



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, the regular Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School LMC Distance Learning Lab and virtually via Google Meet, Live Stream, and by phone. The meeting was also broadcast on TV Channel 991.

The purpose of the Board Meeting Minutes are 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 expressed his gratitude to all the School Board candidates who have come forward for their interest in the education of our students. He then led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Johnson at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS LMC Distance Learning Lab: Stephen Johnson, Dale Feldt, Sandra Robinson, and Betty Manion. Mark Polebitski, Patrick Phair, and Steve Hackett were virtually present via Google Meet.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS LMC Distance Learning Lab: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Ella Waite, and Steve Klismet. Virtually present via Google Meet: Carl Hayek, Steve Thomaschefskey, Laura Colbert, John Erspamer, Jody Pankratz, Carrie Naparalla, Megan Sanders, Mandi Salter, and Andrew Whitman.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Public Comment:

None.

Review of Draft District Strategic Plan:

Mr. Johnson pointed out that this is a draft of the plan and it is not for approval at this time, but instead is just changing things up a bit from the usual review of the Board Norms. The Board then reviewed the District's Vision, Mission, Philosophy, and Values as well as the five Foundations of Excellence and their corresponding goals.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Sandra Robinson and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve the February 9, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Dale Feldt to approve the February 19, 2021, Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Communications:

City Park and Recreation 2020 Annual Report:

Parks and Recreation Director Andrew Whitman reviewed the Waupaca Parks and Recreation 2020 Annual Report, advising that many changes and adaptations had to be made to programs due to the pandemic. However, many positives came out of this, including many accomplishments and improvements that were able to be completed in most of the parks. Obviously, the participation numbers were down, but they were able to come up with some new ideas for community events and Rec programs that were very successful. It was pointed out that the cemetery section was very interesting as well.

District Administrator's Report:

Mr. Saari provided an update on the "Health of the District" as it pertains to COVID-19, and advised that approximately 60% of the entire District staff have expressed an interest in receiving the vaccine. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is scheduled to be given to staff who want it tomorrow afternoon at the WLC.

Mr. Saari advised of the many positive things happening in our District and community, such as:

- The District was awarded the Mental Health Program grant to contract with Gaggle Therapy, and Mr. Groham continues to do an excellent job;
- The Waupaca Foundry is hiring for many positions;
- City Administrator Aaron Jenson has been working hard during the past year with developers and new housing will be completed over the next year and a half;
- The Facebook targeted marketing campaign (City of Waupaca, Waupaca Chamber of Commerce, and School District of Waupaca) is underway; and a summary video of this work will be shared with area businesses with the hopes that they will invest and support this economic growth project.

Mr. Saari provided information relating to the WASB State Education Convention that will be discussed at the special Board meeting scheduled for March 26th. Mr. Johnson added that the agenda will consist of presentations by individuals in the sessions, but no questions, comments, discussions or debate will be had.

Mr. Saari advised the Board of the procedure that is followed when scheduling special Board meetings as well as committee meetings.

Mr. Saari provided a brief summary of the WIAA Guidelines relating to spring sports, which are similar to what we have been doing. Attendees that will be allowed at an event will be grouped into three tiers: Tier 1 being essential (athletes, coaches, officials, event staff, medical staff and security); Tier 2 being the media to allow the event to be broadcast; and Tier 3 being non-essential personnel (spectators and vendors). The Tier 3 group will be allowed to attend events as soon as state/local health departments lift restrictions on mass gatherings.

Monitoring:

Technology Updates:

Director of Technology Steve Thomaschfsky advised that one year ago the IT Department was required to pivot from focusing on its long term plan to meeting the needs and demands of learning and teaching remotely, all while dealing with many, constant cyber threats. He also advised of the number and different kinds of devices provided to students and staff, as well as the Learning Management Systems used for delivery of material. The TIS Specialists put in a lot of time over the summer to assist staff in getting them up and running. District staff should be very proud of what

they've been able to accomplish on Schoology in such a short period of time. Mr. Thomaschefskey also advised of what TIS has recently completed, such as better WIFI coverage at the WLC, and new technology is currently being installed in the Community Room and Performing Arts Center, as well as a mobile unit for the WHS Commons and Field House, to allow better streaming options. IT is hoping to get back to their long term plan as soon as possible. Mr. Thomaschefskey expressed his gratitude to his entire staff for all of their hard work and effort to support our students and staff during this difficult year. The Board expressed their gratitude to all and is very impressed with what has been accomplished.

Board Reports:

Student Representative Report:

Ella Waite advised that all students who want to be in-person learning are back, they like the four day week, and positivity among the students continues to increase as time goes on. The juniors have ACT testing on Tuesday. The hygiene drive competition held just before spring break was very successful; the English Department won.

