



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, the regular Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School Performing Arts Center (PAC), 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 thanks to all District staff for a successful opening of school last week. He also thanked everyone for expressing their interest by joining us today. He then asked Michael Werbowsky to lead 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 PAC: Stephen Johnson, Betty Manion, Sandra Robinson, Dale Feldt, and Patrick Phair. Virtually present via Google Meet: Mark Polebitski.

Excused: Steve Hackett.

Also Present:

Present in the PAC: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Laurie Schmidt, Michael Werbowsky, Joe Sbertoli, and many parents and student athletes. Virtually present via Google Meet: Carl Hayek, Steve Thomaschefsky, Jenifer Erb, Laura Colbert, John Meyer, John Erspamer, Jody Pankratz, Carrie Naparalla, Hannah Rowe, Jamie Trzebiatowski, Eric Connor, Mandi Salter, Cathy Wilhite, Carol Beyer-Makuski, and Nicole Lannyk.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Mark Polebitski to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Public Comment:

None.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Sandra Robinson to approve the August 14, 2020, regular Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Betty Manion to approve the August 14, 2020, special Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Mark Polebitski to approve the August 17, 2020, special Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Betty Manion to approve the August 21, 2020, special Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Mark Polebitski to approve the September 1, 2020, special Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Board Reports:

Upcoming Meetings and Other Activities:

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

October 7, 2020 – Personnel Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.

October 7, 2020 – WASB Fall Regional (Virtual) Conference – 7:00 p.m.

October 13, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting – 5:15 p.m.

Administration:

Start of the Learning in 2020-21 School Update:

District Administrator Saari provided a summary of what the start of learning in 2020-21 looked like (as of September 1) which included a breakout of the number of students in each of the three learning types by each grade level in each school. The District has provided 185 hotspots to families. In addition, this is the first time we are 1:1 with Chromebooks in K-12, using Schoology and ClassLink. Mr. Saari also advised of the different types of instructional support that has been provided to staff; the District-wide safety protocols and practices that have been implemented; the number of students riding the bus and safety protocols required; the hiring of an additional nurse; the purchase of sanitization devices and equipment for purification of the air which will be installed soon; as well as Human Resources communications sent to staff.

Set Graduation Date:

A motion was made by Sandra Robinson and seconded by Dale Feldt to set the 2021 graduation date as Sunday, June 6, 2021, at 2:00 p.m., as recommended by Administration. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Waupaca County COVID-19 Decision Framework:

Mr. Saari provided a rubric created by Mr. Jed Wohlt of the Waupaca County Department of Health and Human Services in collaboration with all of the District Administrators in the County. This rubric will be used in conjunction with other factors (which include, but may not be limited to, the total number of active cases in the County, number of active cases inside School District boundaries, known number of active hospitalizations, trend data and the increases/decreases in the 14 day cohort) to determine the different types of instructional options. We are looking at implementing this on September 28 with a determination date of September 23.

Parent Group Request to Begin Fall Sports Sooner than September 28:

Mr. Saari emphasized that the focus of the District is to safely get students back to in-person learning as soon as possible. Mr. Saari then summarized the events leading up to this meeting and added that hospitalizations are currently down even though positive COVID-19 cases have increased. But with the parents' and coaches' commitment to have athletes follow protocols, Administration is recommending the Board approve the parents' plan as presented and Administration's recommendation as presented to begin co-curricular activities on September 9, 2020. Other after school activities that are not sanctioned by the WIAA will be working with Activities Director Joe Sbertoli to create guidance similar to the guidance the WIAA provides for athletics.

Mr. Jay Krcmar, on behalf of the parents group, presented their recommended protocols and practices they and their athletes intend to follow. The group's goal is to listen first and come up with solutions in collaboration with Mr. Saari, Mr. Sbertoli, and Board members. Parents will make sure athletes and fans adhere to guidelines at home as well as at away venues. The athletes will be leaders and role models in the community in helping everyone to stay healthy by following and promoting all safety protocols required in school and out in the community. The parents group is aware there are additional costs in keeping the athletes healthy but are willing to help with costs via fundraising, etc. The Waupaca Foundry has already provided many of the items necessary and we thank them for their generosity. If transportation becomes an issue, parents will complete the necessary paperwork to transport athletes.

A volleyball athlete was asked if the other athletes and clubs truly understand how much time and effort the parents group and coaches have put into this and will the athletes support them. The student responded that they appreciate the support and will do whatever is necessary to play/participate.

