

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT 66**

**Board of Education Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2018**

The Board of Education Meeting of School District 66 was convened in open and public session on July 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at DLR Group, 6457 Frances St., Omaha, NE 68106.

Board members present:

- Dana Blakely, President
- Adam Yale, Vice President
- Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary
- Kris Karnes, Treasurer
- Doug Krenzer, Treasurer-Elect
- Beth Morrisette, 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 July 10, 2018, 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: Bob Zagozda, Molly Hurley, Alison McGinn.

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.

Ms. Blakely called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Board member attendance is noted above. She welcomed everyone 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 was posted at the meeting, as required by law. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties.

Ms. Blakely requested to switch the order of agenda items and begin with #III (Superintendent Search Procedural Process) in the interest of discussion for a reporter in attendance.

Superintendent Search Procedural Process

Board members expressed appreciation for Dr. McCann's early announcement of his retirement that has allowed the board significant lead time in beginning the search process for a new superintendent. Mr. Yale reviewed the current tentative timeline for the selection of a search firm:

- July 17, 2018 - RFP posted on the district website
- August 7, 2018 - Due date for submission of proposals
- August 20, 2018 - Search Firm finalists announced
- August 24, 2018 - Search Firm interviews
- August 27, 2018 - Special Meeting of BOE to select Search Firm

Board of Education Planning Session

July 13, 2018

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Mr. Yale explained the board's rationale for choosing to utilize a search firm: important to identify all qualified applicants, which the board would be unable to do on its own; search firms have the resources, broad reach and experience; importance of conducting a transparent and fair search process that is objective and that vets the best possible candidate. The board expressed their intent to seek input and feedback from district stakeholders, but that it is important for all to understand that the final decision belongs to the Board of Education.

Board members also discussed protocols and confidentiality of the search process, as well as skills that a successful candidate will possess, including identified professional competencies, indicators of strong leadership, and personal and cultural attributes. Additionally, the board expressed the importance of clearly communicating the entire process to the community and supporting district staff to help alleviate any concerns with this change.

BOE Self-Evaluation Document

The board reviewed their 2018 self-evaluation document that includes measurements on Policy and Planning; Board Community Relations; Student Learning and Achievement; Budget; Board Meetings; Board/Superintendent Relations; and Board Governance. A copy of the self-evaluation document is attached to the official minutes.

District Long-Term Goals

The board discussed their top three priorities with Dr. McCann for the upcoming school year (budget, boundary process and student achievement) and the importance of ensuring a smooth transition to new district leadership.

2018-2019 School Year Planning

The board identified their committee assignments and school building partners for the upcoming school year:

Americanism Committee: Meagan, Kris, Adam

Legislative Committee: Kris, Beth, Meagan

Finance Committee: Kris, Doug, Dana

Superintendent Search: Dana, Adam, Doug

Hillside - Dana Blakely

Loveland - Beth Morrisette

Oakdale - Meagan Van Gelder

Paddock Road - Meagan Van Gelder

Prairie Lane - Kris Karnes

Rockbrook - Adam Yale

Sunset Hills - Doug Krenzer

Swanson - Dana Blakely

Westbrook - Adam Yale

Westgate - Adam Yale

WMS - Kris Karnes

WHS - Beth Morrisette

West Campus - Doug Krenzer

There being no further business, Ms. Blakely adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT 66**

**Board of Education Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2018**

The Board of Education Meeting of School District 66 was convened in open and public session on July 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Westside ABC Building, 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: Dana Blakely, President
Adam Yale, Vice President
Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary
Kris Karnes, Treasurer
Beth Morrissette, Director

Board member absent (excused): Doug Krenzer, Treasurer-Elect

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 June 29, 2018, 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: Blane McCann, Mark Weichel, Enid Schonewise, Bob Zagozda, Molly Hurley, Greg Betts, Alan Bone, Alison McGinn, Kami Jessop, Ruby Larson, Russ Olsen, Kim Eymann, Brian Stevens, Crystal Bolamperti, Teresa Matthews, Guy O'Brien.

Others in Attendance*: Dave Richardson, Cory Cutchall.

*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.

