

WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Open Minutes from a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Monday, April 10, 2017  
Central Office Board Room  
400 E. Lockwood Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63119

CALL TO ORDER: A Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:31 p.m., Monday, April 10, 2017, by its president, Steven Loher.

The following members were present:

Steven Loher	President
Amy Clendennen	Vice President
David Addison	Director
Jean Dugan	Director
Emerson Smith	Director
Arnold Stricker	Director
Michael Shipley	Director (arrived at 6:35 p.m.)

Also present were:

John Simpson	Superintendent
Kristin Denbow	Assistant Superintendent for Learning
Sandy Wiley	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Cathy Vespereny	Chief Communications Officer
Tim Brown	Director of Learning Technology
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Bruce Ellerman	Interim CFO/COO (arrived at 6:50 p.m.)
Doug Copeland	Attorney
Shari Meyers	Board Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mr. Loher called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag prior to beginning the meeting.

AGENDA Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the agenda. Mr. Addison, Yes; Mr. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Ms. Clendennen, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, to recess into executive session at 6:33 p.m. for the purpose of discussing litigation [Sec.610.021(1)RS MO.] and personnel [Sec.610.201(3)RS MO.], and property[Sec.610.201(2)RSMO.] Mr. Addison, Yes; Mr. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Ms. Clendennen, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECONVENE TO OPEN MEETING The open meeting reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

## CELEBRATIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

The following events were announced and celebrated by the board:

- League of Women Voters on a successful Board Candidate Forum
- Upcoming Spring For Schools event on Friday, April 14, sponsored by the WGSD Foundation
- Thank you to all of the candidates who attended the board forum and for running for a seat on the board

## CELEBRATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATORS

The WGHS boys basketball team attended the board meeting, introduced themselves and were given a standing ovation by the board and Dr. Simpson for winning the State Championship title. Coach Jay Blossom spoke about the team and introduced the assistant basketball coaches and thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

## BOARD MINUTES- FEBRUARY 27TH

Mr. Shipley requested that additional comments be added to the February 27<sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes. Under Agenda: 'Mr. Shipley said adding an agenda item for a future meeting at the current meeting is completely acceptable under board policy'. Under WGSD Fourth of July Carnival: 'Mr. Shipley inquired if a legal document would be created to outline the WGSD Fourth of July agreement with the City of Webster Groves.' Mr. Shipley moved, seconded by Mr. Addison to approve the minutes with the items added. The motion passed with a vote of 4-2, Ms. Clendennen abstained.

## LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AND MSBA SPRING REGIONAL MEETING

Mr. Loher attended the Legislative Breakfast and had hoped it would be structured as a legislative-type forum. Mr. Loher encouraged all of the board members to attend the MSBA Spring Regional Meeting on April 27 and to contact Shari Meyers to register.

## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Dr. Simpson shared that staff and community were interested in renaming the Computer School. Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Shipley to approve the formation of a committee to look into a name change for the Computer School. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Simpson shared the following events and information:

- Announcement that Amy Hunter will be speaking on Equity in Education at Steger Sixth Grade Center on April 17
- Hudson Elementary and the Webster Groves School District were mentioned in St. Louis Magazine for Democracy in Schools for their non-traditional classrooms
- He received an invitation from a local church, The Gathering, to attend an event at Ivory Crockett Park on April 23
- Hixson Middle School contacted the author of Restorative Practices, who video skyped with the staff. Aimee Vogt made it available to the district so that leadership teams from all of our schools could attend and discuss restorative practices.

- Melissa Hellwig coordinated a district bus tour for community members. Approximately 15 residents attended.
- We continue to monitor enrollments, transfer requests and tracking class sizes. District parents who choose a school other than their home school are to request in writing every year for approval. Families are notified of the decision in late spring early summer.
- Elementary Summer School has a high enrollment this year. It will be not only be opened up to students who need academic assistance but also students who would like to attend school during the summer and engage in fun projects. Currently there are approximately 380-390 students.
- New this year, the district will allow schools to roll over up to 15% of their budgets to the following fiscal year instead of having to spend the funds by June 1<sup>st</sup> as in the past. If a school wants to roll over more than 15%, a detailed plan will need to be submitted as to what will be spent with the funds.
- MAP testing begins in the district
- Public Placement Fund money is allocated through DESE to service students in places such as Great Circle and Epworth. Currently, we receive \$800,000 for public placement. The Missouri House of Representatives decided to cut these funds from their budget. The Senate is involved in budget development. Dr. Simpson contacted Senator Sifton. If the funds are cut, local taxpayers may have to help pay for the students who were placed at Great Circle and Epworth. Dr. Simpson and Bruce Ellerman plan to bring this topic to the next Legislative Advocacy Committee meeting on Friday, April 14 to be held in the Kirkwood School District.

