

## WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

### Board of Education Meeting Minutes ~ March 15, 2021

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The Board of Education Meeting of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on March 15, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, Nebraska.

**Board members present:**

- Kris Karnes, President
- Doug Krenzer, Vice President
- Dana Blakely, Secretary
- Meagan Van Gelder, Treasurer
- Beth Morrisette, Treasurer-Elect
- Adam Yale, 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 March 2, 2021, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on March 12 and 15, 2021, 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, Enid Schonewise, Mark Weichel, Brian Gabriel, Molly Hurley, Kim De La Cruz, Greg Betts, Kami Jessop, Paul Lindgren, Robert Aranda, Brandi Paul, Nick Lesiak, Russ Guy O'Brien.

**Others in Attendance\*:** Dave Richardson, Andrew Sullivan, Andrea Haynes.

\*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. Karnes called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:32 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 member attendance is noted above. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Karnes requested a motion for approval of minutes from the March 1, 2021, Board of Education Meeting. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Dr. Van Gelder presented the treasurer's report for February 2021, and requested approval for expenditures in the amount of \$18,037,001; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Approval of expenditures was passed by unanimous roll call vote.

## **Board of Education Meeting**

**March 15, 2021**

**Page 2 of 4**

Copies of the February 2021 financial reports (financial statements, general fund disbursement summary and general fund check register) are included in the board documents folder.

### **Communications**

Ms. Brandi Paul, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, shared some of the district's "good news", including Prairie Lane 6th Grade Teacher Richard Christie, who was recently honored as the Star 104.5 Teacher of the Week!

Public Comment: There was one request for Public Comment - Andrew Sullivan - who spoke on equality.

### **Board Policies for Approval**

Mr. Nick Lesiak, District Administrative Legal Counsel, presented revisions to two existing board policies for board approval. These policies were presented to the board for consideration and discussion on March 1, 2021. Redline copies of both board policies are included in the board documents folder.

#1000 - Board Policies (revisions) - Mr. Krenzer moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

#1120 - Functions of the Board (revisions) - Ms. Morrissette moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

### **Compensation for Non-Negotiated and Classified Employee Groups**

Dr. Enid Schonewise presented proposed pay increases for non-negotiated classified and certified employee groups for the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Schonewise shared that these base pay increases are based on the salary increases of other negotiated employee groups. Board approval is requested for the following:

Professional Classified 12-Month Employees: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Full-Time 12-Month Professional Classified staff. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Morrissette seconded.

Professional Classified 10-Month Employees: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Full-Time 10-Month Professional Classified staff. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded.

Professional Classified – Technology Employees: A 5.00% wage increase for all currently employed 10 and 12-Month Professional Classified - Technology staff. The starting base wage will increase by 4.50%. Dr. Van Gelder moved for approval; Mr. Krenzer seconded.

Administrative Assistant 12-Month Employees: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Full-Time 12-Month Administrative Assistant staff. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Mr. Krenzer moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded.

## **Board of Education Meeting**

**March 15, 2021**

**Page 3 of 4**

Administrative Assistant 10-Month Employees: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Full-Time 10-Month Administrative Assistant staff. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded.

Educational Assistants 10-Month Employees: A 4.00% wage increase for all currently employed Educational Assistant 10-Month staff. The starting base wage will increase by 3.50%. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Morrissette seconded.

Nurse 10-Month Employees: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Nurses. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded.

Part-Time Building Service Employees: A \$1 / hour increase for all currently employed Part-time building service staff making less than \$16/hr. The starting base wage will increase to \$12/hr. Dr. Van Gelder moved for approval; Mr. Krenzer seconded.

Substitute/Guest Teacher Rates: A \$15/day increase for Guest Teachers, resulting in a daily rate of \$165 and a long term rate of \$175. Mr. Krenzer moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded.

Access 66 On-Call rates: No Change to the Access 66 On-Call rates. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded.

Non-Certified Substitutes: An increase to the hourly rate so it is equal to that of the new starting base wage of each relevant group. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Morrissette seconded.

Building Service and Nutrition Service Leadership: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Building Service and Nutrition Service Leadership. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded.

Access 66, Accompanist, Braillist, and Transportation: A 3.50% wage increase for all currently employed Access 66, Accompanist, Braillist, and Transportation. The starting base wage will increase by 3.00%. Dr. Van Gelder moved for approval; Mr. Krenzer seconded.

Administrators: A base wage increase of 2.50% to 3.00% for currently employed Administrators. Mr. Krenzer moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded.

