

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT 66
Board Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2017**

The Board of Education Meeting of School District 66 was convened in open and public session on March 20, 2017 at 6:32 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
- Doug Krenzer, Director
- Adam Yale, 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 March 15, 2017, 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.

Mr. Williams called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:32 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, Ruby Larson, Alan Bone, Alison McGinn, Kami Jessop, Brian Gabriel, Jim Sides, Molly Hurley, Jenny Brockman, Russ Olsen, Jay Opperman, Kim Eymann, Kim De La Cruz, Steph Hornung, Cynthia Bailey, Bob Brousek, Doug Hauserman, Sarah Percival, Sue Stehly, Stephanie Pueppke, Jen Sinclair, Michelle Patterson, Lynn Spady, Scott Becker, Amanda Moon, Judy Stucky, Laura Iliff, Jenni Allen, Molly Spisak, Kelly Schulz, Katie Claus, Val Carlson, Kalen Carlson, David Shabram, Cynthia Kelley.

Others in Attendance*:

Michael Modra, Dave Richardson, Edward Pike, N. Dodge, Isabelle Dodge, Meg Dodge, Ryan Meyer, Nicole Evans, Josh Evans, J.T. Evans, Jocelyn Evans, Nate Dodge, Sandy Dodge.

*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 March 6, 2017

Ms. Karnes moved for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on March 6, 2017, as presented. Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote, with Mr. Williams abstaining.

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Treasurer's Report

Ms. Blakely presented the treasurer's report for February 2017 and requested approval of expenditures in the amount of \$7,013,879. Ms. Blakely advised that cash reserves will start coming back up in April when property tax payments are received. Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the February 2017 financial statements are attached to the official minutes.

Communications

Ms. Brandi Petersen introduced three elementary students who were champions in the 2017 Kiwanis Speech Contest: Isabelle Dodge from Loveland, J.T. Evans from Oakdale and Edward Pike from Sunset Hills. Ms. Petersen also welcomed High School Physics teacher, Ms. Judy Stucky, who recently had 6 of her students finish in the top 50 of the Drake University Physics Exam, including one student who finished second overall.

Board Policy 7250 - Distribution of Materials (second reading)

Ms. Alison McGinn, Administrative Counsel, presented Board Policy 7250 - Distribution of Materials for approval. Policy was presented for discussion and consideration by the board on March 6, 2017. Clarifying language to the policy includes reference that #7250 refers to outside organizations, not school-sponsored organizations, and that school-affiliated organizations are eligible to request distribution. Updates were also made to policy language regarding compliance with procedures contained in the regulation, which outlines the move to primarily electronic distribution of flyers and informational materials by the District. This move will become effective with the 2017-18 school year and will not affect groups already approved for paper distribution this current school year. Ms. Karnes moved for approval of revisions to Board Policy 7250; Mr. Krenzer seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Redline copies of the policy and regulation are attached to the official minutes.)

Personnel Report

Dr. Schonewise presented recommendations for approval of eight resignations, two retirements, one probationary contract and one temporary to probationary contract. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval of the Personnel Report. Mr. Krenzer seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (A copy of the Personnel Report is attached to the official minutes.)

FY Budget Recommendations

Dr. McCann presented the 2017-2018 Budget Report to the Board. The compilation of expense reduction and departmental restructuring recommendations in this report has been the result of months of hard work by District staff, feedback solicited from staff members, district families and community members, and the work of the Budget Priority Committee. This committee, made up of district staff, parents and stakeholders, met for 6 weeks in January and February of this year to examine community priorities around district programs and policies. These recommendations will be considered over the coming weeks, with a budget preview at an August 2017 board meeting, and budget public hearing and budget approval in September 2017.

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Dr. McCann reviewed the spreadsheet of proposed budget ideas that includes areas of potential revenue increases, along with areas of staffing and departmental reductions and restructuring of some programs. He stated there are still a number of unknown factors that creates some difficulty in building the budget, including legislative decisions on state funding for public education and as well as local property valuations. These decisions will also impact the district's action on a possible levy override in the fall. However, Dr. McCann expressed optimism that, as a district, we are trending in the right direction, and while some sacrifices have to be made and people will be taking on additional duties, ultimately we have to protect our learners and the classrooms.

Board members also shared their appreciation for work that has been done. Mr. Yale, who served on the Budget Priority Committee, commented that he felt that staff looked deep into their respective departments and budget lines to understand how they could come together around proposed reductions and program restructuring. Ms. Karnes, who also served on the Budget Priority Committee, expressed appreciation to the community for utilizing the "Let's Talk" discussion link on the district's website and providing their input. She stated that the budget committee discussed every comment and suggestion that was submitted.

The Legislative Advocacy forum that the district hosted in February provided an opportunity for the community to hear and learn first-hand from our elected state representatives about the legislative process. Ms. Blakely felt this was instrumental in helping to inspire community members to become involved and advocate for our district on important funding issues that impact their neighborhood schools. All board members and district administrators are encouraging community members to continue to engage in and to be informed on the legislative process and to take action on behalf of the district. (Copies of the 2017-2018 Budget Report Book and Executive Summary are attached to the official minutes.)

Student Disciplinary Appeal

The Board of Education took action upon the appeal of the Superintendent's decision in a student discipline matter. On March 2, 2017, the board conducted a hearing to review the Superintendent's decision regarding the discipline of a student for the second semester of the 2016-17 school year. At that hearing, the board received and reviewed documents that constitute the record of the case plus some additional evidence, and heard the arguments of the attorney for the student and the student's family and of the attorney for the school administration. Being fully informed, Mr. Yale moved to affirm the Superintendent's decision regarding the discipline of the student and directs that the record of this case and all related documents be maintained as a confidential file. Motion was seconded by Mr. Krenzer and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Ms. Morrissette abstaining.

Reports

Mr. Williams attended a Metropolitan Area Boards of Education (MABE) meeting. Mr. Krenzer congratulated the high school DECA students who did very well at the recent state competition in Lincoln. Ms. Blakely attended an NASB Board of Directors Meeting.

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Announcements

Dr. McCann reviewed other upcoming events:

April 3, 2017	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm
April 10-14, 2017	Spring Break - No School
April 11, 2017	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm
April 17, 2017	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm
April 20, 2017	K-8 Art Fair - The Living Stage at Hotel RL
May 2, 2017	Mentor Recognition Reception - 4:30pm
May 8, 2017	Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm
May 9, 2017	Project SEARCH Graduation - 9:00am
May 9, 2017	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Kris Karnes, Board Secretary