



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 9, 2021 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 conveyed a special thank you to all of our military veterans and their families for their service. He then asked Steve Hackett 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, Mark Polebitski, Patrick Phair, Steve Hackett, and Betty Manion (who joined the meeting at 5:32 p.m.).

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Carl Hayek, Steve Thomaschefskey, Laurie Schmidt, Michael Werbowosky, Jenifer Erb, John Erspamer, Jody Pankratz, Carrie Naparalla, Trevor Leopold, Carol Beyer-Makuski, Ella Waite, and members of the community.

Approval of Agenda:

Board President Stephen Johnson advised he is removing the Annual Charter School Authorizer Report from the consent agenda for further discussion later during the meeting. A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Public Comment:

A community member addressed the Board regarding bullying at the High School, as well as parking in a certain area at the High School that is causing problems for bus drivers. A second community member addressed the Board concerning masks being optional, and believes that some substitute teachers are not applying for a position with the District because of that.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Steve Hackett to approve the items of the consent agenda as amended, removing Item VII.E. Annual Charter School Authorizer Report for further discussion later in the meeting. Board member Patrick Phair also gave a shout out to the three teachers who are retiring at the end of this school year.

Approval of Minutes:

October 12, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
October 18, 2021, Special Board Meeting
October 25, 2021, Policy Committee Meeting
October 28, 2021, Budget Hearing

Financial Reports:

Accounts Payable Approval: \$2,550,132.90, and Building Fund Payable: \$0
Cash Receipts: \$623,848.01

Budget to Actual Comparison by Fund Groups for July:

Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$10,585,110 [2020-2021: \$9,400,027]
Fund 21 Ending Balance: \$350,021 [2020-2021: \$341,709]
Fund 27 Ending Balance: -\$29,667 [2020-2021: -\$24,414]
Fund 38 Ending Balance: \$0 [2020-2021: \$0]
Fund 41 Ending Balance: \$70,273 [2020-2021: \$70,089]
Fund 49 Ending Balance: \$166,696 [2020-2021: \$173,180]
Fund 50 Ending Balance: \$78,080 [2020-2021: -\$19,860]

Budget to Actual Comparison by Fund Groups for August:

Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$9,377,693 [2020-2021: \$8,611,723]
Fund 21 Ending Balance: \$344,590 [2020-2021: \$345,554]
Fund 27 Ending Balance: -\$63,386 [2020-2021: -\$90,153]
Fund 38 Ending Balance: \$0 [2020-2021: \$0]
Fund 41 Ending Balance: \$70,281 [2020-2021: \$70,114]
Fund 49 Ending Balance: \$166,696 [2020-2021: \$175,935]
Fund 50 Ending Balance: \$82,842 [2020-2021: -\$24,450]

Budget to Actual Comparison by Fund Groups for September:

Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$8,731,179 [2020-2021: \$7,893,122]
Fund 21 Ending Balance: \$347,985 [2020-2021: \$373,791]
Fund 27 Ending Balance: -\$325,788 [2020-2021: -\$370,436]
Fund 38 Ending Balance: \$0 [2020-2021: \$0]
Fund 41 Ending Balance: \$0 [2020-2021: \$70,137]
Fund 49 Ending Balance: \$199,336 [2020-2021: \$166,690]
Fund 50 Ending Balance: \$20,203 [2020-2021: -\$56,413]

Retirements – End of 2021-2022 School Year:

Nancy Cummings – WHS English Teacher/GT Coordinator
Laurie Reetz – WHS Special Education Teacher
Lisa Anderson – WLC 2nd Grade Teacher

Resignations:

Madeline Pulchinski – CEC .5 FTE Secretary Class II/.5 FTE Ed. Asst.
Kelly Doss – WLC Food Service Class 3A
Brandy Abhold – WHS Ed. Asst.–Spec. Ed.

Hires – 2021-2022 School Year:

Timothy Koltz – Technology Help Desk Assistant (Temporary through the 1st Semester)
Ashley Brill – WLC Food Service Class 3A

Transfers/Changes:

Rachel Gullixon – WLC Ed. Asst.–Spec. Ed. to WLC 4K Ed. Asst.

Extra Curricular Coaches and Advisors – 2021-2022 School Year:

WHS Coaching Positions:

Ryan Dayton – JV2 Boys Basketball

WHS Volunteer Coaching Positions:

Mary Ann Snider – Tennis
Evan Hunchar – Boys Hockey

WHS Advisor Positions:

Danielle McHugh – Photo Club

WHS Volunteer Advisor Positions:

Craig Gadzinski – Chess
Benjamin Newell – Chess
Jeremy Reedy – Chess
Breanna Schulist – Dance
Brian Hoelzel – Ice Fishing
Ryan Wilson – Ice Fishing

WMS Coaching Positions:

Tony Vergauwen – Assistant Football
Wesley Van Epps – Assistant Football
Mike Waldschmidt – 8th Grade Boys Basketball
Mike Waldschmidt – 7th Grade Girls Basketball
Rudy Pate – 7th Grade Girls Basketball

WMS Volunteer Advisor Positions:

Art Schultz - Robotics

Adult Meal Price Increases

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Communications:

Mr. Saari advised that it is American Education Week next week.