Ms. Blakely called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board member attendance is noted above. Ms. Blakely noted excused absence for Mr. Krenzer. She 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. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Yale moved for approval of minutes from the Board of Education Meetings held on May 31, June 11, June 13 and June 20, 2018 as presented. Ms. Morrissette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Zagozda presented the treasurer's report for June 2018. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval of expenditures in the amount of \$11,110,405. Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the June 2018 financial statement is attached to the official minutes.

Board of Education Meeting

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Communications

Mr. David Shabram and Ms. Crystal Bolamperti, teachers at Westside Middle School, were both recognized for recent awards they each received for excellence in teaching. Ms. Bolamperti, Technology and Business Department head, was named the 2018 Outstanding Business, Marketing and Management Teacher by the Nebraska Bankers Association, and also received a B.E.S.T. Award, presented to teachers whose professional activities influence business and marketing education in Nebraska. Mr. Shabram was named the 2018 Outstanding Skilled and Technical Sciences Educator of the Year by the Associated General Contractors - Nebraska Chapter, and recently traveled to Atlanta where he received the Emerging Leader Distinction awarded by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Raikes Design Studio Project Update

Ms. Becky Sosalla, Student Scheduling at Westside High School, presented an update to the Board on the district's work and partnership with the Raikes Design Studio, the capstone program at the UNL Raikes School of Computer Science. The district began working with the Raikes School in 2013 to develop a 21st century solution to the high school's 35-year-old modular scheduling process. Over the past five years, different student teams have made significant contributions and improvements that currently allow teachers and students to access their schedules online at any time, as well as view others' schedules and coordinate meetings outside of class when necessary.

The final piece of the updated modular scheduling process is the creation of a scheduling algorithm to build the master schedule and enroll students into class sections. To complete this work, the district began working with Agape Red this summer, a local software development company, to finish the work of the Raikes student teams. Ms. Sosalla reported that the goal is to have work on the algorithm completed by November 2018. Copies of the Executive Summary and Ms. Sosalla's keynote presentation are attached to the official minutes.

Educator Effectiveness Grant / Principal Evaluation Instrument

Dr. Enid Schonewise, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, and Dr. Greg Betts, Director of Professional Learning, provided an update to the board on changes to the building administrator evaluation process. These changes reflect the eight standards for the State of Nebraska's Performance Framework for Principals. An administrative committee met last summer to review and provide input on the documents that were piloted during the 2017-2018 school year. Dr. Schonewise and Dr. Betts reviewed agenda templates and professional growth rubrics that were used for administrator one-on-one meetings and evaluation meetings this past year. Copies of the Executive Summary and the keynote presentation are attached to the official minutes.

Approval of District Transportation Contract

Mr. Alan Bone, Director of Student Services, presented a busing transportation contract from Chief School Bus Service for board approval. The contract, a three-year agreement, offers a zero percent increase for 2018-2019 except for a surcharge of \$1.50 per day, per route, for the addition of GPS tracking on each vehicle (requirement of the district); and a three percent increase in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Mr. Yale moved for approval of the Chief School Bus Service Agreement; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and contract are attached to the official minutes.

State Aid Presentation

Mr. Brian Gabrial, Director of Finance, presented an overview of the state aid formula, basic funding calculations and the effects of LB409 on the district’s aid. Total aid increased by \$860K over the prior year as a result of more net option students this year versus last year. Copies of the Executive Summary and Mr. Gabrial’s keynote presentation are attached to the official minutes.

Non-Levy Funds Update

Mr. Gabrial presented a timeline of the budget adoption process and a summary of the non-levy funds expense budgets for FY19. Below are summaries of each fund:

| | FY17 Actual | FY18 Budget | FY18 Estimated Actual | FY19 Budget |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Nutrition Services | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ 5,454,348 | \$ 5,308,466 | \$ 5,500,000 | \$ 5,780,774 |
| Expense | \$ 5,263,727 | \$ 5,293,333 | \$ 5,500,000 | \$ 5,736,994 |
| Activities Fund | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ 1,853,029 | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 1,600,000 | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Expense | \$ 1,859,498 | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 1,600,000 | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Cooperative Fund | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ 640,676 | \$ 386,000 | \$ 650,000 | \$ 530,000 |
| Expense | \$ 517,568 | \$ 373,704 | \$ 530,000 | \$ 548,293 |
| Student Fees | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ 49,945 | \$ 125,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$ 90,000 |
| Expense | \$ 50,045 | \$ 125,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$ 90,000 |

Total FY19 Budgeted Expense: \$8,375,287

Total FY18 Budgeted Expense: \$7,792,037

Increase of: \$ 583,250 or 7.49%

Copies of the Executive Summary and keynote presentation are attached to the official minutes.

