

**REGULAR MEETING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
AUGUST 21, 2017**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2017 in the Boardroom 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.

At 5:31 p.m., Mr. Rossol made a motion to enter Executive Session for the following reasons: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal council for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); seconded by Mr. France.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

At 6:01 p.m., the school board returned to Open Session.

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2017 in the Boardroom at McNair Elementary School. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Todd France, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Duane Lovett, Christopher Schoeneweiss, Michael Rossol, 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. Regular Meeting – July 17, 2017
 2. Executive Session – July 17, 2017
 3. Special Board Meeting – August 2, 2017
 4. Executive Session – August 2, 2017
2. Approve Accounts Payable

3. Approve Personnel Report –NEW HIRES: Linda Logsdon – McNair – part-time Cook, Alana Palmer – WMS – part-time Cashier/Cook, Nicole Palmer – WMS – 6th grade Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach, Amanda Wishop – Simon – part-time Nurse; RESIGNATION: Trish Lightfoot – Simon – part-time Nurse, Beatrice Smith – WHS – part-time Cashier Cook, Candice Triplett – WHS - Paraprofessional
4. Report on monthly FOIA Requests
5. Approve the 2017-18 Athletic Training Services Agreement

It was asked and confirmed that the same athletic company is still being used.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ron Ferguson, Director of Buildings & Grounds, reported that all of the buildings are ready for the new school year. He spoke of the teamwork done to make sure all buildings received due attention. The Simon roof project has been completed, and the boiler project is nearly done. It was commented that it was a good choice to hire Opterra as a performance contractor. They were able to find the right people to work on these projects and make sure deadlines were met.

Ben Hickerson, Simon Principal, reported on the amount of work done at Simon Elementary in the last month. They will be having a Back to School Night, instead of the cookout held in the past. The event will allow students to drop off school supplies and meet their teachers before the first day of school. The Early Childhood Program will also hold a parent session in conjunction with their first day of school.

Sean Monahan, McNair Principal, reported that his school is also in good shape. 17 new students have registered for the 2017-18 school year with 10 students transferring out. There are still a few families, who have still not re-enrolled from last school year, but they hope to hear from them soon. McNair Elementary will also hold a Back to School Night prior to school starting with hopes of a good response.

Mike Reinders, Transportation Director, reported that routing new students can be challenging. As it gets close to the first day of school, new families continue to register, which makes re-routing necessary. There was a miscommunication with the first effort to inform parents about bus schedules. Info was sent again once the tech problem was rectified. A plea has been made for more bus drivers. It was noted that a shortage of drivers seems to be a nationwide issue.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schwuchow gave an update on the lead water testing situation. He told that this has been a learning process. It was explained that the national guidelines are to have water test less than 15 parts/billion, state guidelines less than 5 parts/billion, but the Illinois Department of Public Health has set their level at less than 2 parts/billion. Original testing was done early in the summer, but it needs to be done again when school is in session. Letters were sent home communicating with elementary school families. Assistance is being sought from a company to obtain a flushing system, which will help the water keep moving on a daily basis. Testing will be done again late in September to confirm the desired results are being achieved. Mr. Ferguson stated that the rules of

the process were not and continue to not be clear. They are waiting for a written plan to be established providing better detail. After getting an understanding of the mechanical part of the process, the District Maintenance Department will install the flushing system in the gyms. It was noted that it is not known where the lead is coming from. Dr. Schwuchow reported that no decision has yet been made on the distribution school funding at the state level. He had met with a rep from the Illinois State Board of Education to try to gain a better understanding. When working on the 2017-18 budget, conservative numbers were used because it has been very difficult to get clear details on potential funding. Dr. Schwuchow spoke about the potential of switching school district email from Novell Groupwise to Gmail. Everyone at the school district already has Gmail accounts, and this would be helpful with communicating with other Google programming, which would provide cost and time savings. It needs to be confirmed that this would not interfere with anything in School Board Policy. Matt Adams, Technology Director, told that it is time to consider updating the current system. Novell Groupwise has progressed, which will make it more costly to continue. He mentioned that there will be costs involved to store current information dependent on the extent of archiving needed. At this time, research is being done to determine if this could be the best solution moving forward.

UPDATES TO THE FY18 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Dr. Schwuchow reported that most of the items for the tentative budget are good, but some of the expenditures were not extended out. It is still not certain what fund balances will be, so some revisions may still be needed. The Budget Hearing will be done at the September 18, 2017 Regular Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY

- Policy 2:230 – School Board – Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board

President Schoeneweiss expressed interest in increasing the time limit placed on public comments made at school board meetings from two to three minutes. It was noted that adjustments can be made as necessary if several speakers sign up to speak on the same topic. Mr. Daly made a motion to approve School Board Policy 2:230 for the time limit to be amended from two minutes to three minutes; seconded by Mr. France.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

Dr. Schwuchow explained that mentors are provided to new teachers, and he has also been assigned a superintendent mentor. As mentioned at the last meeting, he would like to provide a principal mentor for Ben Hickerson. The Regional Office of Education no longer offers this service. He reached out to retired Principal Kim Rogers, who mentored him in the past. Mrs. Rogers lives in the community and offered her services. Dr. Schwuchow feels this would be a beneficial investment in our newest administrator.

Mr. France made a motion to approve Kim Rogers to mentor Ben Hickerson for a stipend of \$2,300; seconded by Mr. Daly.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 7-0

Mrs. Johnson-Lovett told that the Chamber of Commerce hosted an event with Winnebago Superintendent Schwuchow and Pecatonica Superintendent Faller featured as speakers. The meet and greet was well attended. She also told that a Family Event is being held on Saturday, August 26, 2017 and will have children games, prizes, and more. Mrs. Johnson-Lovett then mentioned the upcoming Northwest Division school board dinner meeting being held on October 2, 2017. School board members should let the District Office know if they would like to be registered to attend.

At 6:48 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Rossol. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.

Approved: September 18, 2017

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Schoeneweiss, President

Jennifer Lindgren, Secretary