

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT 66
Board Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2016**

The Board of Education Meeting of School District 66 was convened in open and public session on December 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Westside ABC Building, 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: David Williams, President
 Beth Morrissette, Vice President
 Kris Karnes, Secretary
 Dana Blakely, Treasurer
 Adam Yale, Director
 Doug Krenzer, Director

Notice of the meeting was given by placing advance notice on the front page of the District's website no less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled commencement of the meeting as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice for this meeting appeared beginning on December 5, 2016, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes. Notice of this meeting and the availability of the agenda was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education and available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

District Staff in Attendance:

Molly Hurley.

Others in Attendance*:

*Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board member attendance is noted above. Mr. Williams confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted at the meeting, as required by law.

Ms. Morrissette made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation, which is necessary for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and is in compliance with law. Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried. Mr. Williams confirmed at 5:31 p.m. that the board would go into closed session only to discuss the Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation, which is necessary for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and is in compliance with law.

At 5:59 p.m., the board adjourned from closed session (motion made by Ms. Blakely and seconded by Mr. Krenzer) and reconvened in adjacent board room for the Board of Education Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting

December 12, 2016

Page 2 of 6

Mr. Williams called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Board member attendance is noted above. Mr. Williams welcomed the audience and confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted at the meeting, as required by law. He acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties.

District Staff in Attendance:

Blane McCann, Mark Weichel, Bob Zagozda, Enid Schonewise, Greg Betts, Brandi Petersen, Ruby Larson, Jim Sides, Alan Bone, Alison McGinn, Jay Opperman, Kim De La Cruz, Molly Hurley, Laura Iliff, Garret Higginbotham, Beth Welke.

Others in Attendance*:

Dave Richardson, Rob Zimmerman, Jason Hellman, Courtney Hellman, Bennett Hellman, A. David Paul, Adelyn Paul, Tess Fogarty, Elise Choquette, Ella Vraspir.

*Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2016

Ms. Morrissette made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting held on November 21, 2016, as presented. Mr. Krenzer seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Blakely presented the treasurer's report for November 2016 and requested approval of expenditures in the amount of \$9,433,155. Ms. Blakely reported expenditures down in the general fund due to lower transportation payments this year as well as the timing of technology related payments. Ms. Morrissette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the November 2016 Financial Statements are attached to the official minutes.

Communications:

Ms. Brandi Petersen, Director of Communications and Engagement, presented recognitions for the Westside High School Cycling Team, Ms. Addy Paul (4th grader at Prairie lane), and Mr. Bennett Hellman (senior at WHS).

The WHS Cycling Team was formed four years ago and has grown from 7 students to nearly 30 this year. Coach Nathan Moseley shared that Westside, along with coaches from Seward, Ralston and Millard West, formed a racing series in 2014 (the Nebraska Interscholastic Cycling Series) to provide an opportunity for students to take part in competitive races.

Addy Paul, with inspiration and support from her principal, Ms. Beth Welke, has collected more than 750 stuffed animals for children who will be in the hospital over the holidays. Addy plans to deliver her donations personally to Children's Hospital.

Bennett Hellman was recently named the recipient of the 2016 Nebraska School Activities Association Believer and Achiever Award. Bennett is an exceptional student athlete who also participates in a number of other activities at the high school.

Ms. Petersen congratulated all of our students on their dedication and to being outstanding representatives of their school and our community.

Retirement Benefits / TERIP

Dr. Schonewise presented report on board policies 4515 (Insurance Benefits for Retirees) and 4517 (Temporary Early Retirement Incentive Program) and the number of employees who qualify for these benefits for the 2016-2017 school year. There are nine employees who qualify for insurance benefits under 4515. Dr. Schonewise stated that, as of now, they are aware of three employees who will be taking this benefit. Of the eleven who qualify for 4517, five employees submitted the required paperwork by the December 1, 2016 deadline. The total cost of the TERIP benefits to be paid to these five employees is \$140,463. Dr. Schonewise will request approval of the five retirement recommendations as part of her Personnel Report.

