

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting ~ January 17, 2023

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on January 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: Meagan Van Gelder, President
Beth Morrissette, Vice President
Kris Karnes, Secretary
Dana Blakely, Treasurer
Adam Yale, Treasurer-Elect

Board members absent (excused): Doug Krenzer, 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 December 20, 2022, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on January 13, 16 and 17, 2023, 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, Nick Lesiak, Kim De La Cruz, Kami Jessop, Laura Mann, Becky Lowther.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill, Sara Achelpohl, Carolyn Roeder. *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.

Dr. Van Gelder called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:04 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. Dr. Van Gelder requested a motion for an excused absence for Doug Krenzer. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Van Gelder requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting and Workshop held on December 19, 2022. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Morrissette seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote.

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Treasurer's Report

Ms. Blakely moved for approval of December 2022 expenditures in the amount of \$12,811,539; Ms. Karnes seconded. Approval of expenditures was passed by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the December 2022 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, welcomed WHS students Abby Cartwright, AJ Shefkysy and Lizzie Smith, representing the Westside Dance Marathon group, which is achieving great success in its second year at the high school. The Dance Marathon debuted last year at WHS, with students raising over \$25,000 for Children's Hospital & Medical Center. The WHS Dance Marathon group consists of a 27-member student board and will be partnering with WHS Student Council to host numerous events this year to reach their fundraising goal of \$30,000. An amazing group of students demonstrating outstanding leadership in and for our community!

District Enrollment and Demographics Update - 2022-2023 School Year

Mr. Robert Aranda, Director of Student Services, presented an overview of this year's student demographic and statistical profile to the Board. 2022-2023 enrollment grew slightly from last year (.89%) to 6,123 students, slightly below the district's overall enrollment projection of 6,150. English Language Learner enrollment also saw a slight increase from 2.88% to 3.77% of total student enrollment. Option enrolled students represent 34.49% of the District's total enrollment. Factors that must be considered before approving option applications include capacities in: grade levels, buildings and programs. For the 2022-2023 school year, the district was able to enroll just over 50% of the over 608 applications received. Mr. Aranda's Executive Summary and the Demographic Report are included in the board documents folder.

District Strategic Plan Progress Update

Dr. Mark Weichel, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, presented a biannual update to the board on the District's Strategic Plan. Dr. Weichel displayed the Strategic Plan "dashboard" that is accessible on the district website for anyone to view and highlighted a few of the 26 strategies connected to the four Strategic Plan goals (westside66.org/domain/577). A number of the strategies have multiple layered data points (called "roll-up" strategies) that make up the overall data "score". The dashboard is updated twice each year (January and June), and Dr. Weichel encouraged anyone with questions to please reach out to him. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

Long Range Facilities Projects Update

Mr. Russ Olsen, Director of Facilities, provided an update on long-range facility projects. Developed during the FY20 budget cycle, the long-range facility project matrix allows for the planned maintenance of district facilities and repair projects over the next 10 years. With a budget set at \$1.75M with additional sources from ESSER funds, a hail insurance settlement and surplus bond money (in FY20, FY21 and FY22), the district has been better able to create a maintenance plan for regular upkeep of facilities based on a number of factors: safety and security; life-cycle of equipment and short / long-term financial outlooks.

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Mr. Olsen reviewed a number of projects currently in-process, and planned for FY23 and FY24 and beyond. Copies of the Executive Summary and Mr. Olsen's keynote presentation are included in the board documents folder.

Sale / Disposal of District Equipment

On behalf of the Technology Department, Mr. Olsen requested board approval for the sale of 534 used 13" Macbook Air laptops and the disposal of non-functioning iMac desktop computers. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

Board Policies for Review

Ms. Kim De La Cruz, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the following policy revision for board discussion and consideration:

#5230 - Graduation: Class of 2025 and beyond (Students): Minor revision to course requirements for "Business, Computer Science and Technology" due to the *Computer Science and Technology Education Act* that was passed by the Nebraska Legislature in the spring of 2022. Ms. De La Cruz advised the board that a curriculum group will be working this spring and summer to integrate the required elements into the district's current Information Technology course so it meets the new standards. NDE did indicate that our current AP Computer Science Principles does meet the new requirements. Ms. De La Cruz will bring this policy revision back for approval on February 6, 2023.

Mr. Nick Lesiak, District In-House Legal Counsel, presented the following two new policies for first reading and board discussion / consideration.

#3460 - Data Breach Response (Business): New policy to establish and ensure compliance with state and federal laws in the event of a data breach.

#7110 - Sponsor Recognition (Community Relations): New policy to permit sponsor recognition on a limited basis.

All three policies will be brought back for board approval at the Board of Education meeting on February 6, 2023. Copies of the Executive Summary and redline or new policies are included in the board documents folder.

Growing Our Own: EA to Teacher Ladder Program

Dr. Andrea Haynes, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Business Operations, presented an overview of the district's new Educational Assistant to Teacher Ladder Program that was implemented in May 2022. A partnership with Midland University, this program is one of the district's several initiatives to help address the teacher shortage and provides a pathway for currently employed Educational Assistants to earn a teaching degree / endorsement in Elementary Education K-6 as well as a supplemental endorsement in: Early Childhood Education, English Language Learner Support, or Special Education.

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Dr. Haynes shared that there are 15 participants in the current "Growing Our Own" cohort scheduled to graduate in spring 2024. Copies of the Executive Summary and keynote presentation are included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

Dr. Haynes presented the personnel report (four probationary contracts; four certified staff resignations) for board approval. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Karnes 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

Dr. Van Gelder attended the local MABE Meeting on January 11, 2023; Ms. Morrissette represented the district at the weekly NASB Legislative Committee ZOOM Meeting; Dr. Lucas shared that Sean Kelley will provide an update to the board once bill introductions conclude on January 26th. Dr. Lucas advised the board that WCS - along with six other Nebraska school districts (Hampton, Nebraska City, Norris, Sutton, Waverly and York) - will be hosting a reception for state senators on February 22nd in Lincoln. Dr. Weichel advised the Board that Ms. Carolyn Roeder submitted six book removal requests and one book review request.

Announcements

Dr. Van Gelder reviewed the following upcoming events:

January 23, 2023	NASB Legislative Issues Conference - Lincoln Embassy Suites - 9am-1pm
January 30, 2023	Anne Frank Exhibit - Westside High School - 4:00-7:00 p.m.
February 6, 2023	BOE Student Advisory Committee Meeting - ABC - 5:00 p.m. Board of Education Meeting - ABC - 6:00 p.m.
February 10, 2023	Teacher Work Day / No School for Students
February 13, 2023	Legislative Overview / Community Event - WHS - 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

There being no further business, Dr. Van Gelder adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.



Kris Karnes, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
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 **January 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** at the District Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, NE. The Board of Education Student Advisory Committee will meet at 5:00 p.m., immediately prior to the Board Meeting. The agendas, continually kept current, are available at the District Office. The meetings are open to the public.

1/13, 1/16, 1/17

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OF OMAHA**
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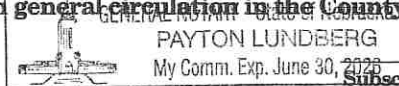
being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the

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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 _____
January 13,

16, & 17, 2023

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 \$ 38.06 me this 17th day of
Additional Copies \$ _____ January 20 23
Total \$ 38.06

Payton Lundberg
Notary Public in and for Douglas County,
State of Nebraska

