



WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, November 10, 2014
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, November 10, 2014, by its president, Emerson Smith. The following members were present:

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| Emerson Smith | President |
| David Addison | |
| Amy Clendennen | |
| Jean Dugan | |
| Joel Oliver | |
| Michael Shipley (arrived at 7:10pm) | |
| Steve Loher (arrived at 7:15pm) | |

Also present were:

| | |
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| 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 |
| Doug Copeland | Attorney |
| Jane Baumgartner | Secretary |

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, approval of the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

COMMUNICATION LOG

No additional comments were made regarding the Communication Log

CELEBRATIONS

Mr. Oliver attended the science experiment at Hixson that involved dropping pumpkins out the second floor window. Students were engaged and there was a lot of family participation and fun involved. Mrs. Dugan attended the veteran's recognition assembly at WGHS. She was impressed with the attendance and the content of the program. She reminded BOE members of the upcoming A-Men & A-Ladies concert, and the Mr. Webster contest. Finally, she mentioned the success of the DECA fundraiser at Llywelyn's. Mr. Addison congratulated the football team and coaches on a great season as well as the mature, professional way of handling their final game. He also recognized the Boy Scouts in attendance.

Ms. Clendennen attended the Fall Athletic Awards banquet at WGHS. She recognized student athletes and how hard they work to balance academic success with athletic demands. She felt these student-athletes are a true reflection of the district and congratulated them for their accomplishments on and off the field/court. Mr. Smith congratulated the fall athletic teams and their successes.

Sarah Riss congratulated the boys soccer team for advancing to State Semi-Finals and also complimented organizers of the Veteran's Day program.

Cathy Vespereny recognized the WGHS Art Club for making furniture out of cardboard for a teachers' meeting room. Also, three high school students were chosen for the St. Louis All-Suburban Orchestra: Owen Grimm-Howell, Jeremy Ling, and Oliver Osburn.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments offered.

FINANCE ADVISORY REPORT

Brett Moorehouse presented the Finance Advisory Report to the Board, with many additional committee members present in the audience. His report included findings and recommendations. Findings included: sources of revenue in 2013-14 (85% local), a history of assessed valuation and tax rates, and a summary of the 5-year funding cycle, which is characterized by a conservative spending structure. The FAC predicts no additional state funding, which results in WGSD continuing to rely on property tax revenue from homeowners. Their recommendation included:

- Adding a \$.65 tax levy to the ballot to fulfill current and upcoming needs (\$.45 assigned to keeping salaries at the county median, \$.04 to cover benefits, \$.05 to help build operating fund balance, \$.05 to help cover technology maintenance/replacements, \$.03 to cover full-day kindergarten, and \$.03 to add 20 preschool scholarships)

BOE members were given an opportunity to ask questions and discuss specific items. BOE members thanked the committee for its work.

BUILDING ADVISORY REPORT

Jim Cibulka and Bruce Wood presented the Building Advisory Report to the Board, with many additional committee members present in the audience. The report included findings and recommendations that focused on the age of WGSD facilities and a growing need for additional elementary space based on past, present and future enrollment numbers. The committee made 5 general recommendations:

- Continuing of the Master Plan at WGHS
- Improvements to Moss Field
- ADA improvements in various schools
- Additional preschool space if needed
- Warehouse needs (fulfilled in 2014)

The report also presented 2 options to address the space needs:

- OPTION 1 (preferred by the committee) would convert Hixson to a 6-8th grade center, complete a circle drive for better traffic flow, convert Steger into another elementary school (which would include the current Computer School students), and renovate Moss Field to include structural improvements and an 8-lane competition track. Estimated cost of this option: \$28,670,000.00.
- OPTION 2 involved keeping grade assignments the same with building additions onto Clark, Edgar Road, Hudson and Hixson. These renovations would also include ADA improvements and Moss Field renovations. Estimated cost of this option: \$20,435,000.

The BAC recommended that the Board place on the ballot a Bond Referendum for \$28 million.

The BOE members discussed the report, thanked the committee for their work, but no decision was made.

BOARD LIAISON
ACTIVITIES

Mr. Smith reviewed the dates for the upcoming Board candidate filing period. He confirmed that he and Mrs. Dugan will be seeking re-election for an additional 3-year term.

BOE members also finalized Turkey Day and Chilifest plans, which included cooking and serving time assignments.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 006a Minutes for the October 13, 2014 Regular Meeting
- 006b Minutes for the October 27, 2014 Special/Workshop Meeting
- Payment of Bills
- 006c Monthly Expenditure Report: October \$3,425,587.74
- 006d Activity Account: October \$145,515.36
- 006e Cash Flow Summary Report
- 006f Approve WGHS Course Descriptions
- 006g Approve Personnel Report

The motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the board, Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The motion carried 7-0.

President

Secretary