



WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Minutes from a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, September 12, 2016
Central Office Board Room
400 E. Lockwood Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63119

CALL TO ORDER: A Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:05 p.m., Monday, September 12, 2016, by its president, Steve Loher.

The following members were present:

Steve Loher	President
Amy Clendennen	Vice President
Michael Shipley	Director
Jean Dugan	Director
Arnold Stricker	Director

Also present were:

John Simpson	Superintendent
Kristin Denbow	Assistant Superintendent for Learning
Bruce Ellerman	Interim Chief Financial/Operating Officer
Sandy Wiley	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Cathy Vespereny	Chief Communications Officer
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Doug Copeland	Attorney
Shari Meyers	Board Secretary

Not in attendance:

Emerson Smith	Director
David Addison	Director

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

AGENDA Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Shipley, approval of the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

**COMMUNICATIONS/
RECOGNITIONS/
INFORMATION** Mrs. Dugan shared that the open house at the high school was well attended. CO transitions for new staff are going smoothly. She is hopeful there will be a great turnout for the upcoming Vision Event. She was glad to see several board members from other districts at the recent Legislative Advocacy Committee meeting.

Dr. Stricker said there was a very good turnout at WAFC and everyone was engaged.

Mr. Shipley attended Avery's open house and visited the art room where coffee filters were being used for a group project. He also visited and spoke with the reading specialist.

Mr. Loher attended the WGHS open house and spoke with some friends and former classmates. He shared the good news that Dr. Clark is at home and recovering well.

Cathy Vespereny shared that the members of the History Club at the high school organized a commemorative event called Remember 9/11. They and students in social studies classes placed 360 small flags along the fence on Selma Avenue on Friday, September 9.

The high school's Statesmen Preschool had a very well-attended open house last week.

Hixson teacher Katie Kraushaar, received a \$500 grant from the Missouri Retired Teachers Association to start a literary magazine for students.

John Simpson shared that Kristin Denbow and the iDEA members had a full day of professional development today which focused on EdCamp planning for November 8, during which teachers guide their own professional development.

Dr. Simpson celebrated John M. Thomas for his work with 2 police officers conducting the active shooter training for district staff.

He added that during the open house events, staff did a wonderful job helping families feel included.

He commended the Adventure Club at Avery for its response and care for children today when a nearby home caught fire.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Dave Buck encouraged more parents to get involved and into the classrooms to share their knowledge. He felt this would enrich the district.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

Bruce Ellerman discussed the property tax rate hearing that preceded the board meeting. There were no public comments during the hearing. The proposed operating rate is \$5.0830, about a penny less than last year's rate. Final numbers will be presented to the board on September 26.

STAFF REPORT

Sandy Wiley presented the staff report and shared information on the WGSD teaching staff's high attendance rate, longevity with the district and levels of performance. She is working on transparency with the human resources department and collaborating with other departments

to streamline systems for accurate data.

Mr. Shipley suggested that human resources advertise to Webster University for Adventure Club staff openings. Dr. Stricker appreciated the detail of the staff report and was impressed with our teaching staff's high attendance rate.

RADIO 63119

John Simpson provided an update on the radio station transmitter and requested approval from the board to proceed with an agreement between WGSD and the Webster-Rock Hill Ministries to add a transmitter on the high school's existing antenna. Mr. Shipley mentioned there would be an annual \$1.00 per year rental fee. Mrs. Dugan shared how the broadcasting class at the high school will benefit from the use of the radio station. Dr. Stricker mentioned that possibly down the road the station would broadcast board meetings. He thanked the ministries for their patience and tenacity.

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Dr. Stricker to take the agreement to the Webster-Rock Hill Ministries to finalize it. Ms. Clendennen recommended if substantial changes are made to the agreement that it should be brought back to the board and reflected in the minutes.

Mrs. Dugan so moved, seconded by Dr. Stricker to the modification to authorize proceeding with negotiation of the lease, with the final version to be brought back before the board for final approval. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Shipley thanked John Simpson for his hard work and collaboration with the ministries for a good solution for both parties.

WAFC CONCRETE PAD

John Simpson provided an update on the concrete pad. Dr. Stricker appreciated the clarity and thoroughness of the data and thanked him for getting it accomplished. Mr. Shipley inquired about the cost of the pad. Mrs. Dugan appreciated the picture that was attached to the report to get a visual of the project. Dr. Stricker asked whether Mr. Ellerman would conduct an audit analysis of the WAFC programs.

Mrs. Dugan moved to approve the bid for the concrete pad in the amount of \$8,990 from KAI Design & Build, seconded by Dr. Stricker. The motion carried 4-1.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Former resident Ellie Myers (2009 alumna whose parents live in Webster Groves) shared information and passed out brochures for the Yes on 3 Initiative Amendment.

Resident Dave Buck said that the number one initiative of the district is the School for Today and we should strive for continuous change and keep growing. He stressed the importance of challenge, character, fun and play in education for both teachers and students.

Resident Matt Fagin recently attended a documentary of “Most Likely To Succeed” and encouraged the district to provide a community viewing.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Stricker moved, seconded by Mr. Shipley, approval of the consent agenda including the amended Personnel Report:

006a Minutes for following BOE Meeting

006a1 August 22, 2016

006b Personnel Report-amended

006c Payment of Bills

006c (1) Cash Flow Summary

006c (2) Summary Activity Analysis

006c (3) Operating Check Register (8/17/16 - 9/7/16) - \$845,688.07

006c (4) Activity Account Check Register (8/17/16 - 9/7/16) - \$63,438.55

006c (5) Bond Issue Check Register (8/17/16 - 9/7/16) - \$0

The motion carried 5-0.

MOTION TO RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Shipley, that the board recess into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Litigation [Sec.610.021(1)RS Mo] Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Ms. Clendennen, Yes; Mr. Shipley, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes.
Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Stricker moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. The motion carried by roll call vote 5-0.

Board President

Board Secretary