Upcoming Meetings and Other Activities:

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

March 19, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
March 22, 2021 – Finance Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
March 26, 2021 – Special Board Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
April 6, 2021 – Election Day
April 8, 2021 – Election Canvass – 2:00 p.m.
April 13, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting – 5:15 p.m.
April 16, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
April 30, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.

Policy Committee:

Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair reported that the Committee met on two separate occasions, February 12, 2021, and February 26, 2021.

Committee Recommendations made at the February 12, 2021, Meeting:

The Committee recommended to the full Board to amend the Policy Governance Manual under Section I. Governance Process, Paragraph J. Board Member Compensation and Expenses, as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt NEOLA Policy 0145 – Sexual and Other Forms of Harassment as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt NEOLA Policy 0152 – Officers, as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to amend NEOLA Policy 0151.1 – Annual Board Reorganization Meeting as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee believes the following policies all are acceptable and recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt them as presented:

Presiding Officer (NEOLA 0163)
Special Meetings (NEOLA 0164.2)
Notice of Regular Meetings (NEOLA 0165.1)
Change of Regular Meetings (NEOLA 0165.2)
Closed Session (NEOLA 0167.2)
President (NEOLA 0171.1)
Vice-President (NEOLA 0171.2)
Clerk (NEOLA 0171.3)
Treasurer (NEOLA 0171.4)
Legal Counsel (NEOLA 0172)
Independent Auditor (NEOLA 0173)
Annual Report (NEOLA 0174.1)
School Performance Report (NEOLA 0174.2)
Other Reports (NEOLA 0174.3)
Association Memberships (NEOLA 0175)
District Organization (NEOLA 1100)
Conflict of Interest (NEOLA 1130)

The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Committee Recommendations made at the February 26, 2021, Meeting:

The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt NEOLA Policy 0144.2 – Board Member Ethics as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt NEOLA Policy 0166.1 – Consent Agenda as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt NEOLA Policy 1220 – Employment of the District Administrator as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Committee believes the following policies all are acceptable and recommended to the full Board to approve and adopt them as presented:

Student Supervision and Welfare (NEOLA 1213)
Development of Administrative Guidelines (NEOLA 1230.01)
Non-Reemployment of the District Administrator (NEOLA 1241)
Incapacity of the District Administrator (NEOLA 1260)
Job Descriptions (NEOLA 1400)
District Administrator Job Description (NEOLA 1400.01) (as amended)
Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity (NEOLA 1422)
Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee (NEOLA 1422.02)
W523.1 Standard New-Employee and Interval-Based Health Examinations (NEOLA 1460)

The recommendation carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair expressed his thanks to the Committee, as well as to the full Board, for all of their work on this onerous task.

Personnel Committee:

Committee Chairperson Betty Manion reported that the Committee met on March 1, 2021, and was advised by Director of Teaching & Learning Mark Flaten of the current staffing changes as well as staffing projections for next school year. An update reflecting current enrollment was also provided.

In response to inquiries, the Committee was advised that there could be two learning modalities offered next school year, with on-demand learning being offered only to those juniors and seniors who meet the required standards to meet the demands of virtual learning. (As with all scheduling, student requests will be factored into which courses run.)

The Committee was also provided information relating to student suicides, so it is good to hear about the grants related to mental health.

Mr. Thomaschfsky updated the Board regarding the filling of the Family and Consumer Science position, and Mr. Flaten advised that we are on par for fulfilling our vacancies.

Consent Agenda:

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

Financial Reports:

Accounts Payable Approval: \$2,235,878.49, and Building Fund Payable: \$0.00

Cash Receipts: \$4,301,669.68

January Treasurer’s Report – Total Cash per Reconciliation: \$7,817,577.13

February Treasurer’s Report – Total Cash per Reconciliation: \$9,886,520.18

January Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$8,212,667 [2019-2020: \$7,223,719]

February Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$10,455,840 [2019-2020: \$9,097,512]

Retirements:

Kay Ellingson – WLC Ed. Asst.

Resignations:

Mackenzie Dilks – WLC 2nd Grade Teacher

Tracey Noltner – WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed.

Leave of Absence:

Amanda Kraus – WLC Special Education Teacher

Hires – 2020-2021 School Year:

Chris Rasmussen – WMS Family and Consumer Science Teacher

Hires – 2021-2022 School Year:

Maranda Degenhardt – WMS Technology Education Teacher

Aaron Strebe – WHS Technology Education Teacher

2021-2022 CESA 5 Services Contract

Chain Exploration Center Family Handbook for the 2021-2022 School Year

The 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 6:25 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education