

Webster Groves School District
Board of Education
Special/Workshop Meeting
Monday, June 23, 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, June 23, 2014, by its president, Emerson Smith. The following members were present:

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

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
Linda Holliday	HR Consultant
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent-CFO
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. Addison, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments offered.

Mr. Smith informed the Board of a procedural change in regards to making motions. Going forward, a BOE member will put a motion on the floor, it will be seconded, it will then be open for discussion, followed by the vote.

COMMUNICATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Updated correspondence log was reviewed. No additional questions or concerns were expressed.

Dr. Riss recognized WGHS student and Zander Award recipient, Casey Scott. Casey was nominated by his teachers for this award and has shown leadership through Boy Scouts, WGHS wrestling and Interact Club. Casey shared his future academic and personal plans.

RECOGNITIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Jean Dugan-complimented the Foundation retreat and enjoyed the opportunity to grow and restructure for the future. She also attended the Computer School graduation and said it was nice to see so many families share the sense of community.

David Addison-complimented the performances of A-Men and A-Ladies, who performed at St. Louis Union Station.

Steve Loher-gave a special thanks to the WGSD Central Office Administration for always being present and available to answer questions and provide important information to the BOE.

Emerson Smith-also thanked Administration for their efforts and hard work keeping the BOE informed on all important WGSD matters. He also noted the importance and wonderful job that was done closing out the 2013-14 school year.

RECOGNITIONS FROM ADMIN

Sarah Riss thanked the BOE for attending and participating in the Graduation ceremony. She also thanked David Winkler for this assistance and time that was given to the BOE Retreat on June 14.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Open house assignments were reviewed.

Avery: Shipley, Loher

Bristol: Oliver

Clark: Clendennen

Computer School: Dugan

Hudson: Addison

Edgar Road:

WAFC: Shipley, Loher

Hixson: Addison, Clendennen

High School: Smith, Clendennen, Addison

Steve Loher provided an update from SSD. He recently attended the 4th meeting of the SSD governing council, which he serves as Secretary. He indicated that Marilyn Stewart is our current zone representative. In addition, John Cary, SSD Superintendent, will be retiring at the conclusion of his current contract and Don Bohannon will be his replacement. There was also mention of construction going on this summer in 2 SSD schools.

Emerson Smith briefed the Board on the MSBA Leadership Summit attended in early June. WGSD BOE received the Governance Award and Dr. Riss explained the importance of this award and thanked the BOE for their devotion to their own learning and success.

David Addison provided an update on the 40 Acres Master Plan Report. Diagrams were reviewed and BOE members had a chance to ask questions regarding land spacing, parking spots, speed limits and athletic facilities/courts. Mr. Addison requested feedback from the BOE and Administration to take back to the next meeting, scheduled for July 12. Dr. Riss advocated again for a 25 mph speed limit in the Hixson/Webster Groves Recreational Complex. Emerson Smith requested there be as many parking spaces as possible included in the Master Plan. Jean Dugan expressed her strong support of including the tennis courts.

2014-15 Board Goals/Priorities were reviewed. Amy Clendennen asked the BOE's status on a previously confirmed goal regarding Early Childhood opportunities. This was set to be revisited June 2014. It was discussed that the BOE is in favor of giving more access to quality preschool education and should continue to let Administration analyze the numbers and see if there are extra seats available.

Emphasis and focus should remain on space and financing. Mr. Smith suggested to pull enrollment report and review numbers. Mr. Addison added that scholarships can be sought out. Mrs. Dugan was curious to know where WAFC stands compared to other preschools in the St. Louis County area. Mr. Smith summarized that this topic will remain a priority and be further discussed at a later date.

Board Calendar and 2014-15 Meeting Topics were reviewed. Steve Loher suggested that any calendar changes made appear in bold so they don't go unnoticed. The BOE would also prefer to continue receiving meeting invitations in their outlook calendars. Michael Shipley inquired about the process of adding items to later meeting dates.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF

Diane Moore presented the Infrastructure report. The report/presentation included: District critical issues; analyzed weighted levels of acceptable District performance in several areas; an annual analysis of facility needs from 2013-14; strategic planning objectives that had been met; challenges ahead such as infrastructure needs, enrollment/space needs, and increase in District wireless coverage; and current strengths including the maintaining of the 5 year funding cycle, maintaining of salaries at or above county median, and the payoff of Certificates of Participation.

BOE members reviewed the Governance Report. Amy Clendennen asked where each Board member was with their certification process. Mr. Smith encouraged the Board to strive for another Governance Award in 2014-15. The Board requested information from MSBA regarding current member certification status and what is still needed to receive the award.

Diane Moore presented the 2013-14 Budget Overview. The report covered areas of revenues, expenditures, and a breakdown of fund distribution. WGSD ended the 2013-14 school year in a surplus of \$511,247.

Diane Moore shared with the Board a recommendation to take additional steps to lower the 2014-15 Full-Day Kindergarten tuition from \$3,000 to \$2,000 and increase the amount available for scholarships. Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by Jean Dugan, that the Board approve the increase in income criteria for scholarships up to 40% of the reduced lunch income (as determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture) and reduce the 2014-2015 full day kindergarten tuition from \$3,000 to \$2,000. Motion carried 7-0.

Diane Moore presented the 2014-15 Proposed Budget Overview. The report covered areas of operating revenues, comparisons between years, projected property tax information, expenditures—which included a new corridor for employee health insurance options. Overall, the WGSD is projected to conclude the 2014-15 school year with a deficit of \$1,424,741.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 006a1 June 14 Minutes
- 006a2 May 12 Minutes

The motion carried 7-0

ACTION ITEMS

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, to amend the budgeted revenue and expenditures for the general, teachers, capital projects and debt service funds to be equal to actual revenues and expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2014. Motion Carried 7-0.

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, for the budget to be amended to actual for potential audit adjusting journal entries. Motion carried 7-0.

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, to transfer from the incidental fund the amount necessary to zero out the teacher fund. Motion carried 7-0.

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, to transfer from the incidental fund the amount necessary to zero out the capital project fund. Motion carried 7-0.

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, to amend the 2013-2014 budget as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Steve Loher made a motion, motion was seconded by David Addison, to approve the 2014-2015 budget. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION TO RECESS INTO
CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Clendennen moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, to recess into closed session at 8:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Property [Sec. 610.021 (2) RS Mo] and Litigation [Sec. 610.021 (1) 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

The open meeting was reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Loher, to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. The motion carried 7-0.

Board President

Board Secretary