The TERIP program is set to expire at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Williams stated that, with the current and continued budget issues facing the district, it would be difficult to sustain the financial costs associated with 4517 and the district will allow the policy to expire. Ms. Karnes concurred and said that it makes sense to allow the TERIP program to sunset. Mr. Yale also agreed and stated that bringing it to the forefront now is prudent, as it will allow any employees who might qualify to consider their retirement plans over the course of the upcoming school year. (A copy of the Executive Summary and Powerpoint is attached to the official minutes.)

Personnel Report

Dr. Schonewise presented recommendations for three probationary contracts; five retirements; and one resignation. Ms. Blakely moved for approval of the Personnel Report. Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (A copy of the Personnel Report is attached to the official minutes.)

Board Policy #5320 - Graduation Requirements

This is the second presentation to the Board on proposed revisions to high school graduation requirements, presented this evening by Mr. Jim Sides, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, and Ms. Kim De La Cruz, Westside High School Assistant Principal. Revision recommendations include:

- Remove Senior Project requirement (effective with the Class of 2017)
- Remove competency tests (effective with the Class of 2018)
- Replace nine outcomes with five educational competencies (effective with the Class of 2018)
- Revise course requirements for diploma and commended diplomas (effective with the Class of 2021)

The removal of Senior Project stemmed from budget work that was done last year. Additionally, the identified requirements for Senior Project can be found in the mastery of already required coursework. The removal of subject-specific, one-time competency tests is replaced with the requirement for successful mastery of subject-specific standards that can be measured over a semester or in the scope of year-long coursework. The nine outcomes will be replaced by five educational competencies: Effective Communicator; Engaged Citizen; Critical and Creative Thinker;

Healthy Individual; and Lifelong Learner. Ms. De La Cruz reported that they have received supportive feedback from students and teachers on the proposed changes. Ms. Karnes moved for approval of revisions to Board Policy 5320. Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (A copy of the proposal to restructure graduation requirements and redline copy of board policy #5230 are attached to the official minutes.)

Sunset Hills CMR Selection Committee

Mr. Rob Zimmerman, Project Advocates, presented for board approval the CMR Selection Committee that will review proposals, interview and select the CMR firm for the Sunset Hills Elementary School building project.

- (a) Member(s) of the school board: Doug Krenzer
- (b) Member(s) of the school administration or staff: Robert Zagozda
- (c) The school's architect or engineer: Chris Houston of TACK Architects
- (d) Any person having special expertise relevant to selection of a construction manager under the Nebraska Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act: Rob Zimmerman of Project Advocates
- (e) A resident(s) of the School District other than an individual included in (a) through (d) above: Ann Christiansen

Mr. Yale moved for approval of the Sunset Hills CMR Selection Committee. Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (A copy of the Executive Summary and motion is attached to the official minutes.)

Sale of District Vehicle and Equipment

Mr. Zagozda presented for board approval (as outlined in Board Policy #3450 - Disposition of Damaged, Outdated School Equipment) the sale of surplus items from Westside High School, Westside Middle School and a truck utilized at the Service Center. Proceeds from the sale of all surplus items will go into the General Fund. Items from the high school include:

- (3) White GE refrigerator, top freezer, 20 c.ft.
- White Electrolux refrigerator, top freezer, 21 c.ft.
- Heavy Duty Whirlpool Commercial Washer, 8 cycle, 2 speed
- Heavy Duty Whirlpool Commercial Electric Dryer
- (6) Yamaha Marching Snare Drums with carrying cases
- (5) Yamaha Marching Bass Drums with carrying cases
- (3) Yamaha Marching Tenor Drums with carrying cases
- (2) Yamaha Marching Tenor Drum Stands

Items from the middle school include (10) Bernina model 1008 sewing machines. The truck from the Service Center is a 2007 Ford F-350 XL with snow plow and 65,840 miles. As it has for previous disposal of district vehicles, Enterprise Fleet Management will sell this vehicle on behalf of the District. Ms. Morrisette moved for approval of disposal of all the above listed items. Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (A copy of the Executive Summary is attached to the official minutes.)

