



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2023 Special Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, a special Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School Community Room and live streamed via YouTube.

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](#).

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Johnson at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Michael Werbowsky, Trevor Leopold, and members of the community.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Discussion of AG2430 New District Sponsored Club and/or Activity:

Board President Stephen Johnson advised that the purpose of this meeting is to consider making an exception to Policy AG2430 New District Sponsored Club and/or Activity and enter into a co-op with Appleton East for boy's lacrosse.

Board member Dale Feldt advised that he strictly adheres to Board policy and that Mr. Saari was just doing his job and following the policy as he is supposed to do. However, he suggested that we treat this request as probationary, which does not mean we have to keep a new activity for two years. In addition, no budget will be proposed, and it will be a one year trial followed by an evaluation. They will need to complete the District's Activity Proposal form and Trevor Leopold will advise Appleton East of the School District of Waupaca's interest in participating in the boy's lacrosse co-op. So it would be a probationary year which is also the boys' senior year.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Steve Klismet to expedite this activity proposal for participation in the boy's lacrosse co-op with Appleton for next year as a trial year and will send out the paperwork for the trial year per Policy AG2430, and then the Board will continue to follow the policy.

Discussion then ensued with several Board members reiterating that we need to follow our policy and that Mr. Saari was just doing his job. There was agreement that sometimes an interpretation of a policy needs to be considered, and acknowledged that this request is a little different with it being related to co-oping. Mr. Feldt emphasized that we need to be diligent, follow our policies, protect our budget and not overspend, so he suggested that what he brought forth in his motion is a way we can move forward with this request since it will not cost any money.

One of the community members asked about the cost of losing two students who would open enroll out. She was advised that open enrollment out does impact the District, but she was reminded that under WIAA rules, if an athlete is open enrolled, they cannot play for a year.

Board member Patrick Phair suggested perhaps the Policy Committee should look into creating a policy specifically for co-oping, since more and more activities may be doing this in the future.

High School Principal Michael Werbowsky expressed some concern that although we will be co-oping with Appleton and we will not be paying for anything, the District will receive the bills.

Director of Co-Curricular Activities and Athletics Trevor Leopold also had concerns regarding costs, in particular relating to transportation. He outlined what the costs were for the girl's hockey co-op. He was also concerned with driving to/from Appleton for practice with District transportation. He added that currently the Athletic Department is over budget so he would not have any funds available to assist with those costs.

Board President Johnson understood the concerns regarding transportation, but advised that previously the District has had parents sign a waiver holding the District harmless which would allow parents to drive there, and in addition, with parental consent, bring another student with them for practices and games. He stated that he was advised that if a game is being played west of here along Highway 10, the bus would stop here to pick up the kids. He was also advised that the cost would be approximately \$800-\$1,000 per player for the two players to participate in the co-op. Mr. Johnson advised that he didn't know if the parents could pay those costs directly. Mr. Leopold advised that other districts have allowed parents to pay for their kids directly.

In response to a question raised regarding fundraising, one of the community members advised that the parents in the Appleton lacrosse club pay a fee to be part of the club so they do fundraising that way.

Board President Johnson asked Board members Feldt and Klismet if they wanted to amend their motion to include verbiage regarding activity fees and/or transportation. Mr. Feldt and Mr. Klismet agreed to amend their motion and second to include that the Board will follow Section G.1 of Policy AG2430 relating to activity fees – no District-paid advisor and no District-funded budget, and the District will obtain waivers for drivers. Therefore, the motion now reads:

To expedite the parent activity proposal for participation in the Boy's Lacrosse Co-op with Appleton for next year as a trial year, continuing to follow AG2430 along with no District-paid advisor and no District-funded budget, and transportation waivers will be obtained from the parents/guardians.

The amended motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Betty Manion to adjourn the meeting at 1:54 p.m.
The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

_____ Date _____
Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

_____ Date _____
Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education