

**REGULAR MEETING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
JANUARY 17, 2017**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:02p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 in the Library at McNair Elementary School. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Todd France, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Duane Lovett, Michael Rossol, Christopher Schoeneweiss, and Nichole Smith. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; seconded by Mr. France. All voted aye, motion was approved.

For the Public Comment portion of the meeting, Mr. Schoeneweiss explained that speakers are called on and allowed to speak for a maximum of two minutes. The Board of Education listens to input from the public and does not conduct open discussion on issues. Discussion on personnel matters is not allowed. No one had signed up to speak.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda; seconded by Mr. Rossol. Items on consent agenda:

- 6.1. Approval of Minutes
 1. Committee of the Whole Meeting – December 15, 2016
 2. Regular Board Meeting – December 19, 2016
 3. Executive Session – December 19, 2016
 4. Special Meeting – December 20, 2016
 5. Executive Session – December 20, 2016
2. Approve Accounts Payable
3. Approve Personnel Report –NEW HIRES: Lisa Reichert – WMS Custodian, Andrea Rezich – Simon – part-time Special Education Paraprofessional, Mychal Roel Oira Cornejo – WHS – Musical Choreographer, Justin Daniel Wright – WHS – Assistant Vocal Director, Cameron Lake Strandin – WHS – Musical Lighting Staff;
RETIREMENT: Janice Mitchell – McNair/WMS/WHS – Band Teacher – effective end of 2020-21 school year, Julie Nichols – District Office – part-time Secretary – effective February 1, 2017
4. Report on Monthly FOIA Requests
5. Approve the release of Executive Session Minutes 6 months or older – July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016
6. Approve Destruction of Executive Session Audio Recordings older than 18 months – June, 2015 or prior

Answers were provided to questions about Accounts Payable.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Rossol, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Lovett, Mr. France, Mr. Daly, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

Ron Ferguson, Director of Buildings and Grounds, recognized Lucas Kramer – WHS – Construction Teacher and his students for their help in rebuilding the baseball dugouts at the Elida Street diamond. The class has also taken on other projects, including: the building of a shed at Simon Elementary School and benches for locker rooms. Mr. Kramer told that his class appreciates the projects and provided supplies. The students learn the different parts of the construction process and are able to use many different types of tools. Next, they intend to work on a project for the Winnebago Park District, as well as, other projects that are brought to them.

MONTHLY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Frank Mander, Simon Principal, gave a mid-year update on his school. He shared information about the implementation of Eureka Math. He credited teachers for discovering what works well for them and using more technology when teaching. The use of the Zern website has proven good for students to practice because their tests are closely aligned. He also explained about student assessments being done to target where students need to make improvement. Mr. Mander gave an update on grade level overviews, sharing information about where their students stand at this point in the school year, students who are receiving special education services, and those receiving additional support. He spoke of the Language Arts curriculum. Some students had exposure to this last year and seem to be doing better with it this school year. A sample report card was shown and explanation given about proficiency scales. He explained how scoring is done, and how it aligns with Common Core Standards. This helps pinpoint where students need to make improvement. Information has been shared with parents about scoring, so it will be less confusing. When talking about Professional Learning Communities, he told about how teacher-led groups are working on planning for next school year. This process will continue to empower teachers in the future. The Simon strategic plan was shared with school board members. They were shown past and current statistics to be able to make comparisons. This plan will help guide leadership. While Simon is on track, there is still more training needed in some areas and work to be done. Additional resources will be helpful.

Mike Reinders, Transportation Director, explained that the road conditions last year were great, but this has not always been the case this school year. There have been situations where the county has not cleared the roads well. He also explained that there are times when there are not enough drivers. Incentives are being offered for new bus drivers. It was noted at a conference he attended that this is currently an issue with many school districts. Mr. Reinders spoke about the need to replace an aging van. The purchase of another vehicle was budgeted for this school year. It is being considered to replace this van with a hybrid car. The other hybrid car being used is getting great gas mileage, which save on fuel costs. Even with this replacement, the district would still have three vans in the fleet, which will continue to be used for traveling smaller teams and groups. No action is needed at this meeting, he just wanted to explain so something can be done in the near future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Karen Hill, WHS Winnovation Coach, and Don Kahler, WMS Minivation Coach, were in attendance and brought team members with them. Winnovation members shared information about their team, this year's game, their build season, their sponsors, and what regionals they are competing in. Minivation members brought their robot, which has already been competing. They told about their game, about competing against other middle and high school teams, and that they are currently working on building another robot that will be able to do even more things.

Mr. Bloomquist reported that the software transition to Skyward is taking place. After nine months of preparing, the software went live on January 1, 2017. The process has been challenging and has required many, many extra hours of the staff. The change will be better for the school district in the long run. He then spoke about the upcoming Committee of the Whole Meeting, which will focus on facility needs and working with Opterra, who has done a facility assessment and will report their findings. This meeting will be held on March 15, 2017. Mr. Bloomquist shared detailed information work being done as part of the Strategic Plan, including increasing technology efforts for students. Then, he updated the school board on school specific initiatives. Mr. Mander had reported on Simon Elementary already, so Mr. Bloomquist gave updates on McNair Elementary curriculum changes and work on parental involvement, WMS work on reviewing English Language Arts curriculum and Engage Students in Learning strategies, and WHS work on curriculum alignment with Illinois Learning Standards and efforts underway to assist students in preparing for the new SAT. When talking about Student Services programming, he told about focus on RtI procedures, referral processes, and consistency with compliance. Materials have been prepared for the new self-contained classroom being added, with a teacher still needing to be hired. Mr. Bloomquist spoke of a campaign being launched by CEANCI – Be Here, Be on Time. Mrs. Krause’s class at WHS won a challenge with other local high schools for having the highest attendance rate. Mr. Bloomquist reported that school district Attorney Scott Nemanich has moved to another law firm. It is recommended to continue using him because of the strong relationship in place and the fact that his rates will remain the same.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING BOARD POLICY

- 5:260: Student Teachers

Discussion was held about this policy. Mr. Bloomquist spoke with Attorney Nemanich. It was acknowledged that the law is written in a way that is costly for student teachers, who must be fingerprinted for all school districts where they do observations, in addition to student teaching. The school board can change the policy wording to state this would only be necessary if students in schools for observation purposes are going to be alone with students, instead of under the guidance of a certified teacher.

Mr. France made a motion to approve the policy 5:260 as recommended by PRESS; seconded by Mr. Daly.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Rossol, Mr. Lovett, Mr. France, Mr. Daly, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held about placing a referendum on the April, 2017 ballot. The amount being considered would provide funds to make required school building repairs and build a transportation center, which would help provide for more parking on the main campus.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing \$12,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of Winnebago Community Unit School District #323 at the consolidated election to be held on the 4th day of April, 2017; seconded by Mr. Schoeneweiss.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mr. Daly, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Lovett, Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. France

Nay: Mr. Rossol, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Approved: 5-2

Mr. Bloomquist asked school board members to let Jenny Lindgren know if they intend on attending the upcoming IASB Northwest Region meeting in March. It was asked for confirmation that the school district is receiving tax monies from the Lowe's property, and it was confirmed that the school district is receiving tax funds from the Lowe's property.

At 7:16 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Johnson-Lovett. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.

Approved: February 20, 2017

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Schoeneweiss, President

Jennifer Lindgren, Secretary