A motion was made Patrick Phair and seconded by Betty Manion to begin all School District of Waupaca High School only (grades 9-12) extracurricular athletics and activities effective September 9, 2020, subject to all of the information presented by the parents group and per Administration's recommendations and policies as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Communications:

District Administrator's Report:

Mr. Saari advised that it has been his best start to a school year yet which is a credit to our staff. However, we have lost open enrollments out due to not having in-person learning five days a week.

He also advised that our Medical Advisor, Dr. Happ, is working with the UW-Madison Medical School to conduct a public health project to facilitate the safe return of winter athletics. He was also advised by Dr. Happ that ThedaCare considers educators Critical Infrastructure and that the Clinic will be working to provide staff with testing for COVID-19.

Mr. Saari also provided an update regarding the hiring of a Grant Writer who will be shared with the City and Chamber, as well as Growth Team and CARES Act updates.

Mr. Saari noted that the USDA has extended the spring/summer free school breakfast and lunch program through December 31, 2020, for those under 18 years of age. The District will be determining pickup locations and times in the near future.

Monitoring:

Staff Retention and Recruitment:

Mark Flaten, Director of Teaching & Learning, provided information related to staff recruitment and retention, as well as some of the work that has been done during the past three school years to ensure we attract and retain the best staff. He added that even with the late resignations we had this year, we were able to fill those promptly in time for the start of school. Employees leaving the District are asked to complete an exit survey and indicate whether they want to meet face to face to discuss. Board members Patrick Phair and Betty Manion asked why the Board receives the formal resignation form and not the actual registration letters from employees, like they once did. Administration responded that the communication process to the Board changed to provide a professional appearance and to protect the confidential information that may have been included in the employee's resignation letter.

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: \$1,862,224.00, and Building Fund Payable: \$0.00

Cash Receipts: \$3,916,902.13

Treasurer's Report – Total Cash per Reconciliation: \$9,376,208.99

Fund 10 Ending Balance: \$8,621,119 [2019-2020: \$7,281,947]

Resignation:

Denise Hanke – WLC 2nd Grade Teacher

Alicia Stiebs – WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed.

Kori Bowe – CEC Part-time Instructor Asst.

Benjamin Haddix – HS Ed. Asst.

Nancy Bloomberg – HS Ed. Asst.

Karla Smith – CEC Ed. Asst.

Lehann Stange – WLC Food Service Class II

Peggy Baxter – HS Food Service Class 3B

Ashlie Hanson – WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed.

Unpaid Leave of Absence:

Mary Lewinski – WLC Health Aide

Hires – 2020-2021 School Year:

Tyler Norton - .5 FTE WLC Physical Education Teacher

Andrea Taylor – District-wide School Nurse

Tara Burow-Pomrening – WLC 2nd Grade Teacher

Ed Sapa – MS FACS Long-term Substitute Teacher

Matthew Rohan – HS Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed. LIVE

Transfers/Changes:

Sandy Lucas – HR/District Administrator Assistant – Reassign Duties in District Office and Increase Work Days from 220 to 260 per Year

Michelle Widolff – HS Secretary/Bookkeeper to District Office Receptionist/HS Secretary/Bookkeeper

Penny Revolinski – HS Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed. LIVE to HS Food Service Class 3B

Crystal Golke – 1.0 FTE WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed. to .5 FTE WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed.

Tracie Carrick – WLC 80% 4K Ed. Asst. to WLC 40% 4K Ed. Asst. and WLC 40% Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed.

Extra-Curricular Hires – 2020-2021 School Year:

Camryn Borland – JV2 Boys Soccer Coach

Andy Yeska – Varsity Head Hockey Coach

Salary Step Changes (there is no movement for years of experience):

Shana Rogney – 17B18 to 17B24

Ashley Buenning – 4M6 to 4M12

Jill Beilfuss – 4M6 to 4M12

Lisa Abrahamson – 23M12 to 23M18

Cory Nagel – 7B18 to 7B24

Aimee Lusic – 10M24 to 10M30

Jamie Trzebiatowski – 7M6 to 7M12

Lisa Johnson – 6B12 to 6B18
Amber Koski – 2B12 to 2B18
Nancy Grams – 10M24 to 10M30

66.03 Agreement with Iola-Scandinavia School District

National School Lunch Program 2020-2021 Contract

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Patrick Phair and seconded by Betty Manion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

_____ Date _____
Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

_____ Date _____
Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education