



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 11, 2022 Regular Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, the regular Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School Community Room and live streamed via YouTube. The meeting was also broadcast on TV Channel 991.

The purpose of the Board Meeting Minutes is to capture the essence of discussions through the actions voted on. These minutes should not be interpreted to represent a transcription of the meeting. To watch a recording of this meeting, please click [here](#).

President's Comments and Pledge of Allegiance:

Stephen Johnson welcomed everyone and asked Carl Hayek to lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Johnson at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Stephen Johnson, Dale Feldt, Steve Klismet, Molly McDonald, Patrick Phair, Betty Manion, and Ron Brooks.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Carl Hayek, Mark Flaten, Steve Thomaschefskey, Laurie Schmidt, Michael Werbowsky, Jenifer Erb, John Meyer, John Erspamer, Carrie Naparalla, Matt Vassar, James Card of the *Waupaca County Post*, and a member of the community.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Betty Manion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Public Comment:

Ms. Miriam Leean-Rodenz addressed the Board advising that we all say the Pledge of Allegiance wrong – there is no comma between “one nation under God”, therefore there should be no pause.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve the items of the consent agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes:

September 13, 2022, Regular Board Meeting

September 19, 2022, Board Retreat

Financial Reports:

Accounts Payable Approval: \$2,550,444.11, and Building Fund Payable: \$0
Cash Receipts: \$2,074,878.22
Treasurer's Report – Total Cash per Reconciliation: \$10,318,233.15

Resignations:

Valerie Montgomery – Part-Time WHS Food Services Class 3B

Hires – 2022-2023 School Year:

Jeff Reed – Part-Time Special Education Bus Monitor

Extra Curricular Coaches and Advisors – 2022-2023 School Year:

Resignations:

Bryon Prey – WMS Wrestling Coach

Colleen Larsen – Destination Imagination Coordinator

WHS Coaching Positions:

Bryon Prey – Varsity Wrestling

WHS Volunteer Advisor Positions:

Dave Miller – Automotive

Hayley Cullen - Robotics

WMS Coaching Positions:

Brittany Burant – 7th Grade Girls Basketball

Brittany Burant – 7th Grade Boys Basketball

Rocky Mondello – 8th Grade Boys Basketball

WMS Advisor Positions:

Jenny Lewis – Drama Club/School Play (Authors & Actors Theater Festival)

WLC Advisor Positions:

Nancy Grams – Elementary All School Choir

Emma Kelley – Elementary All School Choir

Mary Luce – WLC Yearbook

Matt Lawniczak – Elementary Art Club

Amy Lemkuil – Elementary/MS Dramatics (15th Year)

Becky Leigl – Elementary/MS Dramatics (5th Year)

Salary Step Changes:

Holly Olsen – 13M to 13M12

Final Approval of Class III Field Trips for WHS and WMS

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Communications:

Mr. Saari recognized the many observances happening during the month of October.

District Administrator's Report:

Mr. Saari advised that the Community Safety Committee continues to meet, with the last two meetings being October 13 and October 26. He also provided information pertaining to the state aid impact on the 2022 referendum tax impact, as well as the Safety Referendum Informational Brochure.

Mr. Saari provided a summary of the enrollment report and indicated he was disappointed that enrollment decreased by 7 students from the previous year even though the City of Waupaca has grown. He added that these numbers include 4K, summer school, and Rural Virtual Academy students. As part of our strategy to increase enrollment, Mr. Saari shared the District's Niche website

which has been created to market to people looking for schools like us, near us, and our size, and includes specific District information.

Some Board members then commented that FVTC is referring students/families to the Wautoma School District and inquired about the FVTC campus in Waupaca, which to date is not open and classes are being held virtually.

Mr. Saari provided an update of the City of Waupaca Economic Recovery and Diversification Committee and advised that their goal is to establish an economic development strategy related to manufacturing, tourism, and retail.

Mr. Saari provided information related to the broadband expansion being done across our District and County, and advised that the County is also working to supplement private vendors. He added it is important to get this completed so our students are able to participate from home if necessary.

Mr. Saari provided an update of the Growth Team's (Aaron Jenson, Terri Schulz, Ron Saari) Relocation Campaign and that its goal is to attract new residents to our area by creating a dedicated website for prospective residents to learn about Waupaca. In addition, he is looking forward to the Growth Team's meeting with the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and other area organizational stakeholders regarding their interest in helping with this goal.