Boundary Process Update

Mr. Zagozda provided an overview of the board meeting held on June 13, 2018 with RSP & Associates as the district re-examines potential boundary adjustments in identified elementary attendance areas. These changes are being considered as a result of community discussion and feedback from the Facilities Task Force meetings held in the fall of 2014. A copy of the June 13, 2018 BOE Boundary Meeting Summary is attached to the official minutes.

Personnel Report

Dr. Schonewise presented the personnel report with recommendations for approval of six probationary contracts; one resignation; one administrator contract and one leave of absence request. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the personnel report is attached to the official minutes.

Approval of Use of Superintendent Search Firm

Ms. Morrisette moved for approval to use a search firm to assist the Board of Education in the search process for the next superintendent of Westside Community Schools; Ms. Karnes seconded. Ms. Blakely expressed that this is a wise investment of funds to ensure the best possible candidate is selected. Mr. Yale stated that the board wants to ensure a fair and transparent process. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Approval of RFP Document for Solicitation of Search Firm Proposals

Ms. Karnes moved for approval of the RFP document for solicitation of search firm proposals; Dr. Van Gelder seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the RFP document is attached to the official minutes.

Board Policy #1170 (Committees of the Board)

Pursuant to Board Policy #1170 - Committees of the Board - the Succession Planning Committee recommends the creation of a Superintendent Search Committee as a Temporary Committee of the Board. The purpose of this committee will be to review search firm proposals, make recommendations for finalists to the full Board, and, after selection of a search firm by the Board, meet as necessary to assist in the superintendent search process. The Superintendent Search Committee will be comprised of: Dana Blakely, Adam Yale, Doug Krenzer. Ms. Morrisette moved for approval of a Superintendent Search Committee; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Board Policy #1170 (Committees of the Board) - Committee Assignments

The board shared additional committee assignments for the upcoming school year. In addition to the newly created Superintendent Search Committee, other committee assignments include: Americanism Committee (Karnes, Van Gelder, Yale); Legislative Committee (Karnes, Morrisette, Van Gelder); Finance Committee (Karnes, Krenzer, Blakely).

Board Member Representation Updates

Ms. Morrisette will be attending NASB Board Meetings this upcoming school year.

Legislative Updates

A meeting of the Board's Legislative Committee will be scheduled for early August with Dr. McCann, Mr. Bob Zagozda, Mr. Brian Gabriel and district lobbyist Mr. Sean Kelley.

Announcements

Dr. McCann reviewed upcoming events:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| July 24, 2018 | All Administrator Meeting - 8:30am |
| July 25-27, 2018 | NCSA Administrator Conference - Kearney, NE |

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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| July 30, 2018 | Lighthouse Educator Academy (New Staff) Start Date |
| July 31, 2018 | All Administrator Learning Lab - 8:00am |
| August 6, 2018 | All Staff Back to School Breakfast / Meeting - 7:45am - WHS |
| August 6, 2018 | Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm |
| August 8, 2018 | Sunset Hills Elementary Open House - 6:00-8:00pm |
| August 9, 2018 | Elementary Sneak-A-Peeks - Evening (all elementary buildings) |
| August 14, 2018 | First Day of School |
| August 14, 2018 | Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - 6:00pm |
| August 20, 2018 | Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm |

There being no further business, Ms. Blakely adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Meagan Van Gelder, Board Secretary

School Board Executive Summary

Topic: Student Attendance Initiative

Date: August 6, 2018

Prepared and Presented by: Alan Bone, Director of Student Services



- Recommended Action:**
- Information Only
 - Presentation/Discussion
 - Discussion/Action by Board of Education
 - Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation(s): None at this time.

Purpose: Update for the Board of Education on district's drive to improve student attendance.

