



WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Minutes of the Special Workshop Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, April 25, 2016
WGSD Service Center
3232 Brentwood Blvd.
Webster Groves, MO 63119

Call to Order

A special workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 25, 2016, by President Steven Loher. The following members were present:

Steven Loher	President
David Addison	
Amy Clendennen	(Arrived at 7:02 p.m.)
Jean Dugan	
Michael Shipley	
Emerson Smith	
Arnold Stricker	

Also present were:

Sarah Booth Riss	Superintendent
John Simpson	Asst. Supt for C&I/Future Superintendent
Diane Moore	Asst. Superintendent/COO
Linda Holliday	HR Consultant
Cathy Vespereny	Chief Communications Officer
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Tim Brown	Director of Instructional Technology
Doug Copeland	Attorney
Lori Medlin	Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Loher called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag before beginning the meeting.

Agenda

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

Comments from the Board

Mr. Loher read a statement addressing an error in correspondence submitted to the Webster-Kirkwood Times.

Dr. Riss read a statement of apology for the inaccurate information submitted by her office to the Webster-Kirkwood Times.

Mr. Loher read a statement of apology for the social media postings made in response to criticism from the public in the handling of district finances.

Mrs. Dugan made a request that social media parameters be a topic of discussion at the next board retreat.

Mr. Stricker stated that the preceding statements made this evening to the public by the board of education and the district administration were a big step in rebuilding trust with the community. He applauded the comments read this evening and is looking forward to working together and holding clear and candid conversations with the community.

Mr. Loher addressed the new board re-organization portion of the April 11, 2016, Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Stricker thanked the community for its support in his election to the Board of Education.

Public Comment

Resident Greg Mueller directed comments to the Board about the correspondence submitted to the Webster-Kirkwood Times and requested a public apology for the misprints in writing.

Resident Tammy Barry voiced her opinion about the recent dialogue on social media between herself and Mr. Loher.

Resident Kim Mumm requested that the District Administration and Board of Education remain transparent and readily open to answering questions from the public when they seek a clearer understanding of district finances.

Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Loher reviewed the 2016-17 Board liaison assignments and requested copies be distributed to all of the school buildings and posted on the website. Mr. Loher also encouraged the current board liaisons to visit some of the year-end celebrations at the schools if they were able to find the time in their schedules to do so.

Mrs. Dugan encouraged everyone to take advantage of the Spring for Schools event sponsored by local businesses who will donate a percentage of all sales to the Foundation. Mrs. Dugan announced the major grant award winners from the Foundation for 2015-16, and then encouraged attendance at the Webster on Wheels event on May 1st at Bristol School.

Mr. Loher reviewed the upcoming events on the Board Calendar for the remainder of the year.

Parent/Community Data Area Report

Cathy Vespereny and John Simpson presented the Parent/Community Data Area Report, reviewing progress and celebrations for the year, and discussing the future actions planned to continue to bring the district in line with our vision statement.

Ms. Vespereny introduced a student representing the innovative idea that resulted in the Webster Groves Statesmen Coffee Shop made possible by a Foundation grant. In addition to students learning vocational skills, the coffee shop has become self-sustaining and able to give back to the community by donating to local charities.

Dr. Simpson and Dr. Riss shared the progress of the oral history project between

residents of North Webster and Webster Groves High School students. The goal is for the project to become a traveling exhibit throughout the community to display and celebrate the rich history of this part of Webster Groves.

Draft Budget for 2016-2017 Dr. Diane Moore reviewed the second draft of the 2016-17 budget and highlighted the revenue and expenditure changes to date. The complete breakdowns of the current adjustments are posted on the website. Dr. Moore addressed questions asked by several board members to clarify line items in the draft budget.

Service Center Update Dr. Moore presented an overview on the acquisition of the WGSD Service Center, including present and future planned uses, such as warehouse storage for district vehicles, snow removal equipment, and other items. The service center storage space allows bulk purchases which will save the district more than double the amount in property taxes that were paid on the site. The service center also provides ample meeting room space for professional development and other meetings. The public was invited to tour the facility at the conclusion of the meeting.

Track Resurfacing Bid Dr. Moore presented an RFP submitted by Byrne and Jones for the resurfacing of the track at Moss Field. The RFP required the contractor to complete the project between June 6th and June 24th. Byrne and Jones was the only company that could meet the schedule. A bid analysis was performed on the proposal. Byrne and Jones met all of the bidding requirements. The suggested bid award amount is \$67,000.00.

There was discussion and questions about the process of the resurfacing and the source of funding for the project, and whether the district could receive a better bid if the time parameters were lifted. Mr. Steuber and Dr. Moore will continue to seek other options before the work is started.

Mrs. Dugan moved to accept the proposed bid up to \$67,000.00 with additional information pending. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Staff Reception Assignment Ms. Holliday presented and discussed the board member roles for the Staff Recognition event scheduled for May 17th at 3:45 p.m. at WGHS. Board members will work together to present the recognition awards to the groups of individuals honored for their service to the district.

Public Comment Resident Kim Mumm shared her recommendations to the Board regarding finance and future expenditures.

Resident Alan Todd, a member of the Finance Advisory Committee, congratulated and commended Dr. Diane Moore and staff for their diligence and continual efforts to stay on top of the district finances.

Sarah Unsicker introduced herself to the Board as a candidate for the state representative seat being vacated by current state Rep. Jeanne Kirkton.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Loher called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr.

Addison moved to approve items:

006a Approve Personnel Report

006b Approve Minutes for April 11, 2016, Regular Board Meeting

006c Approve Policy Subcommittee Recommendations

Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Recess to Executive
Session

Mr. Addison moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to recess into executive session at 8:41 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel §610.021(3)RSMO and litigation §610.021(1)RSMO. The motion passed by roll call vote: Mr. Loher, yes; Ms. Clendennen, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Dugan, yes; Mr. Stricker, yes; Mr. Shipley, yes; Mr. Addison, yes.

The open meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Addison, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. The motion passed 7-0.

Board President

Board Secretary