

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting Minutes ~ November 20, 2023

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on November 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present:

- Beth Morrisette, President
- Dana Blakely, Vice President
- Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary
- Adam Yale, Treasurer
- Kris Karnes, Treasurer-Elect
- Sarah Rider, Director

Notice of the meeting was given by placing advance notice on the front page of the District's website no less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled commencement of the meeting as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice for this meeting appeared beginning on November 7, 2023, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on November 17 and 20, 2023, and on their website. Copies of proof of publication are attached to the official minutes. Notice of this meeting and the availability of the agenda was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education and available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

District Staff in Attendance: Mike Lucas, Mark Weichel, Andrea Haynes, Brian Gabriel, Molly Hurley, Kim De La Cruz, Kami Jessop, Kelcy Tapp, Laura Mann, Nick Lesiak, Robert Aranda, Trever Reeh.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill. *Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

Ms. Morrisette called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She welcomed those in attendance and confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the meeting and on the district website, as required by law. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. Board Meeting attendance is noted above. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting held on November 6, 2023. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Concept Design Review Meeting held on September 29, 2023. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Concept Design Review Meeting held on November 3, 2023. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Yale presented the treasurer's report for October 2023 and moved for approval of expenditures in the amount of \$8,775,756; Ms. Blakely seconded. Approval of expenditures was passed by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the October 2023 financial reports (financial statements, general fund disbursement summary and general fund check register) are included in the board documents folder.

Communications

Ms. Elizabeth Power, Director of Communications and Engagement, presented a recap of Westside Fall Sports, Veteran's Day activities that were held across the district last week, and an update on upcoming Westside music and theater programs. This past weekend, 50 students from Westside represented the district at the All-State Band Competition (the most students of any high school in the state)! She also highlighted the Holiday Assistance program, spearheaded by our District Social Workers, to match families in need with sponsors in our Westside community.

OneWorld Presentation: School-Based Health Center

Ms. Andrea Skolkin, CEO of OneWorld Community Health Centers, and Ms. Sarah Miller, Chief Medical Services Officer, shared a presentation with the Board regarding School-Based Health Centers (SBHC). District Administration and the Board will consider establishing a School-Based Health Center at the new Hillside Elementary School. OneWorld's School-Based Health Centers operate best in neighborhoods with over 50% Free / Reduced Lunch (FRL), and the Hillside / Westbrook neighborhood has an average of 56% of families qualifying for FRL. OneWorld's mission of providing access to quality health-care services for all people has been proven across the Omaha metro area, serving hundreds of families and establishing long-standing and trusted relationships for families and healthcare providers. A SBHC at the new Hillside Elementary would be available to all students and families enrolled in Westside Community Schools. The district's current partnership with OneWorld involves the use of their mobile clinic, which the district is able to schedule throughout the year, based on need and availability. The board will consider expanding that partnership to include a SBHC at their next board meeting on December 11, 2023. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

Annual District Audit Report

Mr. Jess Paisley of Eide Bailly LLP presented the annual district audit report. He thanked Brian Gabrial, District Officer of Business and Finance, and his staff for their responsiveness and assistance in handling requests for information that were made during the audit process this year, which was once again done remotely. Prior to today's presentation to the full Board, Mr. Paisley held a post-audit review meeting with the Board Finance Committee (Ms. Morrisette, Mr. Yale, Ms. Karnes) on October 27, 2023, to discuss the audit findings. Mr. Paisley reviewed required auditor communications as well as internal control and compliance findings. There were no reportable findings in 2023, and a previous control deficiency - outstanding activity fund transactions - was corrected from the 2022 audit. Continued vigilance in budgeting allowed the District to realize a 3% increase to the General Fund Balance. Copies of the Audit Report and Mr. Paisley's keynote presentation are included in the board meeting documents folder.

Phase II Bond Project: Approval of Construction Manager at Risk Delivery Method and CMR Selection Committee for Hillside Elementary

Mr. Matt Herzog, Principal, Project Advocates, requested board approval to select the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) construction delivery method for the Hillside Elementary School project and to appoint the CMR Selection Committee. Mr. Yale moved for approval of the construction delivery method of "Construction Management at Risk" under the provisions of the Nebraska Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-2901, et. seq. (the "Act") for the Westside Community Schools – Hillside Elementary School New School (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"), and hereby direct the Superintendent of Schools, Project Advocates, Owner's Representative for the Projects, and selected school district legal counsel to initiate and carry out all actions necessary to comply with the requirements of the Act, including but not limited to the issuance of a Request for Proposals for the position of Construction Management at Risk for the Project; And to appoint the following persons to the Selection Committee to evaluate the proposals received from firms in response to the request for Proposals for the position of Construction Manager at Risk in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-2910 (must have at least five (5) members):

- (a) Member(s) of the school board: Meagan Van Gelder.
- (b) Member(s) of the school administration or staff: Cynthia Bailey, Principal.
- (c) The school's architect or engineer: Todd Moeller, Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture
- (d) Any person having special expertise relevant to selection of a construction manager under the Nebraska Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act: Matt Herzog, Project Advocates.
- (e) A resident(s) of the School District other than an individual included in (a) through (d) above:
Emily Hansen

Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and CMR Resolution are included in the board documents folder.