Background: Approximately 14 percent of students nationwide are chronically absent, meaning that they missed ten percent of the days school was in session. At Westside, 11 percent of students fit that definition. Research indicates that students who are chronically absent are more likely to fall behind their peers in reading and math and spend the rest of their lives trying to catch up.

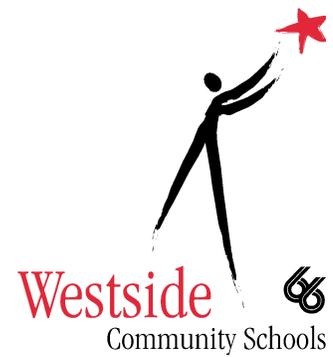
Since February, an Attendance Work Group comprised of school counselors, administrators, and social workers has been working to develop a concerted, District-wide initiative to address chronic absences. The group landed upon a multi-pronged approach in which we: (a) raise awareness; (b) create a culture of attendance; (c) engage students and their families; and (d) remove obstacles to good attendance.

To raise awareness, we are undertaking a messaging campaign to help students and families understand the detrimental effects of chronic absenteeism and providing practical tips for making good attendance a priority. All buildings will be emphasizing attendance during national Attendance Awareness Month in grades 7-12 and the "megamonth" of Augtember in our elementary buildings. Attendance teams in each building - led by school counselors - will work intensively with students who missed 18 or more days of school last year as well as helping parents identify strategies for improving the child's attendance for 2018-19.

The Attendance Work Group will meet periodically to review current-year attendance and work with counselors to celebrate successes and modify our efforts where necessary.

Attachment(s): Keynote Presentation

School Board Executive Summary



Topic: Boundary Engagement Process

Date: August 6, 2018

Prepared by: Blane McCann

- Recommended Action:**
- Information Only
 - Presentation/Discussion
 - Discussion/Action by Board of Education
 - Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation: The Superintendent will create a Boundary Committee to assist him in his review of, and consideration of revisions to, elementary attendance boundaries for Sunset Hills, Swanson, and Loveland Elementary Schools.

Purpose: Creation of a Boundary Committee is part of the District's commitment to transparency and public confidence in the process of reviewing elementary attendance boundaries for Sunset Hills, Swanson and Loveland Elementary Schools. The Boundary Committee will work in conjunction with RSP & Associates, who has been retained by the District to assist in this boundary review. RSP & Associates will facilitate Boundary Committee meetings.

Boundary Committee Responsibilities

The Boundary Committee's responsibilities will be to examine scenarios presented by RSP & Associates and evaluate boundary revisions based on community values and the prioritized boundary criteria set by the Board of Education. The prioritized boundary criteria set by the Board at their June 13, 2018 Board meeting is:

1. Projected Enrollment / Building Utilization
2. Fiscal Operational (Staffing)
3. Neighborhoods Intact
4. Contiguous Attendance Areas
5. Students Impacted by Boundary Change

Additionally, the Board agreed to the following Guiding Principles for the Boundary Engagement process:

- The BOE considers this work as part of the district plan. It's one part of a whole.
- The district is responsible for each student (resident and non-resident) being college and/or career successful.

- Each committee member represents the entire district in its ability to provide what is in each student’s best interest.
- The boundary should reflect providing better educational opportunities at each school for there to be an equitable student experience at each school.
- The boundary change should be limited to Loveland, Sunset, and Swanson elementary school attendance areas.
- The grade configuration should be K-6, 7-8, 9-12.
- Students who open enroll will be assigned to the elementary with available capacity.
- The committee recognizes the power of an elementary school to create community.
- Accessibility for families is essential.
- The boundary can anticipate future growth of the neighborhood.
- Walkability may not be possible currently – some schools may start with small enrollment in anticipation of growth.
- The boundary proposed should optimize all of the available District resources.
- Neighborhood schools are celebrated but not limited to follow man-made boundaries.
- Responsible Grandfathering/Transfers/Student Options are determined by Administration

The Boundary Committee is an advisory committee to the Superintendent, with members selected by the Superintendent. The Superintendent, along with such other designated staff members, shall provide the Boundary Committee with data and other information for its review. The Boundary Committee is providing advice and insight to the Superintendent, who will provide a formal recommendation to the Board of Education at the conclusion of this process. The proposed membership of the committee will include:

