

Webster Groves School District
Board of Education
Special/Workshop Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2014
7:00 P.M.
Board of Education Offices
400 East Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A special/workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, August 25, 2014, by its president, Emerson Smith. The following members were present:

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

Also present were:

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| Sarah Booth Riss | Superintendent |
| Linda Holliday | HR Consultant |
| Diane Moore | Asst. Superintendent-COO |
| John Simpson | Asst. Superintendent-C&I |
| John M. Thomas | Director-Student Services |
| Cathy Vespereny | Director-Community Relations |
| Jane Baumgartner | Secretary |

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

AGENDA Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS There were no public comments offered.

RECOGNITIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS Jean Dugan-enjoyed attending the first day of school at Bristol Elementary with Joel Oliver. Students and teachers were energetic and ready to get started. She also complimented the PTOs and their continuous fundraising efforts in each school. Steve Loher-thanked elementary schools for planning and hosting successful open house events. Open houses reported high attendance and positive feedback. Joel Oliver- Bristol hosted their first back to school picnic, which was well attended. He also mentioned that open houses were more streamlined this year, which made it possible to accommodate more families with multiple children in one school. Michael Shipley- attended an informal WAFC open house prior to start of school, took a tour of the building and complimented the expansion efforts and hard work that led up to the first day of school. He also attended Avery on the first day and took some time to greet students and parents as they arrived, wish Dr. Arnold good luck and visit with parents on the lawn for coffee. He also attended the WGHS Parent Forum which focused on drug awareness for parents and ways to eliminate prescription drugs from the home and how this will help the WGSD in the future. Emerson Smith-thanked the Business Office for their leadership in the purchase of the new warehouse and believes it will be a huge help for the WGSD.

BOARD LIAISON
REPORTS

Jean Dugan provided a summary of Foundation grants from 2013-14, as well as an update on 2014-15 Foundation events. There were 37 grants awarded in 2013-14, which contributed to over \$250,000 given over the last four years. Upcoming events include: Golf Tournament and Auction Party, Ivory Crockett Run, and Party at the Pageant. Also mentioned was www.amazonsmile.com. The WGSD Foundation has set up an agreement where .5% of all purchases will be donated back to the Foundation. Participation was encouraged.

Emerson Smith encouraged all Board members to stay abreast of their CBM units to ensure the WGSD achieves the Leadership Award again this year. Sarah Riss mentioned that three presentations were accepted for the MSBA Annual Conference this year: Chelsea Center; Legislative Advocacy; and Art & Science of Teaching. Dates of those presentations should become known later in the week.

MSBA revised policy BBFA that must be implemented by August 28, 2014. Emerson Smith encouraged BOE members to review the policy that is included in the consent agenda.

REPORTS FROM
SUPERINTENDENT &
STAFF

Jon Clark presented the WGHS report. He mentioned that the energy levels at the start of school this year were the highest since he has been principal. The WGHS report shared the 2014-15 goals, which include (1) providing programs to encourage and help students pursue healthy lifestyles (2) making learning relevant, challenging and rewarding (3) expanding experiential learning, and (4) providing 21st century technology. Dr. Clark also celebrated his staff and their achievements and contributions towards: summer school opportunities, new learning opportunities, PD opportunities, safety, test scores, and the PBIS process. WGHS student Anna Bird also spoke about her personal experiences as a lifelong student in WGSD. She put emphasis on the highly qualified teachers and how they make the difference in the education of students, the variety of courses offered and how they allow students to find their own individual path, experiential learning opportunities that are offered, the mentoring program, the student/principal advisory committee, and the overall attitude that WGHS never settles, rather, they are always looking to improve.

John Simpson presented two curricula to be approved: (1) 7-12 Theatre Arts Curriculum, and (2) K-12 Library Information Literacy. He summarized the creation process of both curricula.

Diane Moore presented the Facility Update. She acknowledged the wonderful job of the maintenance and custodial crews in preparing the buildings for the new school year. Highlights included: removing the chimney at Clark, expanding the playground at Avery, building a track with exercise equipment at Hudson (thanks to a grant), replacing wood chips with a rubber surface in the Bristol playground (thanks to a grant), installing safety intruder locks on classroom doors, adding additional swipe card systems, pouring a new concrete slab and constructing a new fence around Selma Field, and the continued work of replacing the chair lift at Steger.

John Thomas provided an update on the number of transfer students attending WGSD. There are currently 163 VICC students enrolled, and 18 from unaccredited districts.

Sarah Riss presented information from the opening of school. She expressed how happy she was to see faculty, staff and students so energized and ready for a new school year to begin. She made visits to each school every day for the first three days and everything was positive and going well. District committee meetings were under way within the last two weeks and some will meet very soon. As a District, enrollment is up by 22 students, which equates to approximately a 1% growth.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Clendennen moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, that the consent agenda be approved:

- 005a Aug. 4, 2014 Minutes
- 005b Personnel Report
- 005c Monthly Expenditures: June \$5,515,012.36
- 005d Activity Account: June \$126,876.00
- 005e Cash Flow Report: June
- 005f Monthly Expenditures: July \$1,472,536.95
- 005g Activity Account: July \$96,998.11
- 005h Cash Flow Report: July
- 005i K-12 Library Information Literacy Curriculum
- 005j 7-12 Theatre Arts Curriculum
- 005k Policy BBFA

The motion carried 6-0

MOTION TO RECESS
INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to recess into closed session at 7:55 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Litigation [Sec. 610.021 (1) RS Mo] and Personnel [Sec.610.021(3)RS Mo]. Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Loher, yes; Mr. Oliver, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Ms. Clendennen, yes; Mr. Shipley, yes. The motion carried 6-0.

RECONVENE OPEN
MEETING

The open meeting was reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

Board President

Board Secretary