

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Workshop Minutes ~ June 14, 2021

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on June 14, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present:

- Kris Karnes, President
- Doug Krenzer, Vice President
- Dana Blakely, Secretary
- Meagan Van Gelder, Treasurer
- Beth Morrissette, 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 June 10, 2021, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. A copy of the proof of publication is 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, Molly Hurley, Robert Aranda, Nick Lesiak.

Others in Attendance*: *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 Workshop to order at 2:07 p.m. She 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.

Dr. Lucas thanked the board for making time to meet this afternoon for discussion and exchange of ideas on a number of topics.

Phase II - Facilities Master Plan

Dr. Lucas outlined a preliminary "plan of action" for the Board's consideration regarding Phase II of the Facilities Master Plan that would include a new facilities study / building conditions assessment to be completed by the end of 2021. The board and district administration would spend considerable time in 2022 analyzing the results of this study to establish a clear timeline, direction and scope of work for Phase II projects that would be ready to share with the community in late 2022. Ms. Blakely and Ms. Morrissette - who were on the Board during the initial planning stages of Phase I - concurred that the role of the *Facilities Task Force* was critically important to the success of all Phase I projects. Further, the subsequent *Building Design Committees* that were aligned with each elementary school construction project were instrumental in establishing consensus on all aspects of each building

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project. It will also be important to engage the Bond Oversight Committee in this process and to utilize their institutional knowledge of Phase I.

2021-2022 School Year Planning

COVID Protocols

Dr. Lucas presented preliminary ideas on COVID protocols for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. In his weekly discussions with area Superintendents and the Douglas County Health Department, the guidelines that are being proposed (based on CDC recommendations) include “masks optional” for those who are fully vaccinated and “masks advised / encouraged” for those who are not vaccinated. Case counts - increases and decreases - will factor in strongly as to whether other safety measures are reinstated. An increase in transmission will also impact extracurricular activities, so vaccinations are strongly encouraged / recommended for those who are eligible, and for those 12 and under as soon as it is available. A question was raised about participation in extracurricular activities. Mr. Lesiak and Mr. Aranda will review current practices and policies and provide follow-up at the July 19th Board Workshop.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Lucas shared a draft of the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan. He expressed his thanks to Dr. Mark Weichel, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, for his work in leading the renewal effort (Dr. Weichel was unable to be in attendance at today’s meeting). The initial draft (12 pages) has been streamlined to a 4-page document, with the four goals and their corresponding strategies clearly identified. Dr. Lucas advised the board that measurable criteria will be established for every strategy aligned under each goal. Further, district staff will be assigned to individual strategies. This will ensure that we can clearly identify the progress that is being made with every strategy under each goal. The board made some recommendations on language and wording. Board approval of the Strategic Plan will be requested at the Board of Education Meeting on July 19, 2021.

Business and Finance

Levy Override

The levy override will be conducted via mail-in ballots that will go out to district residents on September 20, 2021, and will be due back by October 12, 2021. Mr. Yale advised of two key talking points that are an important part of the message: 1) this is NOT a tax increase; and, 2) the board / district has not utilized the full levy taxing authority over the past three years.

District Insurance Plan / HSA Option

Dr. Lucas advised that the district had received some inquiries from employees regarding the availability of a Health Savings Account (HSA). The district currently offers the PayFlex option. Dr. Lucas stated that the district will explore this option, which can provide benefits for employees enrolled in the high-deductible health plan.

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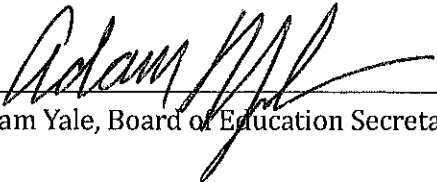
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Westside Community Schools 75th Anniversary in 2022

This discussion item will be held over to the Board Workshop on July 19, 2021.

There being no further business, Ms. Karnes adjourned the workshop at 4:47 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Yale", written over a horizontal line.

Adam Yale, Board of Education Secretary

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Monday: June 14, 2021

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROOF OF PUBLICATION

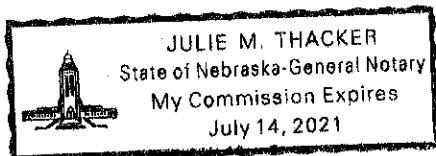
The undersigned hereby certifies that a Notice of Board Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was placed on the home page of the website of Westside Community Schools (www.westside66.org) beginning on June 10, 2021, and that it appeared there continuously up through the time of the scheduled board meeting.

Kim Seely
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 Seely, 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.



Julie M. Thacker
Notary Public