

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting Minutes ~ April 8, 2024

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on April 8, 2024, 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
Adam Yale, Treasurer
Kris Karnes, Treasurer-Elect
Sarah Rider, Director

Board member absent (excused): Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary

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 March 19, 2024, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on March April 5 and 8, 2024, 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, Andrea Haynes, Brian Gabriel, Molly Hurley, Kim De La Cruz, Kami Jessop, Kelcy Tapp, Laura Mann, Robert Aranda, Paul Lindgren, Elizabeth Power.

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. Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for an excused absence for Dr. Van Gelder. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. 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 March 18, 2024. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Communications

Ms. Elizabeth Power, Director of Communications and Engagement, gave an update on Staff Appreciation Week that was held March 25-29. She advised that postcards will be mailed to Hillside, Westgate, and WMS communities regarding construction projects that will get underway in June. (Westgate: May 8th - 6:00-7:00 p.m.; Hillside: May 15th - 6:00-7:00 p.m.; WMS: May 22nd - 6:00-7:00 p.m.).

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Westside Community Schools Grow Our Own

Dr. Andrea Haynes, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and District Operations, presented an update on the district's "Grow Our Own" program, which provides a pathway for Educational Assistants to obtain their teaching degree with an endorsement in Elementary Education and either a supplemental endorsement in Early Childhood Education, English Language Learners Support, or Special Education. Implemented through a partnership with Midland University in May 2022, participants who were part of the first cohort will graduate with their degrees in May 2024. Dr. Haynes introduced two of the participants, Mr. Juan Rosas and Ms. Anna Brady, who shared their own stories of eventually landing at Westside Community Schools to work as Educational Assistants. Mr. Rosas and Ms. Brady will both be receiving their degrees in May 2024 and beginning work as full-time, certified teachers with Westside for the 2024-2025 school year. Selected participants for "Grow Our Own" - established to address an on-going staff shortage in the field of education - receive full assistance with tuition, books and fees. The program is monetarily supported through multiple funding streams, including donor funds, multiple Foundations, two awarded grants from NDE, and a district set-aside. In addition, Dr. Haynes announced that the family of the late Doug Krenzer has established a Memorial Scholarship for those working towards their teaching degree. Copies of the Executive Summary and powerpoint presentation are included in the board documents folder.

Phase II: Approval of Authorization to Proceed with Early Release Work at Hillside Elementary

Mr. Matt Herzog from Project Advocates requested board approval for the Authorization to Proceed with Early Release Work at Hillside Elementary. Construction is scheduled to begin in early June, and this authorization will allow Boyd Jones Construction to procure concrete precast materials. The proposed package value is \$2,242,029. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and Agreement are included in the board documents folder.

Phase II: Approval of Purchase Order of Security Window Film for District Facilities

Mr. Herzog requested approval of a proposal from Window Optics for the installation of Security Window Film at Hillside, Loveland, Oakdale, Paddock Road, Prairie Lane, Rockbrook, Sunset Hills, Swanson, Westbrook, Westgate, Underwood Hills Early Learning Center, ABC Building, Westside High School, Westside Middle School, and Westside West Campus Career/Swing School. On February 28, 2024, Project Advocates issued a request for proposals for Security Window Film; two proposals were received. Project Advocates is recommending approval of the proposal from Window Optics for \$168,158.16. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary, Bid Tab sheet and Agreement are included in the board documents folder.

Board Policy for Approval

Mr. Nick Lesiak, In-House Legal Counsel, presented revisions to existing Policy #4380 - Holidays and Vacations (Personnel) - for board approval. These minor changes were previously presented for board discussion and consideration at the Board of Education Meeting on March 18, 2024. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary and a redline copy of policy 4380 are included in the board documents folder.

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Board Policies for Review

Mr. Lesiak presented proposed revisions to existing policies #4420 and #4530 for board discussion and consideration.

#4420 - Personnel Records (Personnel): Strike statute language and replace it with language as recommended by KSB School Law.

#4530 - U.S. Savings Bonds (Personnel): U.S. Savings Bonds are no longer offered by the District. Recommendation to eliminate this policy.

These policies will be presented for Board approval at the Board of Education Meeting on April 22, 2024. A copy of the Executive Summary and redline copies of both policies are included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

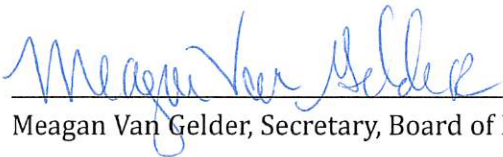
Dr. Haynes presented the personnel report (21 certified staff probationary contracts that includes seven "Grow Our Own" program participants; one administrator contract; and 15 certified staff resignations) for board approval. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

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 WestFest Strings Concert; Battle of the Books; Unified Talent Show; Westside Track and Field Invite; Holocaust Week of Understanding at WMS; "Seussical the Musical" at Loveland Elementary; and Architect Shortlist Meetings for Paddock Road and Rockbrook. Dr. Haynes advised that HR will be holding a "Grow Our Own" Signing Day on April 29th.

There being no further business, Ms. Morrisette adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.



Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF MEETING**

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, APRIL 8, 2024 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.

4/5, 4/8

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

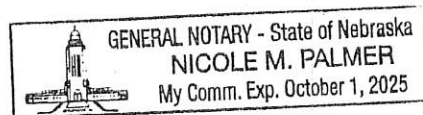
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha

} 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:

4/5/24

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



Publisher's Fee

\$18.67

Additional Copies

\$ _____

Filing Fee

\$ _____

Total \$18.67

Jason W. Huff
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me this APRIL 05 2024

Nicole M. Palmer
Notary Public in and for Douglas County, State
of Nebraska

Board of Education Meeting
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WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that a Notice of Board Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was placed on the home page of the website of Westside Community Schools (www.westside66.org) beginning on March 19, 2024, and that it appeared there continuously up through the time of the scheduled board meeting.

Darin Sedivy

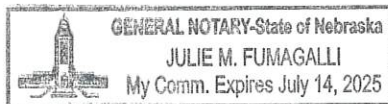
Name

Assoc., Communication & Graphics

Title

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

Before me, a Notary Public, qualified in and for said County and State, personally came Darin Sedivy, known to me to be the identical person, and signed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the execution of this document to his or her voluntary deed.



[Signature]
Notary Public