity rooms and office spaces.

Their report said with a few exceptions, the buildings consist of double loaded (locker-lined) corridors that block the ability to see into classrooms, which the consultants believe is a negative.

Physical condition issues that the firm found included areas of chronic water puddling on some rooftops, buckled and cracked pavements, water heaters nearing the end of their lifetimes and hollow-core metal door frames that are rusting and corroding, among other things.

Somerville provided a host of recommendations to solve several problems, such as overcrowding and classrooms or labs that are too small, ranging from

renovations to whole new school buildings.

## Other business

In school board business, the board voted to accept a bid for \$298,554 from Specialty Engineering Group and Berglund Construction for restoration work to the exterior of Foxview Intermediate School to mitigate water infiltration.

The board also voted to sign a 15-month contract with Care Solace community mental health navigator starting next month.

The price tag of \$23,854 computes to \$4.75 per student for 4,035 enrolled students.

The service assists with finding a mental health provider or treatment plan.

According to Director of Pupil Services Jerry Nicholson, Care Solace can help people get an appointment within three weeks, whereas it can take several months or longer without the navigator.

# Part-time job ideas for retirees

DEAR SAVVY SENIOR,

As a 68-year-old retiree, I'm interested in finding a fun part-time job that can occupy some of my time and generate a little extra income.

Can you write a column on low-stress part-time jobs that are popular among retirees?

*Part-time retiree*

DEAR RETIREE,

Working part-time in retirement can be a terrific way to occupy your time and earn some extra income.

The key, however, is finding the right gig that's fun and satisfying for you.

While there are literally hundreds of different part-time job opportunities out there for retirees, here are a few possibilities to explore:

## Pet services

If you love animals, consider pet sitting and/or dog walking.

Pet sitters, who attend to a pet's needs when their owner is away, can earn \$15 to \$40 per visit.

Dog walkers can make \$10 to \$30 for a 30-minute walk.

To find these jobs, advertise your services.

## Teach or tutor

Depending on your expertise, you could substitute teach or tutor students privately on any number of subjects.

Substitute teachers typically make between \$75 and \$125/day, while tutors can earn \$15-30 per hour.

To look for substitute teaching positions, contact your local school district to see if they are hiring and what qualifications they require.

Or, if you have a bachelors, masters or doctoral degree,



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inquire about adjunct teaching at a nearby college or university.

## Driver

If you like to drive, you can get paid to drive others around using Uber or Lyft apps, or become a food delivery driver through Instacart or Uber Eats.

Drivers make around \$15 per hour.

## Babysitter

If you like kids, babysitting can be a fun way to put money in your pocket.

Hourly rates vary by location ranging anywhere from \$10 to \$40 per hour.

## Tour guide

If you live near any historical sites or locations, national parks or museums (anywhere that attracts tourists), inquire about becoming a tour guide.

This pays anywhere from \$10 to \$40/hour.

## Write or edit

Many media, corporate and nonprofit websites are looking for freelancers to write, edit or design content for \$20 to \$60 per hour.

To find these jobs try FreelanceWriting.com, FreelanceWritingGigs.com and Freelancer.com.

## Consult

If you have a lot of valuable expertise in a particular area, offer your services as a consultant through a firm or on your own through freelancer sites like Upwork.com, Fiverr.com, Freelancer.com

or Guru.com.

## Translator or interpreter

If you're fluent in more than one language you can do part-time interpretation over the phone or translate documents or audio files for \$20 to \$40/hour.

Try sites like Translate.com, ProZ.com or Gengo.com to locate translation jobs.

## Public events

Sporting events, festivals, concerts and shows need ticket takers, security guards, ushers, concession workers and more.

The pay is usually \$10 to \$20/hour. Contact nearby venues to apply.

## Tax preparer

If you have tax preparation experience or are willing to take a tax prep course you can find seasonal work preparing tax returns at big-box tax firms like H&R Block or Jackson Hewitt for around \$17/hour.

## Bookkeeper

If you have a finance or accounting background you can find freelance bookkeeping gigs at sites like Upwork.com and Fiverr.com, or through firms like BelaySolutions.com.

## Librarian assistant

If you love books, public libraries hire part-time workers to shelve books, send out overdue notices, help patrons, etc.

Contact your local library to see what's available.

# Wisconsin dairy industry is committed to our planet

BY TAYLOR SCHAEFER  
WISCONSIN'S 75TH  
ALICE IN DAIRYLAND

Dairy farmers throughout Wisconsin and the world know that healthy cows can only come from a healthy environment, and they have long been committed to doing what they can to ensure the environment is healthy for generations to come.

According to Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin (DFW), producing a gallon of milk today releases 19% less greenhouse gas emissions than it did in 2007.

That's equivalent to the amount of carbon dioxide removed from the atmo-



sphere by half a million acres of U.S. forests every year.

As a whole, U.S. dairy farmers are committed to reducing their carbon footprint even further as part of the dairy industry's initiative to become carbon neutral or better by 2050.

Helping the cause is Wisconsin's rich bioenergy opportunity.

According to Renew Wisconsin, with the manure from our dairy farms

See DAIRYLAND page 13

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