Donation:

Mr. Saari expressed his thanks on behalf of the District for the \$240 donation received from First State Bank. A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Patrick Phair to accept, with gratitude, the donation from First State Bank as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

District Administrator's Report:

Mr. Saari provided an update relating to masks being optional (but still recommended) in all District buildings as well as ongoing COVID mitigation efforts.

Mr. Saari was excited to share that all of the District teachers who wrote a Rotary grant were awarded, as well as the Gifted and Talented Mental Health grant that was submitted in May has now been fully funded.

As requested, he provided an update on the hiring process for the open High School Music Teacher/ Performing Arts Center Coordinator position.

Monitoring:

Summer School:

Waupaca Learning Center/Summer School Principal John Erspamer presented the 2020-2021 Summer School Report. A total of 55 summer school FTEs were earned during three, two-week sessions. He also provided detailed information pertaining to student participation in each of the three sessions, as well as the number of meals that were served, and the total cost of summer school. This was the first year that summer school was held at the Chain Exploration Center and it went very well. Overall, summer school was well attended. He added that in order to increase enrollment, the

District has to stay current with its course offerings, especially at the Middle School where perhaps more enrichment rather than remediation courses should be offered.

Administration:

Portrait of a Learner:

Director of Student Services Laurie Schmidt and Director of Teaching and Learning Mark Flaten presented the first in a series of presentations to provide information on how the District is doing, what we need to do differently, and where the Board can help us grow as we move forward with ESSER III funding. The District begins preparing students for post high school in elementary school, but despite our best efforts, 10-15% of the approximate 150 graduates each year need additional support in order to graduate. So getting our students to be successful beyond high school starts with our mindset – that our job is to ensure that all students can and will meet or exceed grade level expectations. We can achieve this with the many support systems we already have in place, and can provide more to our students and close learning gaps through the appropriate use of ESSER III Funds. In addition, we will continue to invest in our staff to increase our continuous improvement and growth mindset dispositions to move students forward – whatever it takes to identify student gaps as early as possible. Growth is a whole team approach, and some areas where improvement is needed were identified. More specific data will be brought to the Board at next month's presentation.

Professional Development Stipend Guidelines:

Director of Teaching and Learning Mark Flaten reminded the Board that a variety of professional development opportunities were provided to staff at higher rates of pay during this past summer and provided the participation data. In order to continue to provide appropriate professional development and growth opportunities for our staff, the Core Administrative Team would like the Professional Development Stipend Guidelines to be reinstated immediately, with an annual review. This will increase our annual budget by a projected \$40,000, but Director of Business Services Carl Hayek stated that the funds are available.

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Dale Feldt to approve the Professional Development Stipend Guidelines as amended and presented. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Technology Needs and Access:

Director of Technology and CTEC Steve Thomaschefskey advised of the internet accessibility of students as well as the number of hotspots that were distributed. He also advised of technology updates that have been completed at the CEC, WLC, and WMS, and will soon be coming to WHS. A high-quality District phone app will be available in the beginning of next year. Because he believes the District will need to provide hotspots for at least another year, the Core Administrative Team is requesting that funding be approved for 70 hotspots each year to be available for families that need reliable internet access.

Board member Mark Polebitski questioned the sustainability of this funding, as well as whether there needs to be a vote on this.

A motion was made by Mark Polebitski and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve providing funding for 70 hotspots moving forward each year as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

As a side note, several Board members mentioned they wanted to start coming in for school visits again. Board President Johnson advised that he will establish protocols for school visits and Board member Betty Manion volunteered to create the school visit schedule.

Ice Fishing Club Proposal:

Director of Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics Trevor Leopold presented a proposal to establish an Ice Fishing Club for 8th-12th grade students. Many students have expressed an interest in starting the club that would participate in the Wisconsin Interscholastic Fishing Association which consists of approximately 120 schools. The club would attend four or five tournaments on weekends and the fishing gear, warm clothing, etc., will be donated so there is no cost to the District or the students. Mr. Hayek advised that he has checked with the District's insurance carrier and they have no concerns.

A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Steve Klismet to approve the establishment of an Ice Fishing Club as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Board Reports:

Student Representative Report:

Ella Waite advised that it has been a busy year and that winter sports are starting. The Student Council had a coats for kids drive and will be helping out at a Christmas party for kids in December. She feels school is getting back to more normal, and she does receive comments about her wearing a mask but has not been bullied.

