



*Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared*

## **SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 7, 2021 Special Meeting**

Pursuant to the regulations, a special Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School Community Room and was 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 5:30 p.m.

### **Roll Call:**

Present in the WHS Community Room: Stephen Johnson, Dale Feldt, Mark Polebitski, Steve Hackett, and Steve Klismet.

Excused: Betty Manion and Patrick Phair.

### **Also Present:**

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Carl Hayek, Laurie Schmidt, Steve Thomaschefskey, Jamie Trzebiatowski, and Hannah Rowe. Additionally, many members of the community were present in the WHS Community Room as well as the Commons.

### **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.

### **Mask Mitigation Metrics:**

Board President Stephen Johnson advised that he asked District Administrator Ron Saari and the Administrative Team to bring us up to date on the COVID information because the availability of the numbers is more difficult.

Director of Student Services Laurie Schmidt advised that the medical team meets regularly and looks at the District's cohort data, Waupaca County trend data, and hospital data. The medical team consists of Waupaca County Health Officer Jed Wohlt, Dr. Dorrie Happe, and District School Nurses Jamie Trzebiatowski and Hannah Rowe. She also advised of several factors they consider in their decision making. Their goal is to put the metrics together that is more consistent for the District, which is difficult to do at this time because there is a two week window as it relates to the preliminary reporting of positive and probable cases and the fact that those numbers change quite frequently during that time frame.

Mr. Saari shared that the DHS site has a preliminary data column of the most recent two week period where daily data frequently changes. He also reviewed the running record of daily COVID data that he collects and expressed his frustration with the data process because on any given day over a 4 week period, it changes from day to day every day. He also advised that the District is using August 10<sup>th</sup> as its benchmark when

looking at the seven day averages of confirmed positive and probable cases. He added the District is not in a position today to say our data is back to what it was on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

School Nurse Jamie Trzebiatowski added that our cohort data is weighted higher when looking at all the data and could supersede the County data.

Board member Dale Feldt read several questions he had received from community members. He commented that he is glad to see the decisions are being made by the Administrative Team including the Nurses. The main issue is to keep our kids in school.

Ms. Schmidt advised that the School Nurses as well as the School Social Workers are in contact with the parents of students who are experiencing social and/or emotional issues.

Mr. Saari advised that, because of the mask mandate, there are students who have not been coming to school but that they can access their assignments on Schoology. Other students have open enrolled out, are being homeschooled, or are attending a virtual option. He will get those specific numbers to the Board.

Board member Feldt commented that people should respect each other when there is a disagreement and shouldn't take their anger out on the people that work at the District.

Board President Johnson concluded the meeting by mentioning that, as the Agenda reflects, there will be no determination on masking tonight.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Dale Feldt to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Johnson, President  
Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Manion, Clerk  
Board of Education