

## WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

### Board of Education Workshop Minutes ~ July 19, 2021

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The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on July 19, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

**Board members present:**

- Doug Krenzer, President
- Meagan Van Gelder, Vice President
- Adam Yale, Secretary
- Beth Morrissette, Treasurer
- Dana Blakely, Treasurer-Elect
- Kris Karnes, 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 July 12, 2021, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the workshop was also published in the Daily Record on July 16 and 19, 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, 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.

Mr. Krenzer called the Board Workshop to order at 2:06 p.m. He 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. He 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**

Mr. Rob Zimmerman from Project Advocates was in attendance and provided a recap of major Phase I projects: Swing School, WMS, Oakdale, Sunset Hills, Swanson, Prairie Lane, and high priority projects at Hillside, Loveland, Paddock Road, Rockbrook, Westbrook and Westgate. He reported that Project Advocates is completing the overall bond financial reconciliation as well as a post Phase I assessment / inspection of district facilities. Mr. Zimmerman advised the board that this inspection report will identify current needs, since there have been numerous changes in facility conditions since the original assessment was done in 2014-2015.

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The assessment / needs report will be submitted to the Board of Education by December 2021; review of the assessment report will take place into the second quarter of 2022. Board members inquired about any updates to the original ed specs; Mr. Zimmerman advised that there have been on-going modifications to the ed specs throughout Phase I, along with many lessons learned with each new building project (i.e. new versus renovation). Dr. Lucas shared that continued analysis of the post-Phase I assessment and consideration of Phase II projects will occur through most of 2022; he anticipates that the scope of work and direction of Phase II could be ready for communication by December 2022.

### **2021-2022 School Year Planning**

Extracurricular Participation and Restrictions: Mr. Robert Aranda, Director of Student Services, and Mr. Nick Lesiak, District Legal Counsel, presented a report for the board's consideration regarding student participation in school-sponsored activities and programs when faced with a short or long term suspension, expulsion or emergency exclusion. They provided a current copy of the high school's guidelines for restriction on participation (board policy #5300). Mr. Aranda advised it is crucial that the disciplinary guidelines outlined in the code of conduct are applied in a consistent manner across all extracurricular clubs and teams. The guidelines do provide for more restrictive consequences by the sponsor or coach of an individual school-sponsored group, club or team, with approval from the principal or principal designee. Board members inquired on participatory restrictions based on the severity of charges and if restrictions are altered when there is a change to any charges. This report is part of the district's on-going review of board policies to ensure compliance with existing policy, recommendations for revisions and/or elimination, as well as the need for new policy(ies).

### COVID Protocols

Dr. Lucas advised that - if school were to start tomorrow - most metro area schools will be doing "masks optional". He stated that there are meetings (for area Superintendents) scheduled with the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) over the next few weeks leading up to the start of school. They are hopeful for more clarity and direction, based on the most current COVID numbers. Mr. Aranda reported that the DCHD is still recommending that every school building maintain a COVID room for any staff or students who test positive. Dr. Lucas advised that updates to staff and families will be forthcoming as we near the first day of school.

### District Strategic Plan: 2021-2026

Dr. Lucas provided a copy of the District Strategic Plan: 2021-2026 that board members will be asked to approve at the board meeting later today.

### WE-SIDE

Dr. Lucas advised that a WE-SIDE Forum has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 24th - 6:00pm - at Westside High School to inform the community about initiatives and plans



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### BOE Student Advisory Committee

Dr. Lucas provided board members with the BOE Student Advisory Committee (SAC) requirements and application. They discussed possible adjustments to BOE SAC meeting requirements; the addition of a time for "Open Discussion" to the BOE SAC agendas as well as introducing both "Student" topics and "BOE" topics. The BOE SAC Application for the 2021-2022 School Year will be available to interested high school students after school starts on August 17th; applications will be due by September 3, 2021. The first BOE SAC meeting will be held on September 13, 2021, prior to the Board of Education Meeting.

### Superintendent Goal for the 2021-2022 School Year

Dr. Lucas provided the board with his goals and priorities for the 2021-2022 school year, encompassing the areas of: Instructional Leadership; Financial Leadership; Communications/Public Relations/Community Engagement; Facilities Leadership; WE-SIDE; Visionary Planning; Culture Enhancement; and Legislative/Statewide Leadership. Board approval of Dr. Lucas' goals will be requested at the Board of Education Meeting on August 2, 2021.

## **Business and Finance**

### Budget and Tax Request Outlook for FY22

Mr. Brian Gabriel, District Officer of Business and Finance, presented an overview of the budget outlook for FY22 as well as audited figures for FY20 and estimated figures for FY21. Mr. Gabriel highlighted the fund balance that started at \$15.7 million in FY20, with a goal of reaching \$17 million. The audited fund balance for FY20 ended at \$20 million, and estimated fund balance for FY21 is \$22 million.

### ESSER Funding

While the district incurred a number of expenses during the 2020-2021 school year for COVID supplies as well as summer school in 2021, Mr. Gabriel advised the board that ESSER funds (Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund) will be used to cover costs associated with these expenses, including salaries and student transportation for summer school.


### Levy Override

Dr. Lucas reviewed the levy override resolution that the board will be asked to approve at the Board Meeting (immediately following the Board Workshop).

## **Westside Community Schools 75th Anniversary in 2022**

Dr. Lucas advised that preliminary plans are in the works to commemorate the District's 75th Anniversary in 2022, with recognition of the actual date in March 2022 and a larger event being planned for fall 2022. Stay tuned!!

There being no further business, Mr. Krenzer adjourned the workshop at 4:52 p.m.



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Adam Yale, Board of Education Secretary

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Board of Education of Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, will hold a work session on **Monday, July 19, 2021, 2:00 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.

7/16, 7/19

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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 SCOTT STEWART**

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, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

July 16

& 19, 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 31, 2021

*Jason W. Huff*  
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before  
me this 19th day of

Publisher's Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Copies \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ 21.13

July 2021

*EF*  
Notary Public in and for Douglas County,  
State of Nebraska

