



Webster Groves School District
Regular Meeting of
The Board of Education
Monday, October 8, 2012, 7:00 P.M.

Central Office
400 East Lockwood
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 8, 2012, by its president, Amy O'Brien. The following members were present:

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| Amy O'Brien | President |
| Emerson Smith | Vice President |
| Amy Clendennen | |
| Jean Dugan | |
| Michael Kearney | |
| Steve Loher | |
| David Addison | by telephone at 7:02 p.m., until exiting at 8:30 p.m. |

Also present were:

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| Sarah Booth Riss | Superintendent |
| Diane Moore | Assistant Superintendent-COO |
| Katie Brookes | Secretary |

Arrived at 7:00 p.m.

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| John Simpson | Assistant Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction |
| Linda Holliday | Human Resources Consultant |
| John M. Thomas | Director-Student Services |
| Cathy Vespereny | Director-Community Relations |
| Doug Copeland | Attorney |

AUDIT DISCUSSION

Dr. Moore introduced Darrell Songer of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP who provided an informal workshop on the district's annual audit. He noted that the district's financial statements were presented properly and correctly, and the audit went very well. Each year the audit becomes more complex, and the administration and staff are always very responsive to requests from the auditors.

Board members then discussed what can be done to stay ahead of the curve on federal requirements, the amount of federal funds the district receives, and the need to keep the Foundation separate from the district. Ms. O'Brien noted her appreciation for the work of district staff in connection with the audit.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

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

AGENDA

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

UPDATED
CORRESPONDENCE
LOG

Ms. O'Brien pointed out the updated Communications Log. There were no questions or comments.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Riss introduced the National Merit Scholars: Anthony Wride, Dillon Williams, and Sam Berg. The scholars then introduced their parents and shared their activities and interests at the high school and their plans for the future. Dr. Riss thanked the families for their support of the students.

Dr. Riss then introduced Theresa Boettler who was recognized as Chartwell's Salaried Associate of the Year. Ms. Boettler was nominated by her peers for this award. Ms. O'Brien noted how responsive Ms. Boettler had been to the Nutrition Committee and to parents.

Mr. Loher recognized the September 12 Community that Learns Together Event organized by Dr. Simpson and his staff. He also mentioned the Sports Hall of Fame event held at Westborough Country Club.

Mr. Addison expressed his appreciation for the school district's bands and band teachers. He also noted the obituary of former school board member and president Harold Knight.

Mrs. Clendennen thanked the Foundation for their work on recent events including the Ivory Crockett Run 4 Webster.

Mr. Kearney also recognized the September 12 curriculum event and mentioned the Kahn Academy workshop he attended at the event.

Mrs. Dugan mentioned the freshman parent group's fajita dinner and their silent auction scheduled for March 2.

Mrs. O'Brien recognized the recent Avery Breakfast of Leaders.

Ms. Vespereny noted the recent Edgar Road blood drive and charitable walk and the Service Excellence Award received by Hixson nurse Linda Neumann from the Brain Injury Association of Missouri.

Dr. Riss shared that 37 Webster Challenge students went on a tour of universities and mentioned the Edgar Road dance, the Foundation golf tournament, and the loss of Sue Schindel, a parent who was active on several committees and PTOs and recently filled in as secretary at Edgar Road, who passed away Sunday. She also noted that the art work in the Board Room is from Edgar Road.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MSBA UPDATE

Board members shared their experiences at the recent MSBA Conference. Mr. Addison stated it was the second MSBA Conference he has attended, and noted that the problems and issues some districts have reinforce the great job done by Webster Groves administrators and staff. Mr. Loher agreed with Mr. Addison and shared comments about the Service Learning and Common Core Standards sessions he attended. Mrs. Clendennen attended a session about dealing with the media and learned that people get information about their school districts from newspapers and district employees. Mr. Smith focused on governance, legislative update and the Delegate Assembly. Mrs. Dugan attended a session about the new Ladue Early Childhood Center and noted the number of board members from small districts and their efforts to obtain funding. Dr. Riss attended legislative sessions and mentioned the importance of thanking legislators. Ms. O'Brien attended a session about Government Relations Day where elected officials were invited to a school in combination with the school's distinction in performance assembly. This provided the district the opportunity to make sure legislators hear stories of individual students. She also attended a session on how to start a lab school presented by the Nixa school district.