WHS Course Offerings for the 2024-2025 School Year

Ms. Kim De La Cruz, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented updates to course offerings at Westside High School for the 2024-2025 school year. While there are no new courses being added, there are a number of courses with structure changes, name changes, and one course returning to "active" status. Course Structure Changes include: *Algebra and Algebra Lab* - going from 8 total mods per week (5 days of classroom instruction and 3 days of lab) to 10 total mods per week (5 days of class and 5 days of lab, back-to-back); *IT Fundamentals* - going from a year-long course meeting 1 mod per week with additional on-line work to a semester course meeting 4 mods per week (this change allows the course to meet the Computer Science and Technology Education Act requirements); and, *Probability and Statistics* - going from a spring semester-only course offering to semester course offered both fall and spring semester. Course Name Changes include: Business Principles to Introduction to Business; and PreCalculus Honors to AP PreCalculus. Returning Course: Trigonometry, returning as a one-semester course. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

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Personnel Report

Dr. Andrea Haynes, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and District Operations, presented the personnel report (three certified staff probationary contracts; three certified staff retirements; one non-approval of certified staff resignation) for board approval. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

BOE Student Advisory Committee Restructure

The Board of Education discussed their plans to restructure the Board of Education Student Advisory Committee, initially formed in November 2019 as an Advisory Committee under policy 7165. This restructure - from "advisory" to "learning engagement" - will provide more opportunities for open dialogue and two-way learning between students and the Board. Ms. Morrisette requested a motion to rescind the board action taken on November 4, 2019, that established the Student Advisory Committee. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

BOE Legislative Priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session

Dr. Lucas presented the district's Legislative Priorities for the 2024 legislative session, scheduled to commence on January 3, 2024. Westside Community Schools: (1) supports the current school district boundaries and process; (2) supports a school finance model that is predictable and sustainable without limiting the current levy authority; (3) supports the current net option aspect in the state's funding formula; (4) and opposes funding to any entities not subject to the same accountability and standards as Nebraska public schools. Dr. Van Gelder moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary / Legislative Priorities is included in the board documents folder. The 2024 legislative priorities will also be posted on the district website.

Public Comment - There were no requests for public comment.

Board Member Representation / Legislative Updates / Announcements

Ms. Morrisette reviewed recent activities and events attended by board members that included Phase II Bond meetings; MABE Meeting; Community Forum at WHS on November 7th; Senator Engagement at Westside High School on November 9th; Bond Oversight Committee Meeting on November 13th; and the State Education Conference November 15-17.

Nov. 22-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break (No School)
Nov. 23-24, 2023	District Offices Closed
December 11, 2023	Board of Education Meeting - ABC Building - 6:00 p.m.
December 18, 2023	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - WHS Warrior Room - 6:00 p.m.
December 21, 2023	Early Dismissal Day
Dec. 22, 2023 - Jan. 5, 2024	Winter Break
January 8, 2024	Start of Second Semester

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January 8, 2024	Bond Oversight Committee Meeting - ABC Building - 6:00 p.m.
January 15, 2024	MLK Day - No School
January 16, 2024	Board of Education Meeting - ABC Building - 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Ms. Morrisette adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary, Board of Education

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education Meeting for the Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** at the District Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, NE. The agenda, continually kept current, is available at the District Office. The meeting is open to the public.

11/17, 11/20

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**THE DAILY RECORD
OF OMAHA
JASON W. HUFF, Publisher
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

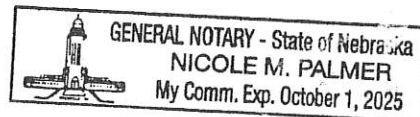
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha

} ss.

JASON W. HUFF and/or JOSIE CHARRON, being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the PUBLISHER and/or MANAGING EDITOR of THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, a legal newspaper, printed and published daily in the English language, having a bona fide paid circulation in Douglas County in excess of 300 copies, and a general circulation in Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass and Dodge Counties, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, Nebraska for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice here-to attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, for 1 consecutive weeks on:

11/17/23

That said Newspaper during that time was regularly published and in general circulation in the County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska.



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Jason W. Huff

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me this NOVEMBER 17 2023

Nicole M. Palmer

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of Nebraska


WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROOF OF PUBLICATION

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