- District administration and principals from the three elementary buildings involved;
- Parents with students currently enrolled in the three buildings;
- Residents in the attendance areas with no children currently attending; and
- Community stakeholders

Boundary Committee Meetings

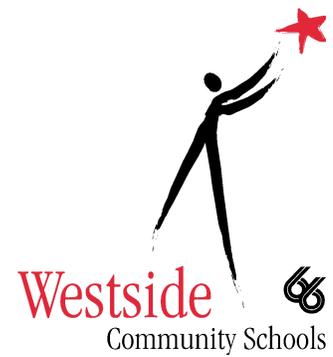
Boundary Committee meetings will be open to the public and prior notice to the public will be given of the time and location of meetings. The Boundary Committee is currently scheduled to meet on the following dates (subject to revision):

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| September 6, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. Swanson Elementary Swing School, 3534 S. 108th St. |
| September 20, 2018 | 6:00p.m. Swanson Elementary Swing School, 3534 S. 108th St. |
| October 11, 2018 | 6:00p.m. Sunset Hills Elementary School, 9503 Walnut St. |
| October 25, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. Swanson Elementary Swing School, 3534 S. 108th St. |
| November 29, 2018 | 6:00p.m. Sunset Hills Elementary School, 9503 Walnut St. |

Meeting information, including information on public forums, will be posted on the dedicated “Boundary Engagement Process” tab on the District’s website (westside66.org).

District Website Link: [Boundary Engagement Process](#)

School Board Executive Summary



Topic: Board Policy 3170 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests
Board Policy 3175 (formerly 7270) - Naming of
School District Facilities

Date: August 6, 2018

Prepared and Presented by: Alison McGinn, Administrative Counsel

Recommended Action:

- Information Only
- Presentation/Discussion
- Discussion/Action by Board of Education
- Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation(s): None. First presentation of policy revisions to Board. Action will be requested at Board of Education Meeting on August 20, 2018.

Purpose: Information about procedures for naming of buildings and other programs and facilities is currently found in two separate policies plus two separate regulations.

Board policy 3170 (Gifts, Grants and Bequests) and regulation 3170R, in effect since 2001, provide for the giving of recognition to donors by naming of District facilities and details the parameters for the naming of District facilities.

In 2005, the Board passed policy 7270 (Naming of School District Facilities), with accompanying regulation 7270R, that addressed additional naming requests and topics.

Neither policy references the other, and it is recommended that criteria for the naming of facilities be consolidated into one policy. This has been done with the renumbering of policy 7270 to policy 3175.

Policy 3170 (Gifts, Grants and Bequests) encourages those wishing to make donations to do so through the Westside Community Schools Foundation, and references Policy 3175 regarding appropriate naming recognition. Other revisions to policy 3170 provide criteria for consideration and acceptance by the Board of items of real and personal property offered to the District as a donation.

With all information consolidated into both policies, the regulations (3170R and 7270R) are no longer needed.

Attachment(s): Board Policies 3170 and 3175 (redline)

GIFTS, GRANTS, AND BEQUESTS

The Board of Education ~~of the Westside Community Schools~~ encourages individuals who wish to make gifts, grants, or bequests or devises to make such donations through the Westside Community Schools Foundation. The Foundation is a non-profit organization that raises private funds to support the continuing improvement of the District's educational programs, including student scholarships, teacher recognition, classroom grants, facilities improvement, and support.

The Board may, in its discretion, accept gifts, grants, bequests or devises of property, real or personal, provided that the gift is consistent with the District's mission and goals and the item must:

1. Be consistent with educational purposes and in compliance with law and Board policies.
2. Be accepted only for such locations and purposes approved by the administration.
3. Not have maintenance or installation costs that are excessive or that are in an amount that the administration or Board determines would not be fiscally responsible to undertake. The Board may, as a condition of acceptance, provide that the endowment include designated operational costs associated with the gift. When installation is required, the gift shall be installed under the supervision of District personnel. There shall be no obligation to replace items that are destroyed or become obsolete, and length of use shall be at the discretion of the Board.
4. Not promote or be associated with a religious or political issue or viewpoint nor suggest endorsement of any business, product or topic inappropriate for K-12 students;

The Superintendent or designee shall evaluate the item(s) being offered and make an assessment of whether the gift meets the criteria listed above prior to forwarding the offer to the Board. The Superintendent or designee may include a recommendation to the Board regarding approval of the item(s).

