



WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, January 26, 2015
Central Office
400 East Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 26, 2015, by its president, Emerson Smith. The following members were present:

Emerson Smith	President
Steve Loher	Vice President
David Addison	
Amy Clendennen	
Jean Dugan	
Joel Oliver	
Michael Shipley	

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
John Simpson	Asst. Superintendent for C&I
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent/COO
Linda Holliday	Human Resources Consultant
Cathy Vespereny	Director of Community Relations
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Jane Baumgartner	Secretary
Doug Copeland	(Arrived at 7:45pm)
Stephen Thompson	(Arrived at 7:45pm)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Buck suggested 4 areas of improvement for the WGSD: (1) greater academic challenge (2) help students realize, reach and surpass their potential (3) develop character (4) make school more fun.

COMMUNICATIONS LOG

The communications log was reviewed with no additional comments or questions.

CELEBRATIONS

Mr. Addison thanked the Foundation for its hard work planning and putting on an incredible event at the Pageant. He also complimented the A-capella concert performances of the A-Men and A-Ladies, under the leadership of Eric Dunn.

Ms. Clendennen added Vickie Sanders to the list of Foundation representatives to thank for the planning of the Party at the Pageant.

Mr. Loher attended the Avery Breakfast of Leaders and reported a positive showing and a well-executed program. He also attended Kindergarten night at Avery and Computer School, where he noted high attendance, many smiles and positive attitudes.

Mrs. Dugan attended the Avery Kindergarten night and also noted the great turnout. She also reminded BOE members about the High School Parent Club Auction and congratulated the winter sports teams on successful seasons.

Mr. Oliver reminded BOE members about Hixson Trivia Night 2/7 and encouraged attendance.

Mr. Shipley attended the Renaissance awards for freshmen earning a 3.5 and above and complimented the large number of students receiving awards and recognition. He also reminded BOE members about the Auction at Avery on 1/31.

Mr. Smith congratulated and thanked the choirs at Edgar Road and Hudson for their performances at the Community Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

In honor of School Board Recognition Week, Dr. Riss thanked the BOE members for their continued service and presented each with a small gift and certificate of appreciation.

BOARD LIAISON ACTIVITIES

Mr. Smith announced that there are 2 openings for the 2015-16 Board of Education and we have declared and certified 2 candidates (from the original 3).

Mr. Smith reviewed the upcoming two legislative events and reminded BOE members to RSVP with Jane to get registered.

Mr. Addison began a discussion about making BOE open meeting documents available for public viewing. Discussion focused on what is considered appropriate to post online and what is better left omitted. Mr. Addison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shipley, that any documents that are to be presented to the Board of Education during open session be posted online at the same time as the posting of the public open agenda. Exceptions will be made for sensitive or personal information, which will be redacted at the discretion of the superintendent or board president. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Loher attended the Jan. 12 meeting of Citizens Supporting Webster Schools. He noted great representation from all schools as well as important discussions about the canvassing process, social media involvement and upcoming dates for community canvassing efforts.

Mrs. Dugan mentioned that the Foundation's Party at the Pageant was a huge success, bringing in \$13,000 in ticket sales alone. An additional \$10,000 came in through Foundation Board pledges. It was an incredible evening with wonderful entertainment and a great turnout. They are hoping to repeat it every other year.

Mr. Smith summarized the discussion results from the Jan. 10 Special BOE meeting. He asked board members if they had anything they wanted to share regarding those decisions. Mrs. Dugan expressed happiness that the Computer School families have been reassured that they may apply for enrollment in the new elementary school and that the work of The Collaborative was well received.

Mr. Smith provided recommendations from the Policy Subcommittee and encouraged BOE members to contact committee members with questions. Policies will be listed on February 9th consent agenda.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

Dr. Riss provided a WGSD Strategic Plan update. She noted that one minor change was made to the previous plan and gave BOE members the opportunity to ask questions. Mrs. Dugan was impressed with the amount of detail and work that went into the plan. No further details were discussed.

Diane Moore presented a budget and tax collection update. She said that no adjustments have been made to the current budget at this time and that WGSD is on target to meet the anticipated budget for 2014-15. A first draft of the 2015-16 budget is expected to be completed in March 2015. She also noted that our current YTD tax collections are a bit behind from previous year and these numbers will continue to be watched closely.

Diane Moore summarized the processes in place for contractor maintenance and construction bids and WGSD's responsibility to select the "lowest responsible bid." She reviewed the criteria for contractors as well as provided a description of the extensive interview process. Questions were posed about giving consideration to minority-owned companies in the bidding process. She expressed the intention of the district to follow the law while attempting to include more minority-owned businesses in the bidding process going forward.

Linda Holliday reviewed the process for teacher and administrator recruiting. She summarized the process along with providing an extensive list of media outlets with which WGSD advertises job openings. She emphasized diversity in her latest recruiting efforts.

John Thomas presented VICC recommendations for the 2015-16 school year. He included the current enrollment of VICC students at 163 at the \$7250 guaranteed tuition rate per student. His recommendation is for WGSD to accept 5 new VICC students for 2015-16. He also summarized our enrollment of students from unaccredited districts, which is 16 total.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Clendennen moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, approval of the consent agenda:

- 006a Minutes for the January 10, 2015 Special Meeting
- 006b Minutes for the December 8, 2014 Business Meeting
- 006c Minutes for the December 6, 2014 Special Meeting

Payment of Bills

- 006d Monthly Expenditure Report: December \$3,709,114.76
- 006e Activity Account: December \$174,236.63
- 006f Cash Flow Summary Report
- 006g Approve Personnel Report
- 006h Approve Federal Programs Report
- 006i Approve Glenn Detrick Donation
- 006j Approval of Strategic Plan

The motion carried 7-0.

RECESS INTO
CLOSED SESSION

At 8:15pm, Ms. Clendennen moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan to recess into closed session for the purpose of discussing **litigation** [Sec.610.201(1)RS MO], **personnel** [Sec.610.201(3)RS MO], and a **student matter** [Sec.610.201(6)RS MO]. Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Loher, yes; Mr. Oliver, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Ms. Clendennen, yes; Mr. Shipley, yes; Mr. Addison, yes. The motion carried 7-0.

RECONVENE OPEN
MEETING

Open session was reconvened at 8:45pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the board, Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The motion carried 7-0.

President

Secretary