

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting ~ April 10, 2023

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on April 10, 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 March 21, 2023, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on April 7 and 10, 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, Kim De La Cruz, Kami Jessop, Laura Mann, Kelcy Tapp, Robert Aranda, Russ Olsen, Nick Lesiak, Sandra Fey, Melanie Connolly.

Others in Attendance*: Brandy Klipfel, Diane Cahill. *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 6:01 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 held on March 20, 2023. Ms. Morrissette moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Communications

Ms. Brandi Paul, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, provided a quick update on remaining bond information meeting dates being held through May 3, 2023. Meetings are scheduled at various buildings and at various times to ensure all interested community members have an opportunity to attend.

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Special Services Annual Update

Dr. Kami Jessop, Director of Special Services, presented the annual overview of the Special Education Department. Dr. Jessop reviewed: the mission and goals of Special Services; the weighted staffing model that is used for building caseloads of special education staff (adjusted four times per year); disability and eligibility categories; the growth in early childhood and home-based intervention services (for birth to 3 years), as well as preschool age students (ages 3 to 5); the rise in special education expenditures; the successes and challenges of specialized placements for students with significant behavioral challenges; staff attrition; the growth and recognition of the District's Unified program; and the success of the department's Parent Navigator's group and partnerships with community agencies that provide support to our families when navigating resources for their child after graduation (at age 21). A copy of Dr. Jessop's Executive Summary and report are included in the board documents folder.

Board Policy Revision for Review

Mr. Nick Lesiak, In-House Legal Counsel, presented a revision to existing policy #4380 - Holidays and Vacations (Personnel) - with the addition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Mr. Lesiak will bring this policy revision back for approval at the Board of Education Meeting on April 24, 2023. Copies of the Executive Summary and policy are included in the board documents folder.

Proposed New Board Policies for Approval

Mr. Lesiak presented the following two new policies for board approval. They were introduced for consideration and discussion by the Board at their meeting on March 20, 2023.

- Policy #3490 - Drones and Unmanned Aircraft (Business)
- Policy #3500 - Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response (Business)

Mr. Yale moved for approval of Policy #3490; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ms. Blakely moved for approval of Policy 3500; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of each policy and the Executive Summary are included in the board documents folder.

Approval of Contractor for Westside High School Roofing Project

Mr. Russ Olsen, Director of Facilities, presented a bid from Moore Services to install two new hot water heaters at Westside High School. Two bids were received and Moore Services was the lowest responsible bid. The work will be completed in the summer of 2023 and is part of the district's long-term facility maintenance plan. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and project bid spreadsheet are included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

Dr. Haynes presented the personnel report (21 certified staff probationary contracts; four certified staff resignations; one Administrator contract) for board approval. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

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Public Comment

There were no requests for Public Comment.

Board Member Representation / Legislative Updates

Board members were represented at a number of events over the past two weeks including community bond information meetings at Rockbrook, Paddock Road, Loveland, Westgate, and the high school; the high school production of *"Shrek: The Musical"*; and the Teaching and Learning Key Communicator group tour at Project Search. Ms. Morrissette represents the District in weekly NASB Legislative Committee virtual meetings. Dr. Lucas advised that there are still many moving parts to the "Pillen Plan" (regarding education funding) and is hopeful that there will be clarity around total state aid in the next two weeks.

Announcements

Dr. Van Gelder reviewed the following upcoming events:

April 22, 2023	Westside Multicultural Fair @ Westside High School - 12 Noon-4:00 p.m.
April 24, 2023	Board of Education Meeting - ABC - 6:00 p.m.
April 25, 2023	Westside Community Walk @ Restoring Dignity - 4:00-5:30 p.m.
May 15, 2023	Board of Education Student Advisory Committee Meeting - ABC - 5:00 p.m. Board of Education Meeting - ABC - 6:00pm
May 18, 2023	Project SEARCH Graduation - Children's Hospital - 10:00 a.m.
May 21, 2023	WHS Commencement - Baxter Arena - 2:00 p.m.
May 26, 2023	Last Day of School! Dismissal at 12:00 Noon

District Legal Matters

Dr. Van Gelder advised those in attendance that the next item on the agenda is consideration of information from legal counsel regarding pending litigation and personnel matters, and that discussion of these matters in closed session is necessary and permitted by law. Ms. Karnes moved that the Board enter closed session to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters and to receive and discuss legal advice from the District's attorney, both of which are clearly necessary to protect the public's interest and to maintain the attorney-client privilege. Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Dr. Van Gelder again advised those in attendance that the Board has adopted a motion to enter closed session to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters and to receive and discuss legal advice from the District's attorney, both of which are clearly necessary to protect the public's interest and to maintain the attorney-client privilege. She reiterated that the Board will limit itself to discussion of these issues. At 6:33 p.m. the regular board meeting concluded and the board took a brief recess before entering closed session at 6:38 p.m. At 8:21 p.m. the board came out of closed session. There being no further business, Dr. Van Gelder adjourned the meeting at 8:21 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 **April 10, 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.

4/7, 4/10

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**THE DAILY RECORD
OF OMAHA
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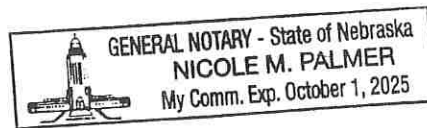
} ss.

JASON W. HUFF and/or NIKLAUS STEWART, being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the PUBLISHER and/or LEGAL MANAGER 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, has a general circulation in Sarpy, Lancaster, and Cass Counties, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, Nebraska for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice here-to attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, for 1 consecutive weeks on:

4/7/23

4/10/23

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



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Jason W. Huff
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on APRIL 10 2023

Nicole M. Palmer
Notary Public in and for Douglas County, State of Nebraska