SSD LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Loher noted that he was unable to attend the first quarterly meeting of the Special School District Governing Council. He discussed Proposition S, a 19¢ tax levy on the November ballot, which is needed to maintain current SSD services, expand job training and placement, provide updated technology, renovate and repair school buildings, and provide salary improvements to attract and retain teachers and other staff. He also discussed the proposed Resolution of Endorsement of Proposition S which is on the consent agenda.

FOUNDATION UPDATE

Mrs. Dugan updated the board on Foundation activities, including their goal to raise \$100,000, the recent raffle for tickets to the 2013 U.S. Open, the success of the golf tournament, the Ivory Crockett Run, and the planned end-of-year appeal.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dugan shared information about Proposition B on the November ballot to increase the tobacco tax in Missouri. She indicated the Legislative Committee unanimously supports the Board Resolution supporting Proposition B, which would provide new funding for tobacco prevention and cessation programs and new revenue for Missouri's public schools, colleges, and universities. Approval of the resolution is on the consent agenda.

Board members then discussed the need for a process to be followed in connection with board resolutions.

POLICY SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. O'Brien pointed out the notes from the BOE Policy Subcommittee which cover "E" policies. The policy revisions will be voted on at the November 12 meeting. There were no questions or comments.

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| 2011-12 ANNUAL AUDIT | <p>Dr. Moore introduced auditor Darrell Songer of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, who presented the district's annual audit. He indicated his firm is issuing a clean opinion on district finances. The firm reviewed the food service program, transportation, and attendance. Mr. Songer commended Dr. Moore and her staff for their cooperation and hard work in connection with the audit while facing difficult personal issues.</p> |
| TUITION REPORT | <p>Dr. Moore presented the tuition report. Based on final expenditures of the previous school year, nonresident tuition for 2012-2013 for K-8 will be \$12,458.71 and for high school \$12,942.71. She recommended that tuition for full-day kindergarten for 2013-2014 remain the same at \$3,000. Approval of the tuition rates is on the consent agenda. The number of nonresident students paying tuition for the current school year is seven.</p> <p>Board members then discussed scholarships for full-day kindergarten. Dr. Moore indicated that starting this year, all students eligible for free or reduced lunch are eligible for full-day kindergarten scholarships, which added 12 students. The Facilities and Revenue Committees will be looking at the possibility of more scholarships for full-day kindergarten.</p> |
| FINANCIAL AND FACILITIES UPDATE | <p>Dr. Moore presented an update of the 2012-2013 budget. There are minimal changes in the update, so there will be no need for board approval of budget adjustments this fall. Another budget update with potential adjustments for approval will be provided in January or February 2013.</p> <p>Dr. Moore discussed updates of major revenue sources including property tax, VTS, and state formula. She also shared updates of major expenditures including additional aides, human resources services, capital projects, and software maintenance agreements.</p> <p>Board members had no questions or comments on the budget update.</p> |
| ENROLLMENT REPORT | <p>Dr. Riss provided the student enrollment report for 2012-2013. There is an increase in enrollment of 16 students in grades K-5, a decrease of five students at Steger, and a decrease of 26 students at WGHS compared to 2011-2012. All grades K-6 exceed WGSD standards. There is a consistent increase in the elementary population, and the district needs to start planning for more students in higher grades. The Enrollment Subcommittee will look at this report and others to determine recommendations for future planning.</p> |
| BOARD CALENDAR | <p>Board members discussed attendance at the CSD Fall Conference and plans for chili cooking in connection with Turkey Day.</p> |

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 006a Minutes for the September 10, 2012, Regular Meeting
- 006b Minutes for the September 24, 2012, Tax Rate Hearing/
Special/Workshop Meeting

Payment of Bills

- 006c Monthly Expenditure Report: September \$3,364,449.41
- 006d Activity Account: September \$127,672.77
- 006e Cash Flow Summary Report
- 006f Approve Personnel Report
- 006g Approve 2011-12 Audit Report
- 006h Approve Tuition Rate
- 006i Approve Board Resolution on Tobacco Tax
- 006j Approve Prop S Resolution

The motion carried, 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MOTION TO RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the board recess into closed session for the purpose of discussing litigation [Sec.610.201(1) RS MO.] and a student matter [Sec. 610.021(6) RS Mo]. Ms. O'Brien, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Clendennen, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Mr. Kearney, yes, and Mr. Loher, yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

President

Secretary