

Webster Groves School District  
Special Meeting / Retreat  
The Board of Education  
Saturday, January 11, 2014  
8:00 A.M.  
Edgewood Children's Center, Small Jones Room  
330 N. Gore  
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

**CALL TO ORDER**

A special meeting/retreat of the Board of Education was called to order at 8:10 a.m., Saturday, January 11, 2014, by its president, Amy O'Brien. The following members were present:

Amy O'Brien	President
Emerson Smith	Vice President
David Addison	
Joel Oliver	
Jean Dugan	
Steve Loher	
Amy Clendennen	(left at 10:30am)

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent-COO
John Simpson	Asst. Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction
Linda Holliday	Human Resources Consultant
Cathy Vespereny	Director-Community Relations
John M. Thomas	Director-Student Services
JoAnn Kite	Director-Business Services (left at 10:30am)
Jane Baumgartner	Board Secretary

**AGENDA**

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

**DISCUSSION OF BOND  
DEBT; FACILITIES &  
REVENUE COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

Diane Moore and Greg Bricker presented information on the current Bond Issue, future bonding capacity, and the work of the Revenue Committee's Report. It was discussed how specific bond amounts would affect future tax increases for residents. Diane also reviewed options for possible budget reductions and insurance coverage changes in order to include additional employee groups.

Next, Diane Moore presented the Facilities Committee Report and provided additional detailed information regarding the previously reviewed options to potentially resolve the ongoing issue of overcrowding in elementary schools. All options were discussed at length including approximate costs for each. Each Board member voiced his/her opinion on what combination of options would be best. The Board gave guidance for the administration to be studying the possibility of an "innovation"-type school and of a possible 6-8 center.

LONG & SHORT TERM  
BUDGET GOALS

Diane Moore summarized the long and short term financial outlooks and goals of WGSD.

STRATEGIC PLANNING  
UPDATE

Sarah and John S. updated the Board on the newly drafted Strategic Planning thematic goals and the plan for the next committee meeting.

BOARD OFFICER  
POSITION UPDATE

Amy O'Brien presented an idea of a Board Succession Plan. This plan would be a uniform, consistent process of training and filling Board vacancies. It was suggested that it be a practice for the Vice President to fill the role of President, upon the resignation of the President. Ms. O'Brien expressed an interest in having a "blueprint" in place to assist potential officers. Steve Loher expressed an interest in filling the role of Vice President in the future.

CALENDAR DISCUSSION

The discussion's focus was on the possible consideration of changing the day before Thanksgiving to be a school/district holiday in order to improve morale. No decision was made regarding this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, that the consent agenda be approved:

- 003a Minutes of December 9, 2013 Regular Meeting
- 003b Approve Personnel Report

The motion carried 6-0.

MOTION TO RECESS  
INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to recess into closed session at 11:15am for the purposes of discussing Property [Sec. 610.021(2) RS Mo] and Personnel [Sec. 610.201(3) RS Mo]. Ms. O'Brien, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Addison, yes; Mr. Oliver, yes; Mr. Loher, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECONVENE OPEN MTG

The open meeting was reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. The motion carried 6-0.

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President

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Secretary