(Following Mr. Zagoda's report, Dr. McCann requested to move to Written Reports and suggested a brief recess before beginning the FY18 Budget Outlook Report.)

Americanism Curriculum & Multicultural Curriculum Update (Written Reports)

In compliance with Rule 10 of the Nebraska State Statute (Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools), Dr. Mark Weichel provided written reports on the District's Multicultural Curriculum (79-719) and Americanism Curriculum (79-724). An Executive Summary on each is attached to the official minutes.

Learning Community Coaching Update (Written Report)

Ms. Ruby Larson, Director of Elementary Education, provided a written report on the instructional coaching program at Hillside and Westgate, which has been funded through a Learning Community grant since 2010. Because of the success of the instructional coach program (as measured by student outcomes, results of teacher surveys, and data from the Classroom Assessment Scoring System), the district expanded instructional coaching district-wide. Ms. Larson's Executive Summary is attached to the official minutes.

(A brief recess was taken at 6:47 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:58 p.m.)

FY18 Budget Outlook

Dr. McCann presented a preliminary preview of the FY18 budget. Currently, the gap between expenses and revenues is less than what the district had estimated last year - approximately \$2.7 million vs. \$5.4 million. He stated that there will continue to be fluctuations in these projections until the FY18 budget is finalized in August of 2017, through gains: increased property taxes; the switch from open to option enrollment; the pursuit of fundraising opportunities through the Westside Foundation; and losses: continually rising operating expenses; uncertainty of revenue streams from the State; loss of ESU3 funds.

Dr. McCann will be convening a committee of district administrators, staff and parents to assist in prioritizing district programs and budget priorities that will lead to recommendations to balance the FY18 budget. The work of this committee will commence in mid January 2017, with a budget presentation to the board scheduled for mid March 2017. Mr. Zagozda stressed that the district will continue to work hard to keep any cuts away from salaries and out of the classroom. Ms. Karnes thanked the administration for these efforts and expressed appreciation for bringing this process to the board publicly.

Mr. Yale concurred, stating the importance of informing our community on the impact of every budget decision that is made, as well as supplying the community with the information they need to be informed on critical issues of public education funding in Nebraska. Ms. Blakely expressed that the district does not have a spending problem, rather it is a funding problem and it is important to get the community engaged and to advocate for our public schools. Dr. McCann stated that many great things continue to occur in our district, with achievement gaps closing and innovation funds propelling success in our classrooms, and he is confident in the support of the Westside Community to help maintain excellence in our schools. (A copy of the Executive Summary and Dr. McCann's Budget Outlook Report is attached to the official minutes.)

Board of Education Meeting
December 12, 2016
Page 6 of 6

Reports

Dr. McCann will be attending a meeting in Lincoln tomorrow (December 13, 2016) with other Superintendents regarding the upcoming legislative session. Mr. Krenzer and Dr. McCann attended an NASB Board Member Workshop on December 7th.

Announcements

Dr. McCann reviewed other upcoming events and noted that the Bond Oversight Committee Meeting on January 10, 2017 will be held at the Middle School. The winter break for all middle school students will be extended by one day to provide the staff with a "moving" day in the building. The Westside Boys & Girls Club at Westbrook will be available and open on January 9, 2017 starting at 7:00am for middle school students.

December 13, 2016	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm
Dec. 23, 2016 thru Jan. 6, 2017	Winter Break
January 10, 2017	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm
January 16, 2017	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Students No School / Teachers PD
January 16, 2017	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm
January 25, 2017	UNO PDK Chapter Board of Education Dinner (@ UNO) - 5:30pm
February 6, 2017	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm
February 14, 2017	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Kris Karnes, Board Secretary