



**WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Open Minutes from a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**Monday, January 9, 2017**  
**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 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2017, by its president, Steven Loher.

The following members were present:

Steven Loher	President
Amy Clendennen	Vice President
Jean Dugan	Director
Emerson Smith	Director
Arnold Stricker	Director
Michael Shipley	Director

Also present were:

John Simpson	Superintendent
Kristin Denbow	Assistant Superintendent for Learning
Sandy Wiley	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Cathy Vespereny	Chief Communications Officer
Tim Brown	Director of Instructional Technology
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Bill Koulouriotis	Director of Technology
Bruce Ellerman	Interim CFO/COO
Doug Copeland	Attorney
Shari Meyers	Board Secretary

Not in attendance:

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

*Mr. Loher shared that due to a death in the family, David Addison was unable to attend this board meeting.*

**AGENDA** Mr. Shipley made a motion to move agenda Item 007a/007a1 December 5, 2016 BOE Meeting Minutes from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Shipley requested the minutes reflect his opposition to the high school auditorium seating proposal. Mr. Shipley moved to amend the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smith. Mrs. Dugan made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Shipley. The motion carried 6-0.

## CELEBRATIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Dugan shared the Foundation's new Funding Innovation campaign raised \$11,668.00 to create new maker spaces and add to existing maker spaces in each school. She invited all to attend the upcoming Party at the Pageant event sponsored by the Webster Groves School District Foundation. Mr. Loher attended the Walter Ambrose Family Center tour. He expressed that the tour was well-attended and Marty Baker, Director of WAFC, did a great job on the presentation.

## CELEBRATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATORS

Cathy Vespereny shared that the district received a "Spot Vision Screener," a state of the art vision screening tool, thanks to a grant from the WG Rotary Club. The district received the screener in November and nurses report great success using it. The Ivory Crockett Run for Webster has been nominated for the Best Neighborhood Support Award by Big River Race Management. The award winner will be announced February 8. She also shared that High School Principal Dr. Jon Clark was honored over the holiday season at the Coaches vs. Cancer Tournament at St. Louis Community College at Meramec. He received the Stephanie Phillips Award.

Dr. Simpson celebrated Angela Thompson, Steger/Computer School Interim Principal, for receiving her doctorate in December. Three Hudson students received Innovation Grants. One student received \$250 to create hoodie speakers and two other students received \$400 each to help create a Lego built Starburst vending machine.

## BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Amy Clendennen shared that the Policy Subcommittee reviewed the first draft of the updated board policies and will ask the board to approve them at the next board meeting.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Dave Buck shared his thoughts on what "academic and personal success for every student" meant to him.

## RECORDING OF BOARD MEETINGS

Dr. Simpson shared a short video clip to provide the board with an idea of the quality video we could produce now. Research of other school districts' equipment showed various levels of technology. Dr. Simpson shared a bid from Schillers of approximately \$15,000 for audio, \$20,000 for video and \$8,000-\$9,000 for an improved microphone system. Mrs. Dugan voiced concern regarding the public comments portion of the board meeting, since the board does not respond to public comments. She mentioned the need for the speaker to identify themselves for audio recordings. Mr. Shipley suggested audio recording first and then possibly video. Mr. Smith echoed his comment. Mr. Shipley also suggested uploading the audio recording to the WGSD website and the possibility of a high school student/class to upload the recordings. Mr. Loher suggested they move forward with the audio for both regular and special board meetings. Dr. Simpson said he will provide an update at the next board meeting.

DISCUSSION OF  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
GOALS

Dr. Simpson and the board discussed the superintendent's goals from the December 5, 2016 board meeting and defined the goals in greater detail.

CHILDREN OF SSD STAFF  
ATTENDING THE WGSD

Special School District (SSD) asked the district if it would sign an agreement that would allow children of SSD staff working in the WGSD to attend WGSD schools similar to non-resident WGSD children (Board Policy JBCA). Currently, there are 93 SSD employees in the WGSD. Mr. Shipley requested that the district send a survey to all WGSD SSD staff to get an approximate number of students and their grade levels to see how this would impact class size. If approved, Board Policy JBCA would have to be revised. Ms. Clendennen suggested revisiting this policy more frequently than every three years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Dave Buck suggested we should all take Daniel Webster's inspiration and courage to reach common ground and elevate our kids.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

007b Personnel Report-amended

007c Payment of Bills

007c (1) Cash Flow Summary

007c (2) Summary Activity Analysis

007c (3) Operating Check Register (12/01/16 - 1/4/17) - \$ 939,103.89

007c (4) Activity Account Check Register (12/01/16 - 1/4/17) - \$ 168,742.34

007c (5) P-Card Account Check Register (12/01/16 - 1/4/17) - \$ 12,223.72

The motion carried 6-0.

MOTION TO RECESS  
INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Dugan, that the board recess into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Litigation [Sec.610.021(1)RS Mo] and Personnel[Sec.610.201(3)RS MO.]. Mr. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Dugan, Yes; Mr. Loher, Yes; Mrs. Clendennen, Yes; Mr. Shipley, Yes; Dr. Stricker, Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Clendennen moved, seconded by Dr. Stricker, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:53 p.m. The motion carried by roll call vote 6-0.

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Board President

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Board Secretary