~~When~~ If the gift is accepted by the Board of Education, the gift, grant, bequest or devise of property becomes the property of the District and under the complete control of the Board of Education.

The Board of Education may give appropriate recognition to donors for their significant gifts, grant, or bequests of devises of property through the naming of a specific facility or program in accordance with Board Policy 3175.

POLICY ADOPTED: April 3, 1973

POLICY REVIEWED AND ADOPTED: January 5, 1987

POLICY AMENDED: October 1, 2001

Cross-Reference: Policy 3175 (formerly Policy 7270) "Naming of School District Facilities."

Blue = moved from current regulation 3170R Red = new language

NAMING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Authority for naming or re-naming all school district facilities or portions of school district facilities, either indoor or outdoor, rests with the Board of Education.

Definitions

The term “facilities” includes buildings, rooms, interior spaces, ~~streets,~~ exterior spaces, ~~including landscape materials (such as trees and structures that will be marked with a plaque),~~ **outdoor structures,** courts, **and** athletic fields, ~~open spaces,~~ and all other areas owned, operated, or controlled by ~~the~~ Westside Community Schools.

The term “program” includes departments, centers, and any other unit associated with ~~the~~ Westside Community Schools.

Existing School Buildings

Generally a ~~named facility~~ **school building** will retain that name as long as it exists **at the same approximate location, regardless of remodeling or new construction, and is not eligible for re-naming.** If the use of a facility changes, the Board will determine if a new name will be given to a re-purposed facility.

Naming of Facilities or Programs for Individuals, Families or Entity

Requests to name a facility or program for an individual, family or entity may be submitted to the District by the Westside Community Schools Foundation or by any individual or group. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent or designee and describe the basis for the nomination, the specific program or facility requested to be named, and any supporting documentation or information. The Superintendent will review the request and forward the request to the Board president if the request meets the initial requirements contained in this policy for consideration. The Superintendent may request further information from the requestor before submission to the Board and may likewise direct the requestor to the Foundation for further information.

Criteria for Naming Consideration

~~The Westside Community Schools may name facilities based on the following criteria~~ Requests for naming of facilities or programs must be for one or more of the following purposes in order to be considered:

1. To recognize individuals who ~~have~~ attained achievements of extraordinary and lasting distinction **in the local community and** ~~Generally these will be individuals who have had a substantial and active association with the District. For individuals who have not had such an association with the District, selection may be based on the individual record of leadership, humanitarian or public service.~~
2. To recognize **individuals, families or entities benefactors** who have made substantial financial contributions **to for the benefit of the District through the Westside Community Schools Foundation.** For contributions toward new construction or significant renovation of an existing

building or existing structures, “substantial financial contribution” shall mean a minimum of ~~twenty-five~~ ~~forty~~ percent of the total project cost or ~~a such amount(s) as is agreed upon by the Board of Education following a recommendation from the number agreed upon by the Administration and Westside Community Schools~~ Foundation Board of Directors. Gifts to endow a program shall mean a minimum contribution of ~~\$1~~ 500,000 or ~~a number agreed upon~~ such other amount as is agreed to by the Board of Education following a recommendation by the ~~Westside Community Schools-Foundation~~ Board of Directors. The Board of Education retains the discretion and final authority to determine whether a particular individual, family or entity will be approved for naming. School facilities and programs will not be named for entities that promote or are associated with a religious or political issue or viewpoint, are associated with any product that is illegal or inappropriate for K-12 students, or that is associated with controversy or that would detract from the educational mission or reputation of Westside Community Schools.

3. To honor ~~a former staff or faculty~~ member with at least twenty years of service with the District by the naming of a program, ~~an existing facility,~~ or portion of an existing facility. Recommendations to honor ~~a former staff member~~ must first be made in writing to the Westside Foundation Board of Directors along with any other information that may be required by the Foundation, such as ~~A plan for~~ fund raising plans, if applicable. ~~should accompany the recommendation.~~ However, a request to name a ~~facility or program~~ for a former staff member will not be ~~named for~~ considered by the Board of Education until at least five years after his/her employment has ended. ~~members of the staff or faculty as long as they are employed by the Westside Community Schools.~~

Duration of Names and Changes

The naming of a facility or program in honor of an individual, family or entity is typically expected to last for the life of the facility or the duration of the program; however, the naming of a facility or program for a set number of years will also be considered.