A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

### **Personnel Report**

Dr. Schonewise presented the personnel report (five certified staff probationary contracts; one certified staff retirement; three certified staff resignations) for board approval. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Dr. Van Gelder seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

### **Update on Nebraska Frameworks Accreditation Visit**

Dr. Mark Weichel, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, presented a review of the District's recent Nebraska Frameworks Accreditation visit - March 7-9, 2021. The 9-member team of educators from across the state reviewed the district's school improvement plan, provided both

## Board of Education Meeting

March 15, 2021

Page 4 of 4

commendations and recommendations, and spent time at every school building. School districts in Nebraska (all public and accredited non-public) are required to participate in an accreditation review every five years. Copies of the Executive Summary and Accreditation Team Exit Report, which includes overall commendations and recommendations as well as next steps, are included in the board documents folder.

### Update on Summer School Programming for 2021

Dr. Weichel presented an overview of current plans for elementary and high school summer school programming. The middle school summer school programming is in process and should be available within the week, though Dr. Weichel advised it will look similar to elementary programming. There will be two sessions offered for elementary summer school (one 3-week session and one two-week session) with a focus on English Language Arts, Math and Social Emotional Learning. At 3 hours each day, students will receive 75 hours of instruction; Dr. Weichel informed the board that research has shown - to make gains in reading and math during a summer school program - students need at least 70 hours of instruction. CARES Act money will be used to cover the costs of the elementary programming, with no charge to families. The summer session at the high school will run four weeks - from June 2 - July 2, 2021, and students will be recommended / approved by their counselor. Following is the sliding scale fee for courses (students can take up to three) for both WHS students and non-WHS students: WHS Student - one course - \$135.00; two courses - \$195.00; three courses - \$255.00; Non-WHS Student - one course - \$185.00; two courses \$285.00; three courses - \$355.00. Copies of the Executive Summary and summer school programming information sheet are included in the board documents folder.

### Board Member Representation / Legislative Updates

Ms. Karnes attended a Metro Area Boards of Education (MABE) Meeting. The district is hosting a special event tomorrow at the high school to recognize six seniors who received a perfect score / super-score of 36 on the ACT. Saturday, May 1st, Westside is holding a Fine Arts Festival at Turner Park, showcasing high school musical groups throughout the day. Board members expressed their gratitude for the district staff members who are celebrating milestone "Years of Service" with WCS.

### Announcements

Ms. Karnes reviewed the following upcoming events:

March 22-26, 2021 District All Staff Appreciation Week

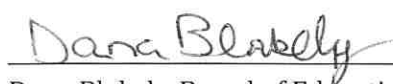
March 29-April 2 Spring Break - No School

April 9\*\*, 2021 Board of Education Meeting - 11:00 a.m. - Westside High School

\*\* Originally scheduled for April 5th; this board meeting date has been changed to April 9th at 11:00am and will be held at Westside High School in conjunction with American Civics large group.

April 6, 2021 First Day of School at the NEW Prairie Lane Elementary!

There being no further business, Ms. Karnes adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.



Dana Blakely, Board of Education Secretary

Board of Education Meeting  
March 15, 2021

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

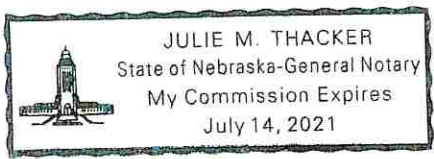
The undersigned hereby certifies that a Notice of Board Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was placed on the home page of the website of Westside Community Schools (www.westside66.org) beginning on March 2, 2021, and that it appeared there continuously up through the time of the scheduled board meeting.

Kim Sedivy  
Name

Assoc., Communications & Graphics  
Title

STATE OF NEBRASKA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS )

Before me, a Notary Public, qualified in and for said County and State, personally came Kim 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

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

Notice is hereby given of the Board of Education Meeting of Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **Monday, March 15, 2021, 6:30 p.m.** at the District Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, NE. An agenda, continually kept current, is available at the District Administration Office. The meeting is open to the public. Social distancing protocols are followed and masks are required. Meeting will also be broadcast via Facebook Live (Facebook: WestsideCommunitySchools).

3/12, 3/15

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

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

ELIZABETH WHITE

being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is

LEGAL 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, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice hereto attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, on  
March 12

& 15, 2021

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

GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska  
ELLEN FREEMAN  
My Comm. Exp. December 11, 2021

Publisher's Fee \$ 23.38  
Additional Copies \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \$ 23.38

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before  
me this 15th day of  
March 2021

Notary Public in and for Douglas County,  
State of Nebraska