

Webster Groves School District
Board of Education
Special/Workshop Meeting
Monday, October 27, 2014
7:00 P.M.
Board of Education
400 East Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A special/workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, October 27, 2014, by its president, Emerson Smith. The following members were present:

Emerson Smith	President
Steve Loher	Vice President
Joel Oliver	
Jean Dugan	
Michael Shipley	
David Addison (phoned in at 7:05pm)	

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent-COO
John Simpson	Asst. Superintendent-C&I
John M. Thomas	Director-Student Services
Cathy Vespereny	Director-Community Relations
Jane Baumgartner	Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Smith called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag prior to beginning the meeting.

AGENDA

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments offered.

**MSBA CONFERENCE
DISCUSSION**

BOE members each offered up highlights from this year's recent MSBA Annual Conference at Tan-Tar-A Resort. Many sessions were highlighted including: a panel discussion given by the State Board of Education, a session on Google Docs used for BOE meetings, Apple 1:1 learning initiatives, the power of collaboration-which included Professional Development by teaching one another across districts, MSBA services in a Superintendent Search process, and a security presentation.

STEGER / COMPUTER
SCHOOL REPORT

Kristin Denbow presented the Steger report first, which included information on: Steger's progress related to MAP scores in Math and ELA, the effectiveness of the "team approach" at Steger, cross-curricular teaching methods, collaboration with community organizations, and a full implementation of the 1:1 initiative using Chromebooks. She described several points of pride including the PBIS Leadership Camp and Lucy Caulkins writing units. Steger teacher Lisa Picker spoke about the Camp Wyman experience in its first year after switching from the fifth grade. She described it as a great way to form new relationships and shared several quotes from students that explained what they learned and why they enjoyed the trip. She also shared a short video from Camp Wyman.

Dr. Denbow then presented the Computer School Report, which included information on: a slight decrease in MAP scores, full integration (K-5) with Lucy Caulkins Writing units, math workshop implementation, and the receipt of additional funding since being named a Title 1 school due to the change in current demographics.

She described several ways to help move Steger to the next level which included: Camp Wyman, Lucy Caulkins writing units, math workshop, and 6-8 Vertical Planning. She also described several ways to help move Computer School to the next level which included: Lucy Caulkins writing units, math workshop, and Kagan Cooperative Learning Strategies. Computer School teacher Amy Jauer shared a presentation on Lucy Caulkins, which included actual examples of growth and progress in the writing of her students.

STUDENT SUCCESS
DATA AREA REPORT

John Simpson presented information on student success. He included information and statistics on areas such as: WGSD earning the highest MAP Math MPI on record; ELA, Math, Science MAP trends continuing upward; an increase in attendance rate of 92.8%; increase in graduation rates; decrease in overall number of suspensions; highest number of students taking the ACT; and over 90% of those taking AP exams scored a 3 or higher. He also discussed some critical issues which included: continuing to decrease the number of suspensions, strengthening tier 2 and tier 3 levels of support for school implementing PBIS, and improving the consistency with which infractions are reported in the schools.

Dr. Simpson also presented items in the student success report that focused around promoting healthy lifestyles. These actions included: staff sharing of resources using the CNI server, Google communities, and an upcoming Robert Kaplinsky workshop on creatively engaging students. John M. Thomas presented information about anti-bullying efforts in the WGSD. These included: Rachel's Challenge updates, peer mediation options and prescription drug awareness seminars.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

Sarah Riss presented an updated Enrollment Report. This report summarized enrollment numbers at each school which has resulted in a District increase of 30 students over last school year. BOE members engaged in questions about future enrollment trends and how these numbers could best be managed.

BOARD TURKEY PLANS

Mr. Smith reminded the Board of their scheduled time of 7:00pm to cook chili on November 25 in the High School cafeteria. ChiliFest will take place November 26 from 4:30-7 p.m. BOE members will decide how to best divide up shifts.

RECESS INTO CLOSED
SESSION

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to recess into closed session at 8:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Property [Sec. 610.021 (2) RS Mo], a Student Matter [Sec. 610.021 (6)RS Mo] and Personnel [Sec.610.021(3)RS Mo]. Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Loher, yes; Mr. Oliver, yes; Mr. Addison, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Mr. Shipley, yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECONVENE OPEN
MEETING

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

Board President

Board Secretary