The Board retains the right to withdraw previously granted naming rights in the event the Board determines there has been a material change of circumstances such that the name no longer represents the District in a positive manner or is inappropriate for a K-12 educational facility.

Announcements

The naming or re-naming of any facility or program must be approved by the Board of Education prior to public announcement. No commitment for naming shall be made prior to approval by the Board of Education under this policy.

POLICY ADOPTED: February 7, 2005

POLICY AMENDED: _____

Cross-Reference: Board Policy 3176 Student Memorials

Green = moved from current regulation 7270R

Red = new language

Blue = moved from current regulation 3170R

School Board Executive Summary

Topic: Board Policy 3176 - Student Memorials

Date: August 6, 2018

Prepared and Presented by: Alison McGinn, Administrative Counsel
Alan Bone, Director of Student Services



- Recommended Action:**
- Information Only
 - Presentation/Discussion
 - Discussion/Action by Board of Education
 - Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation(s): None. First presentation of new policy to Board. Action will be requested at Board of Education Meeting on August 20, 2018.

Purpose: This proposed policy is part of the work being undertaken by Vicki Londer and Kathie McGill, lead members of the Grief Response Group, and by Alan Bone, Director of Student Services.

The Grief Response Group is an extension of the District Emergency Operations Team (EOT). The purpose of the Grief Response Group is to provide emotional and psychological support for students following the loss of a classmate, parent or staff member and to guide the District on best practices following a crisis, such as the death of a student. Grief Response Group members will include counselors, social workers, psychologists and other staff members specifically trained in dealing with loss. A comprehensive Grief Response Protocol is being prepared to include parameters for a variety of questions and issues that arise following the death of a student and to lay a foundation on which to base decisions.

The proposed Student Memorials policy relates to one part of the Protocol – student memorials - and provides that decisions by the school regarding memorials will balance the desire to honor and remember a student with the awareness and concern for the emotional well-being of all students. Schools must seek to avoid actions which, while being done in tribute to the student, may also have the effect of glorifying or glamorizing the death or the manner of death. It is essential that memorials be handled in thoughtful ways that consider the potential impact on all students, including at-risk students, and that there be equal treatment regardless of a student's economic status and regardless of race, sex, mental or physical ability or any other protected class.

Attachment(s): Board Policy 3176 (new)

STUDENT MEMORIALS

Each school may at some time face the tragedy of the death of a student. Schools are natural places for students, families and the community to look to for ways to recognize and honor the deceased student's life. School staff, particularly trained counselors and others, can help students work through and understand the grieving and healing processes.

The District will maintain a Grief Response protocol, which shall include parameters for student memorials and other topics important to families. The Grief Response protocol will guide the decisions to be made by the District and will align with professionally recommended best practices and to ensure equitable treatment of students. School officials must balance the desire to honor and remember a cherished individual with awareness and concern for the emotional well-being of all students. This must include avoiding actions which may, in the minds of some students, appear to glorify or glamorize the death or the manner of death.

Activities are preferable over permanent, fixed memorials (plaques, benches, etc.), and can provide an opportunity for students to express emotions and be supported by the school community. Memorial activities can serve a larger purpose as well—to promote positive group action toward a goal or cause and to offer various options for remembrance and degree of participation, such as:

- Creating service opportunities to honor the student, especially those that provide the opportunity to take an active role in helping others, such as organizing a community effort, cleaning up a park, or volunteering for charitable causes.
- Contributions to charities designated by the family in the name of the student;
- Contributions to the Westside Community Schools Foundation for scholarships or other financial contributions in the name of the student, or through the purchase of a memorial brick at the high school;
- Collection of sympathy notes and cards from students who choose to participate. Writing to the family through notes or memory books provides the family with the gift of the writer's memories about their loved one.