Mr. Saari reminded the Board of the Policy Committee meeting scheduled for next Monday to review new and updated NEOLA policies that have occurred over the past couple of years.

Mr. Saari advised that a Rotary Peace Committee has been established with its goal being to identify community partners to work together to promote respectful dialogue and build relationships, be a model for civil conversation, and promote respect.

Mr. Saari provided information regarding state funding for students with disabilities and advised that school districts do not get reimbursed 100% for the special education services provided. In fact, the state percentage is decreasing while costs are increasing. He also shared an example of the District's costs and reimbursements for special education services in the 2019-2020 school year.

Finally, Mr. Saari re-shared last month's information regarding the Grant Writer.

Monitoring:

Preliminary 2022-2023 Budget:

Director of Business Services Carl Hayek presented the District's Preliminary 2022-2023 Budget. He outlined several facilities and operations policies and procedures followed to ensure fiscal responsibility and financial solvency.

Mr. Hayek advised how the revenue limit is calculated and how pupil count is calculated and factored into it, providing a declining enrollment exemption that is calculated into the revenue limit formula. He advised that the current revenue allowed per member has not increased from 2021-2022, and the per pupil aid amount has not increased for the last four years. He also provided information on how general state aid and property taxes are determined by the revenue limit, adding that the District has taxed under the revenue limit nine years in a row.

Mr. Hayek also stressed the importance of keeping a solid fund balance to avoid the need for the District to short term borrow. Mr. Hayek proposed to designate fund balance for future athletic turf replacement, adding that it is wise to designate funds now so we have them available when the time comes.

Mr. Hayek advised that the District's budget is balanced and it will have the lowest proposed tax mill rate in over 30 years -- \$5.70 per \$1,000 of property value. The District's projected property tax levy required to support the 2022-2023 budget is estimated at \$11,486,992. He added that the overall projected property valuation increased 13.97%, which spreads the tax burden over all taxpayers resulting in the property tax rate going down by 8.71% on average. Although property values are increasing and taxes are projected to go down, wages and benefits will continue to increase and the District's infrastructure is being strategically maintained and repaired annually. Mr. Hayek cautioned that the District can control the mill rate but it cannot control the assessed property value made by municipalities.

Mr. Hayek advised that the budget may be adjusted in late October to reflect the actual tax levy and general aid certification. He added that the budget will be published in the *Waupaca County Post* and the Budget Hearing is scheduled for October 27, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. He also reminded everyone of the upcoming referendum election on November 8.

Administration:

3rd Friday in September Enrollment Report:

Mr. Saari shared the required enrollment report indicating that fewer students have enrolled in the District this year. He also highlighted the fact that exiting classes are larger than incoming classes which is a major concern.

Early Graduation Requests:

Mr. Saari advised that 17 students are requesting early graduation. In order to graduate early, students must complete seven semesters in WHS and have solid plans in place. These students and their parents have discussed their request with their school counselor and High School Principal Michael Werbowsky.

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Steve Klismet to approve the early graduation requests of the 17 Waupaca High School students as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Board Reports:

Student Representative Report:

None – Rylie was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

School Visits or Other Board Reports:

Board member Betty Manion shared that she led discussions during Environmental Day at the WLC and also observed CEC music classes. She advised that she, along with Board members Patrick Phair and Ron Brooks, attended the WASB Region 7 meeting in Neenah on October 6. Steve Klismet shared that he attended the Music Department meeting regarding the trip to Florida next spring and met the new music teacher. Several Board members advised that they attended the homecoming coronation and commented it was done very well. Board member Dale Feldt added he was a judge for the coronation, and that he has been attending all of the Community Safety Committee meetings as well.

Upcoming Meetings and Other Activities:

The Board was reminded of the following upcoming meetings and other activities:

October 13, 2022 – Community Referendum Informational Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

October 17, 2022 – Policy Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

October 26, 2022 – Community Safety Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

October 27, 2022 – Budget Hearing – 5:30 p.m.

November 8, 2022 – Election Day

November 8, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

Appoint Deputy Clerk for Elections:

Board member Patrick Phair nominated Carol Beyer-Makuski as Deputy Clerk for Elections. There being no other nominations, a motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Steve Klismet to appoint Carol Beyer-Makuski as Deputy Clerk for Elections. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Betty Manion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

_____ Date _____
Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

_____ Date _____
Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education