

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting Minutes ~ October 4, 2021

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on October 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: Doug Krenzer, President
Adam Yale, Secretary
Beth Morrissette, Treasurer
Dana Blakely, Treasurer-Elect
Kris Karnes, Director

Board member absent (excused): Meagan Van Gelder, Vice President

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 September 14, 2021, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on October 1 and 4, 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, Mark Weichel, Andrea Haynes, Brian Gabriel, Molly Hurley, Paul Lindgren, Kim De La Cruz, Greg Betts, Kami Jessop, Brandi Paul, Nick Lesiak, Jenny Brockman, Erin Lunsford, Jay Opperman, Trever Reeh, Maggie Person.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill, Lisa Hatterman. *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 of Education Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. He 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. He acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. Board member attendance is noted above. Mr. Krenzer requested a motion for approval of Dr. Van Gelder's absence. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Krenzer requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education FY22 Property Tax Request Public Hearing held on September 13, 2021. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Morrissette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Mr. Krenzer requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting held on September 13, 2021. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote.

“Art For Me” at Westside High School

Ms. Erin Lunsford, Art Department Chair at WHS, and Ms. Jenny Brockman, Coordinator of Secondary Special Services, gave a presentation to the Board on the Adapted Art Course at Westside High School. The implementation of the “Art For Me” class has been a collaborative effort between the Art Department and the Special Services Department, intended to provide our students with special needs the opportunity to experience and create art. Art teachers are supported by numerous educational assistants and peer mentors, along with a guest artist, to assist students during class to help and guide them in creating works of art that are truly their own. Ms. Lunsford shared that the pilot course was offered during the 2021 spring semester with 21 students. This school year, there are 37 students enrolled. To celebrate the conclusion of the pilot semester last spring, the Art Department and Special Services Department hosted a public reception and showing of the student’s work at the Kaneko Art Gallery in the Old Market. Ms. Lunsford and Ms. Brockman said they are planning for a similar event in the spring of 2022. Moving forward, the focus will be on securing sustainable funding for the program to continue at the highest level possible. Copies of the Executive Summary and Keynote presentation are included in the board documents folder.

Adoption of FY22 Property Tax Request

Mr. Brian Gabriel, District Officer of Business and Finance, presented the FY22 Property Tax Levies for board approval, previously introduced at a public hearing on September 13, 2021. Mr. Gabriel reviewed the proposed amounts and invited questions from the Board:

General Fund	\$ 48,282,943
Levy	1.165000

Bond Debt Service Fund	\$ 7,045,580
Levy	0.170000

Special Building Fund	\$ 0
Levy	0.000000

All Levy Funds Total	\$ 55,328,523
Combined Local Levy	1.335000

Mr. Yale read the tax request resolution and moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. The Property Tax Resolution passed by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and Property Tax Resolution are included in the board documents folder.

Board of Education Meeting

October 4, 2021

Page 3 of 5

Board Policies for Approval

Mr. Nick Lesiak, District Administrative Counsel, presented revisions to two existing policies for board approval. These revisions were introduced at the Board of Education Meeting on September 13, 2021, for review and discussion and are primarily for clarity / definition of terms and to bring language in line with current state statutes.

- Board Policy 1210 (Board of Education) - Transaction of Business: Ms. Morrissette moved for approval of recommended revisions; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
- Board Policy 1500 (Board of Education) - Compensation and Expenses: Ms. Karnes moved for approval of recommended revisions; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

A copy of the Executive Summary - along with redline copies of each policy - are included in the board documents folder.

Board Policies for Review

Mr. Lesiak presented two existing policies with revisions for consideration and discussion by the Board. As with other recent revisions to existing policies, these changes are non-substantive and are meant to ensure compliance with state statutes.

- Board Policy 1150 (Board of Education) - Board Membership and Elections
- Board Policy 1160 (Board of Education) - Organization and Officers

These policy revisions will be presented for Board approval at the Board of Education Meeting on October 19, 2021. A copy of the Executive Summary - along with redline copies of each policy - are included in the board documents folder.