Funerals or memorial services on school premises, such as in the gymnasium of a building, are not allowed. Dedication of school-sponsored events (school dances, concerts, sporting events, banquets, etc.) to the deceased student are also not allowed.

Graduation ceremonies present an especially difficult and sensitive situation for families. In keeping with the purpose of celebrating the academic achievements of students who participate in the graduation ceremony, empty chairs or moments of silence will not be allowed.

Alternatives may be discussed with the building principal in conjunction with counseling staff, and decisions made by the District will be consistent with the Grief Response protocol.

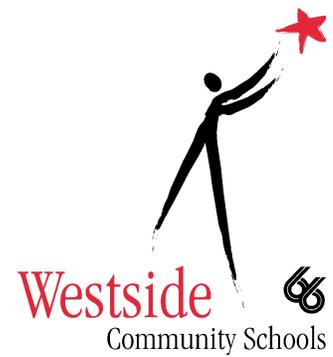
POLICY ADOPTED: _____

School Board Executive Summary

Topic: #BeKind Campaign Resolution

Date: August 6, 2018

Prepared and Presented by: Blane McCann



- Recommended Action:**
- Information Only
 - Presentation/Discussion
 - Discussion/Action by Board of Education
 - Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation(s): Board recognition of August 24, 2018 as #BeKind Day.

Purpose: City-wide kindness campaign to bring awareness to all types of harassment and bullying.

Background: In early 2018, metro area school leaders initiated discussions on establishing a campaign of kindness and inviting any metro area group to participate - schools, businesses, faith-based organizations, local government, etc. Student leaders from all metro area schools took part in a student rally at ESU3 on April 16, 2018, to kick off their involvement and planning for their own school communities for the 2018-2019 school year.

On August 24, 2018, MOEC is hosting a press conference and the Mayor will be in attendance to kick off the official #BeKind Day. Others scheduled to attend include State Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt as well as leadership of NSEA, NCSA, NASB and ESU's. The original end goal of creating a movement of kindness across the city has now grown into a movement that includes our state education leaders. It is the hope of everyone involved that this campaign of kindness will become rooted, not only in our local metro area, but in the fabric of Nebraska communities for years to come.

Here at Westside Community Schools, the district has adopted #BeKind as our theme for the upcoming school year. We are also incorporating the message of "Nurturing Your Strengths" to encourage our staff to show kindness, not only to those around them, but also to themselves by recognizing and celebrating the qualities and strengths that each of us have.

Attachment(s): #BeKind Day Resolution

Resolution in Support of #BeKind Day
August 24, 2018

Whereas, the Omaha metropolitan area values and recognizes that while it costs nothing to *#BeKind* to others, the dividends of that effort will last a lifetime.

Whereas, research shows that strong relationships are at least as important for our personal health as avoiding smoking or obesity and a simple focus to *#BeKind* immediately strengthens bonds among students, school and community stakeholders.

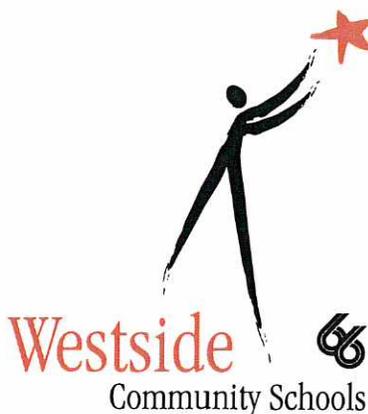
Whereas, Omaha metropolitan area students, leaders, City Councils, School Boards, and Superintendents have set the goal to encourage and expect daily acts to *#BeKind* in all of the following places: K-12 School Districts, Police Departments, Fire Departments, City Hall, and all City Support Services.

Whereas, students, school professionals, mayors, police officers, firefighters, city employees, community members, and families understand a stronger, healthier community free of bullying and harassment that embraces diversity at all levels is achievable, if we all commit to *#BeKind* all of the time.

Recognizing, the parents, teachers, students, elected officials, community leaders, and all stakeholders have a strong commitment to pay compassion, care, and acceptance forward with a simple decision to *#BeKind*.

Be it resolved that the Westside Community Schools Board of Education recognizes August 24, 2018 as *#BeKind* Day.

Adopted this 6th day of August, 2018



Dana Blakely, President
Board of Education
Westside Community Schools