

Webster Groves School District
Regular Meeting
The Board of Education
Monday, February 10, 2014
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 7:05 p.m., Monday, February 10, 2014, by its president, Amy O'Brien. The following members were present:

Amy O'Brien	President
Emerson Smith	Vice President
David Addison	
Amy Clendennen	
Joel Oliver	
Jean Dugan	
Steve Loher	

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
John Simpson	Asst. Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent-CFO
Linda Holliday	Human Resources Consultant
Cathy Vespereny	Director-Community Relations
John M. Thomas	Director-Student Services
Doug Copeland	Attorney
Jane Baumgartner	Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. O'Brien called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag prior to beginning the meeting.

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Dioneda thanked the Board and Administration for their continuous support for the Foundation and for attending *Food for Thought*.

CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Updated Correspondence Log was reviewed; no questions or concerns were expressed.

SPECIAL RECONGITIONS

Dr. Riss and Coach Bryan Gibson honored the WGHS Softball Team for a successful season and a select group of players who earned Academic All-State honors, in addition to the combined team GPA of 3.5. Dr. Riss presented All-State team members with letters for their portfolios and thanked them for their hard work.

RECOGNITIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

David Addison: thanked custodial and grounds crews for their efforts in making schools operable during inclement weather conditions; applauded Jazz Band performance at *Food for Thought*.

Jean Dugan: applauded the student journalists at WGHS and the Adventure Club for their video report; congratulated WGHS Robotics team for placing 3rd in the State competition; thanked everyone who attended Foundation's *Food for Thought*

Joel Oliver: congratulated the Bristol Bravos for their performance at the hockey game.

Steve Loher: thanked all who helped organize the many athletic tournaments and events within the WGSD; encouraged BOE attendance at school functions like trivia nights and auctions.

Amy Clendennen: complimented the *Food for Thought* event and thanked those who participated in the planning

Amy O'Brien: acknowledged Avery trivia night and all of the hard work put in by teachers; acknowledged *Food for Thought* event and congratulated A-men and A-ladies for the performances

RECOGNITIONS FROM ADMINISTRATORS

Cathy Vespereny: recognized Bristol Adventure Club students who created a Valentine display for Nehring Designs' storefront .

Amy O'Brien reminded Board members of the Legislative Forum on 2/18/14, the EdPlus Legislative Breakfast on 3/8/14, and the Leadership Summit scheduled for the first weekend in June. Mrs. O'Brien also asked the Board about changing the date of future scheduled meetings to accommodate other events. The Board agreed to change the 3/24/14 meeting to 3/31/14 and they also changed the June retreat from 6/7/14 to 6/14/14.

REPORTS ON LIAISON ACTIVITIES

Amy O'Brien reviewed the Board Self-Evaluation Process and reminded the Board that the surveys would be distributed the following day and to have them completed by March 3, 2014. David Addison clarified a few changes that were to be made in this year's survey.

Jean Dugan provided an update on the Foundation. She recognized the Foundation for their efforts and hard work thus far this school year. She also informed the Board that they are currently accepting applications for mini grants.

David Addison provided an update from the Parks Board. He announced the retirement of the current Parks and Rec Director, resulting in an upcoming job opening. Webster Groves Parks and Rec will be seeking applications until the position has been filled. Mr. Addison also discussed the joint City & District master planning process for "40 Acres," that will be seeking BOE involvement in the process.

The Policy Sub Committee Report was reviewed. Board members were asked to notify a committee member if any changes or additions needed to be made.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF

The Webster Groves School District refunded \$7.44 million in series 2006 general obligation bonds. This is the final refunding in a series of three refunding issues that provided an overall savings of \$2.6 million for our Webster Groves School District taxpayers. Due to the school district's AA+ bond rating issued by Standard & Poors and a positive market the average interest rate for this refunding is 3.43 percent and the bond yield is 1.4336 percent. The district contracted with George K. Baum & Co. to be the district's bond underwriter and Thompson Coburn, LLC for bond counsel services.

Linda Holliday presented the draft 2015-16 calendar to the Board and requested feedback to take back to the calendar committee. She highlighted a few dates to pay attention to, and the Board asked the committee to reexamine the dates used for teacher record days and asked that we monitor student attendance the week of Thanksgiving.

John M. Thomas presented the highlights from the Coordinated Health & Wellness Report. This included programs being implemented within the schools to promote health and anti-bullying. Additionally, he displayed the webpage for Student Services and navigated through the page to familiarize Board with its content.

John Simpson provided a review of the Federal Title Programs Report. He summarized how the Title I, II and III funds were used in 2012-13 and recommended future uses of funds for each Federal Title program.

Sarah Riss updated the Board with newly formed committees and asked that each member serve as a BOE representative on each of the new committees. The final matchups were:

- Innovation-type school committee : A. O'Brien, A. Clendennen, J. Dugan
- Hixson committee: E. Smith, J. Oliver
- Infrastructure: J. Oliver
- Student Services: J. Dugan
- Curriculum and Instruction: S. Loher
- Staff: D. Addison
- Communications: A. Clendennen

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, that the consent agenda be approved:

- 006a Minutes from January 27 Regular Meeting
- Payment of bills:
- 006b1 Monthly Expenditure Report: January 2014
 - 006b2 Activity Account: January 2014
 - 006b3 Cash Flow Report: January 2014
 - 006c Approve Personnel Report
 - 006d Approve Federal Programs Report
 - 006e Approve Donations to WGHS
 - 006f Approve Resolution to Refund Bonds
 - 006g Approve Recommended Board Policy Revisions

The motion carried 7-0.

MOTION TO RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to recess into closed session at 8:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Meet and Confer [Sec. 610.021(9) RS Mo]. Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Addison, yes; Mr. Oliver, yes; Mr. Loher, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Ms. Clendennen, yes; Ms. O'Brien, yes. The motion carried 7-0.

RECONVENE OPEN MTG

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion carried 7-0.

President

Secretary