

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT 66
Student Fees Public Hearing Minutes – May 8, 2017**

A Public Hearing for the 2017-2018 Student Fees for the Westside Community Schools, School District 66, was convened by the Board of Education in open and public session on May 8, 2017, at 6:15 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
Doug Krenzer, Director
Adam Yale, Director

Board Member Absent (Excused): Dana Blakely, Treasurer

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 May 2, 2017, and appeared continuously up through the start of this 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 made available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Mr. Williams called the Hearing to order at 6:15 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, Molly Hurley, Michelle Patterson, Alli Pontius.

Others in Attendance*:

Dave Richardson.

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

Mr. Williams stated that the purpose of this Public Hearing was to hear opposition, support, or observations regarding the Westside Community Schools' Student Fees Policy for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Bob Zagozda, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board and advised that the Nebraska State Legislature requires school districts to review the student fee policy on an annual basis and hold a public hearing. The intent of this legislation is to inform parents in advance of costs for classroom materials or any extracurricular activities. District administration, building level administrators and in-house legal counsel review Westside's Student Fee Policy #6340 each year to update extracurricular activity fees and to ensure compliance with statutory updates. Upon completion of the update, the Student Fee Policy is distributed in a Student Fees Handbook as well as updated on the District website.

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Increases are being proposed to school lunches (as an offset to increasing milk prices), WMS musical production fees, an increase for transportation expenses, and the addition of the Coop loss program for eligible iPads. Mr. Zagozda explained that any costs incurred for a curricular activity that are part of a course and are necessary for graduation are at no cost to a student. Extracurricular activities do not require student participation and do not count toward graduation. Mr. Zagozda reported that the 2017-2018 Student Fee Fund budget is \$125,000. The Board will be asked to approve Student Fees at the June 12, 2017 Board of Education Meeting. (A copy of the Executive Summary is attached to the official minutes.)

Mr. Williams asked for questions or comments from Board of Education Members. He then asked for questions or comments from those in attendance. Hearing none, the Public Hearing adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



Kris Karnes, Board Secretary