## FEDERAL PROGRAMS REPORTS

Kristin Denbow provided an overview of the Federal Programs report. Since the Webster Groves School District is not considered a high-needs district in comparison to other districts, it will receive a decrease of \$83,000 in Title I funds and a decrease of \$76,000 in Title II funds in 2017-18. These funds are split between Webster Groves, Epworth and Great Circle. Dr. Denbow shared her recommendations for 2017-18. Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Dr. Stricker to approve the Federal Programs Report as presented. The motion passed 7-0.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL ED CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

Dr. Denbow presented the 2017-18 Career and Technical Ed Consortium Agreement (Perkins Grant) that supports the high school's DECA program and professional development for the teachers. Bayless School District is the fiscal agent and oversees the grant. Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Career and Technical Ed Consortium Agreement for 2017-2018. The motion carried 6-0. (Ms. Clendennen was absent from the meeting during this discussion).

SELMA FIELD PRESS BOX	Bruce Ellerman presented the bid from Lawlor Corporation for the construction of a press box on the Selma Field. After a fundraising effort from the Athletic Department, a revised estimated project cost goal of \$85,000 was established. Rob Steuber was available for questions from the board members. Mr. Shipley suggested altering the proposal to include metal handrails instead of wood handrails for safety and durability purposes. Mr. Steuber stated the wood handrails will have metal clamps and brackets so there would be no lessening of safety performance. The plans will be presented to the City of Webster Groves. Mr. Steuber will provide an update to the board at that time. Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Lawlor Corporation's bid for the Selma Field Press Box. The motion carried 7-0.
STUDENT ADVISOR TO BOARD	The criteria was discussed for the student advisor to the board. Two WGHS juniors would be appointed. The interview committee would be made up of senior students. The students felt there should be two representatives to better reach the student population, to collaborate, and work together. The students would meet with Webster Groves High School Principal Jon Clark and John Simpson on a regular basis. They would be trained in Board Policy, Sunshine Law and basic rules and expectations.
RESOLUTION ON EDUCATIONAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	Dr. Simpson provided an update on the Resolution on Educational Equity and Social Justice. Draft recommendations from the district's Equity in Education Committee were shared with the board. The item will be added to the May agenda for a final recommendation.
SPECIAL COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT	Dr. Simpson took a moment to honor the work of Michael Shipley and presented him with a gift as he stepped down from his position as Board Director. Members of the board made comments thanking Mr. Shipley for his insight and contributions to the board.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	Dave Buck congratulated new board member Jo Doll and re-elected board members Amy Clendennen and David Addison. Mr. Buck thanked Michael Shipley for his service and his willingness to speak out even if it is not always popular. Mr. Buck encouraged the Webster Groves School District to focus on fewer projects, rather than trying to do too much at one time.
CONSENT AGENDA	<p>Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, approval of the consent agenda including the following items:</p> <p>015a Minutes for the following BOE Meeting:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">015a1 March 13, 2017</p> <p>015b Personnel Report</p> <p>015c Payment of Bills</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">015c (1) Cash Flow Summary</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">015c (2) Summary Activity Analysis</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">015c (3) Operating Check Register (3/9/17-4/4/17)-\$1,044,578.07</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">015c (4) Activity Account Check Register (3/9/17-4/4/17)-\$84,276.58</p>

The motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURN SINE DIE	At 8:49 p.m. Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, to adjourn Sine Die. Mr. Addison, Yes; Mr. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Ms. Clendennen, Yes; Mr. Shipley, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes. The motion carried 7-0.
BOARD REORGANIZATION	The meeting was called to order at 8:51 p.m. by Shari Meyers, who administered the Oath of Office to David Addison, Amy Clendennen and Jo Doll.
PRESIDENT	Shari Meyers collected Board President nominations. Amy Clendennen received a nomination and accepted. No other board members were nominated. Mr. Addison moved to elect Amy Clendennen as Board President for 2017-2018, seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion passed 7-0.
VICE PRESIDENT	Ms. Clendennen collected Vice President nominations. Jean Dugan was nominated but did not accept. Emerson Smith was nominated and accepted. Dr. Stricker moved to elect Emerson Smith as Vice President for 2017-2018, seconded by Mr. Loher. The motion carried 7-0.
BOARD SECRETARY	Mr. Loher nominated, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, that Shari Meyers be elected as Board Secretary for 2017-2018. The board voted 7-0 to appoint Shari Meyers as Board Secretary.
BOARD TREASURER	Mr. Loher nominated, seconded by Dr. Stricker, that JoAnn Kite be elected as Board Treasurer for 2017-2018. The board voted 7-0 to appoint JoAnn Kite as Board Treasurer.
BOARD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS	Ms. Clendennen recommended the board members engage more with the community by having two or three board members rotate in the community at public and school events.
ADJOURNMENT	Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, that the meeting adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Mr. Addison, Yes; Mr. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Ms. Clendennen, Yes; Mrs. Doll, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes. The motion carried 7-0.

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Board President

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Board Secretary