Approval of 2022 Caucus Committee

Mr. Nick Lesiak, District Administrative Counsel, presented the 2022 Caucus Committee members for board approval. The Caucus is held every two years to nominate candidates to fill vacancies on the Board of Education. Terms expiring on May 31, 2022 are currently held by Kris Karnes and Adam Yale. The Caucus Committee is an advisory committee to the Board of Education, with appointments confirmed in the fall preceding the caucus. Once appointed, the Caucus Committee will meet in an open meeting (public notice is given of date, time, location) to determine its recommendations to the Board on caucus details, including: date, time, location of caucus; preparation of caucus rules; and filing deadline for candidates. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval of the 2022 Caucus committee; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

Dr. Andrea Haynes, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and District Operations, presented the Personnel Report for approval by the board. Before requesting approval, Dr. Haynes invited Mr. Jay

Board of Education Meeting

October 4, 2021

Page 4 of 5

Opperman, Principal at Westside High School, to join her. Mr. Opperman has submitted his notice of retirement to be effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Lucas and the Board thanked Mr. Opperman for his service and the positive impact he has made at the high school during his leadership over the past five years. Mr. Opperman expressed his gratitude to the District and to his colleagues, and for the opportunity to serve Westside Community Schools. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Proposed Student Calendar Revision for the 2022-2023 School Year

Dr. Lucas presented proposed revisions to the student calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. The Board previously approved student school year calendars for 2020-2021; 2021-2022; and 2022-2023 back on July 15, 2019. Dr. Lucas reviewed the following adjustments to the 2022-2023 calendar:

Student Instructional Days from 179 to 176

- First Semester: 84 days / Second Semester: 92 days
- October 13, 2022: Now a Parent-Teacher Communication Day
- March 16, 2023: Now a Parent-Teacher Communication Day
- May 1, 2023: Additional Professional Development Day

Teacher Contract Days remain the same at 191

- First Semester: 93.5 days / Second Semester: 97.5 days
- Parent-Teacher Communication Days revised from evening times only to include evening appointments on 10/12/22 and 3/15/23 and daytime appointments on 10/13/22 and 3/16/23
- January 4, 2023: Teacher "Flex" Work Day
- May 1, 2023: Additional Professional Development Day

These proposed changes will be presented again for approval at the Board of Education Meeting on October 19, 2021. Copies of the Executive Summary and proposed revised 2022-2023 student calendar are included in the board documents folder.

Public Comment

There were two requests for public comment: Lisa Hatterman (information gathering) and Denise Bradshaw (thank you for moving up public comment).

Board Member Representation / Remarks on Public Comment / Legislative Updates

Mr. Krenzer took a few moments to share some remarks on behalf of the Board of Education regarding recent public comments on the District's decision to implement masks K-12. He expressed that the District and Board of Education understand and respect the sincerely held beliefs that conflict with the decisions the District has made. These decisions are temporary protocols that come universally recommended by local, state, and national experts in infectious disease and epidemiology - decisions that the District feels are important in order to maximize our students' chances of uninterrupted in-person learning in schools.

Board of Education Meeting

October 4, 2021

Page 5 of 5

Mr. Krenzer emphasized that the Board and District leadership have no interest in keeping the mask protocols in place any longer than is deemed necessary and will end them as soon as conditions permit.

Board members attended a number of District events over the last three weeks, including community club meetings, building walk-throughs, and the Foundation's VI-VI event. Dr. Lucas and some board members will be attending the NASB Area Membership meeting that is being held tomorrow - October 5th - at the Embassy Suites LaVista. And everyone is excited for the Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally on Wednesday, October 6th!

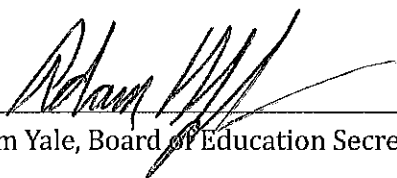
Human Resources is hosting a job applicant support fair on Monday, October 11th from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the District Office. The Legislative Special Session that concluded on September 30, 2021, was focused on setting governmental district boundaries based on the recent release of 2020 census data; there has been minimal legislative activity regarding education.

Announcements

Mr. Krenzer reviewed the following upcoming events:

- October 5, 2021 - NASB Area Membership Meeting - LaVista Conference Center - 4:30-8:00pm
- October 6, 2021 - Westside Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally - WHS - 6:30pm
- October 14, 2021 - Parent / Teacher Communication Day - No School for Students
- October 15, 2021 - End of First Quarter - No School
- October 18, 2021 - Professional Development Day - No School for Students
- October 19, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting - District Office - 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Mr. Krenzer adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.



Adam Yale, Board of Education Secretary

**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, October 4, 2021, 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held

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.

10/1, 10/4

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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

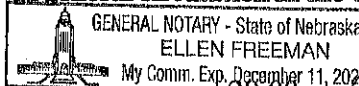
PUBLISHER and/or MANAGING EDITOR

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

October 1

& 4, 2021

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



Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before

Publisher's Fee \$ 20.00 me this 4th day of October 2021
Additional Copies \$ _____
Total \$ 20.00

Notary Public in and for Douglas County,
State of Nebraska