Upcoming Meetings and Other Activities:

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

November 29, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

December 14, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

December 22, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

Policy Committee:

Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair advised that the Policy Committee reviewed and recommended that the full Board approve and adopt the following policies:

- NEOLA Policy 9270.01 Transfer Student Admissions from Home Based Private or Private School Program (W343.6)
- NEOLA Policy 2240 Controversial Issues in the Classroom
- NEOLA Policy 7550 Interlibrary/Intralibrary Loan (W362.1/W362.2)
- NEOLA Policy 2411 School Counseling and Academic and Career Planning (W364)
- NEOLA Policy 2431.01 Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities Philosophy (W370)
- NEOLA Policy 2431.03 – 2000.06 Intramurals (W376/W376.1)
- NEOLA Policy 2431.02 – 2000.07 Number of Coaches per Interscholastic Athletic Program (W377.2)
- NEOLA Policy 5200.01 Full Time Student (W412.1)
- NEOLA Policy 5120 Procedures for Placing Transfer Student (W420-R1)
- NEOLA Policy 5511 Dress and Grooming (W443.1)
- NEOLA Policy 8600.01 Student Conduct on School Buses (W443.2)
- NEOLA Policy 7440.02 Use of Surveillance Technology on Buses (W443.22)
- NEOLA Policy 5530 Student Alcohol and Other Drug Policy (W443.4)
- NEOLA Policy 5136 Student Use and Possession of Personal Communication Devices (W443.5)
- NEOLA Policy 5610.03 Student Discipline (W446)
- NEOLA Policy 5310.01 Emergency Nursing Services (W453.1)
- NEOLA Policy 5320 Immunization (W453.2)
- NEOLA Policy 8450 Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases (W453.3/W453.3-R1)
- NEOLA Policy 5330 Administration of Medication/Emergency Care (W453.4)
- NEOLA Policy 5451 Student Recognition (W460)
- NEOLA Policy 9270 Home-Based, Private, or Tribal Schooling
- NEOLA Policy 7540.05 Assistive Technology and Services (W363.3)
- NEOLA Policy 7540.03 Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (W367.1)

NEOLA Policy 7540.04 Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (W367.1)
NEOLA Policy 7544 Use of Social Media (W367.1-R1)
NEOLA Policy 2531 Copyrighted Works (W368/W368-R1)
NEOLA Policy 8390 Animals on District Property (W383.1)
NEOLA Policy 2120 Strategic Planning and School Improvement
NEOLA Policy 2131 Educational Outcome Goals and Expectations
NEOLA Policy 2131.01 Reading Instructional Goals and Kindergarten Assessment
NEOLA Policy 2250 Innovative Programs
NEOLA Policy 2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
NEOLA Policy 2261.02 Title I – Parents’ Right to Know
NEOLA Policy 2261.03 District and School Report Card
NEOLA Policy 2330 Academic Practice
NEOLA Policy 2412 Homebound Instruction Program

A motion was made by Patrick Phair, per Committee recommendation, to approve and adopt the 36 NEOLA Policies listed above as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Annual Charter School Authorizer Report:

Board member Betty Manion advised she is the Board liaison to the Chain Exploration Center and that the Board is the Authorizer for the Charter School. She wants to schedule a retreat with the Board, the Chain Exploration Center Governance Council (CECGC), and Nick (a WRCCS representative).

Board member Manion believes in best practices, so is concerned that the CECGC hasn’t seen the Authorizer Report prior to the Board approving it, and also feels that it should be accompanied with the audit.

Board member Mark Polebitski stated that this document should not be moved to the consent agenda but instead have full Board discussion, and questioned why this was moved to the consent agenda. He also believes that the CECGC, as a common courtesy, should have a chance to review the report before the Board approves and submits it.

Business Services Director Carl Hayek and Business Services Accountant Carol Beyer-Makuski responded by advising that the report was moved to the consent agenda per three heads of charter schools recommendations; that CECGC President Megan Sanders and CECGC member Sandy Robinson were each provided with a copy of the report; and that the audit (which isn’t due to the DPI until December 15th) does not have to be submitted at the same time as the report. They also added that the District and the Charter School are two separate entities and have their own reports, so the District doesn’t need the CECGC’s approval to submit this Authorizer Report.

Board President Johnson reminded everyone that the main issue here is the Authorizer Report, and asked if there were any questions on the report itself or if it was approved for submission. He added that the Board can debate the procedure later as to whether it should or should not be in the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Mark Polebitski to approve the Annual Charter School Authorizer Report with the contingency that it will not be submitted until the Chain Exploration Center Governance Council has reviewed it (not approved it). The motion carried on a 5-2 roll call vote with Steve Klismet and Dale Feldt voting no.

Board President Johnson added that Mr. Hayek should submit the report by the Monday following the next CECGC meeting, and that he should respond directly to the CECGC’s questions.

Notice of Spring Election:

Mr. Saari advised that the offices of School Board Members Dale Feldt and Steve Hackett are up for election on April 5, 2022.

Appoint Deputy Clerk for Elections:

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Mark Polebitski to appoint Carol Beyer-Makuski as Deputy Clerk for Elections. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Betty Manion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

_____ Date _____
Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

_____ Date _____
Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education