



Webster Groves School District
Special/Workshop Meeting of
The Board of Education
Monday, February 25, 2013, 7:00 P.M.

Hixson Middle School
630 South Elm
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A special/workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:42 p.m., Monday, February 25, 2013, by its president, Amy O'Brien. The following members were present:

Amy O'Brien	President
Emerson Smith	Vice President
Jean Dugan	
Steve Loher	

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
Katie Brookes	Secretary

The following administrators arrived at 7:00 p.m.

Diane Moore	Assistant Superintendent-COO
John Simpson	Assistant Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction
John M. Thomas	Director-Student Services
Cathy Vespereny	Director-Community Relations
Doug Copeland	Attorney (arrived at 8:00 p.m.)

BOARD CANDIDATE
ORIENTATION

The meeting opened with the board candidate orientation for the benefit of board candidate Joel Oliver.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Ms. O'Brien called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Loher, to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Smith requested that item 006a be corrected to read February 11, 2013, BOE Regular Meeting. Members agreed and the motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dave Buck, Hixson parent, spoke about the district's need to move from good to great and the mission statement.

BOARD LIAISON ACTIVITIES

MSBA LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Ms. O'Brien and Mrs. Dugan shared information from their attendance at MSBA's Legislative Forum in Jefferson City on February 19. They heard a briefing on upcoming critical education bills, and presentations on PSRS and PEERS and tax credit reform. They met school board members from other districts and heard about proposed legislation.

Ms. O'Brien asked about the district's proposal for a presentation on the district's Legislative Advocacy Committee at the MSBA Annual Conference in October. Dr. Riss stated the proposal is due by March 15 and it is in the process of being prepared.

REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

ROOFING BID

Dr. Moore opened the discussion of the roofing bids for the high school. Rob Steuber, construction project manager, presented the recommendation. He stated that six contractors presented bids, and five of them successfully met the criteria in full as outlined in the RFP. Reference checks were performed during the proposal review process, and upon completion of the review process it was decided that Taylor Roofing should be recommended to the board. This company was the low bidder and has highly favorable references, as well as an extensive and diversified list of roofing projects that include many educational facilities.

Board members discussed the current roof structure, the deadline for completion of the work, possible abatement issues, moving classes out of the third floor while work is going on, and the need to keep parents informed.

Approval of the roofing contractor bid is on the consent agenda.

PROGRAM EVALUATION PROCESS UPDATE

Dr. Simpson provided the mid-year program evaluation updates which include business, gifted, strings, industrial technology, and PALSS and Pathways. He indicated the final strings report should be completed in March, with the remaining reports completed by summer. Part of the evaluation process has included visiting other districts, which has been a positive experience.

Board members discussed Representative Cookson's request to visit the industrial technology program.

KINDERGARTEN
TUITION
RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Moore presented possible full-day kindergarten funding scenarios including a gradual phase-out of the current tuition over a six-year period, elimination or reduction in tuition costs based upon an income sliding scale, continuation under the current guidelines to provide free full-day kindergarten to all students qualifying for free and reduced lunch, and elimination of tuition for all full-day kindergarten students beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.

Board members discussed the available options in connection with full-day kindergarten funding, additional scholarships for early childhood education, additional scholarships for full-day kindergarten, and the free and reduced lunch income ceiling for families. They agreed to continue under the current guidelines and requested that Dr. Moore provide additional data and scenarios for discussion as a future meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, approval of the consent agenda including:

- 006a Minutes for the February 11, 2013, Regular Meeting
- 006b Approve Personnel Report
- 006c Approve Roofing Bid Recommendation

The motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments

MOTION TO RECESS
INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, that the board recess into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel [Sec. 610.021(3) RS Mo], litigation [Sec.610.201(1) RS MO], and Meet and Confer [Sec. 610.021(9) RS Mo]. The motion carried 4-0 with members voting as follows: Ms. O'Brien, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; and Mr. Loher, yes.

RECONVENE OPEN
MEETING

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Loher, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

President

Secretary