

**REGULAR MEETING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
MARCH 16, 2020**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 5:40 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2020 in the Boardroom at McNair Elementary School. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Jamie Gray, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Michael Rossol, Wendy Schneider, and Christopher Schoeneweiss. Nichole Smith was absent.

At 5:41 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion to enter Executive Session for the following reasons:

1. The appointment, compensation, discipline, 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 counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); seconded by Mr. Rossol.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mr. Rossol, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Daly, Mr. Gray, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

The school board returned to Open Session at 6:08 p.m.

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:11 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2020 in the Library at McNair Elementary School. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Jamie Gray, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Michael Rossol, Wendy Schneider, and Christopher Schoeneweiss. Nichole Smith was absent. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; seconded by Mr. Rossol. 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 five 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 make Public Comment.

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

Items on consent agenda:

- 6.1. Approval of Minutes
 1. Executive Session – February 18, 2020
 2. Regular Meeting – February 18, 2020
 3. Special Meeting – February 24, 2020
 4. Executive Session – February 24, 2020
 5. Special Meeting – March 2, 2020
 6. Executive Session – March 2, 2020

2. Approve Accounts Payable
3. Approve Personnel Report – NEW HIRES: Cheyenne Coleman and Lauren Snell – School Social Workers – effective 2020-21 school year, Ruben Reyes – Transportation – Substitute Bus/Van Driver, Tom Viel – WMS – 7th grade Girls Basketball Coach – beginning mid-season, Skyann Ford – WHS – Volunteer Cheerleading Coach; RETURNING FROM LEAVE: Megan Bremer – WMS – Teacher – effective 2020-21 school year; CHANGE IN POSITION: Cynthia Norman – from McNair – part-time Special Education Paraprofessional to McNair – Special Education Paraprofessional; RESIGNATIONS: Katie Dill – School District Diagnostician – effective end of 2019-20 school year, Konya Mathis – McNair – Special Education Paraprofessional – effective March 6, 2020, Shyquaysha Prewitt – WMS – part-time Special Education Paraprofessional – effective February 18, 2020, Nikki Jobes – WHS – Cheerleading Coach, Richard Wessel – WHS – Assistant Soccer Coach; RETIREMENT: Lori Peters – School Psychologist – effective end of 2019-20 school year; TEACHERS EARNING TENURE: Katie Lange, Candis Michaud
4. Report on monthly FOIA Requests
5. Approve 2020-21 IHSA Membership Renewal

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Gray, Mr. Daly, Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Rossol, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

The Recognition of Coaches and Athletes and Staff Technology Survey Results have been postponed until next month's meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Schwuchow reported on the fluid process involving the COVID19 pandemic. He shared that updated information has been continually provided by the Winnebago County Health Department and that Governor Pritzker made the decision to close Illinois schools from March 17 through March 30, 2020. It was noted that all employees will be paid including the non-certified staff. A decision has not yet been made on if school will be held on March 16, 2020. Some staff will come in to do basic tasks with custodians doing extra cleaning, cooks assisting with preparing lunches for those in need, and technology staff wiping down and prepping all devices for distribution as necessary. Planning is being done and will continue during Spring Break to prepare of the weeks ahead. Parents are being polled on if they have internet access at their homes and devices for students to use. Consideration is being given on how to best distribute devices. Details were shared on the forming of ELearning plans. For those wanting to pick up paper packets, they will be made available at McNair School. At this time, sports have not been canceled. School board members asked to be contacted if there are things they can assist with. Dr. Schwuchow told about the visit done to the solar field at Freeport's Highland College. He explained about the process they used when deciding to install a solar field, the \$200,000 they spent to have it put in, their hope to re-gain \$130,000 in the first four years, the annual utility cost savings of approximately \$10,000, and the recommendation of using Midwest Renewable Energy to assist with the overall project. He suggested having a rep come to a future meeting to share information and answer questions. Concerns were raised about if a solar field could service the whole main campus and if grants are available. Dr. Schwuchow reported addressing a Facilities Plan. The desire is to form a five year maintenance plan with a complete list of issues needing attention. Last weekend, several hours were spent walking through McNair School and WHS locker rooms. At

McNair, concerns were raised about sinks, the exterior gym wall, tiles and tables in the cafeteria, and storage areas. At WHS, concern was raised about needed painting, cafetorium lighting, and locker room safety issues. Teachers will be surveyed to gain input on classroom conditions. It was noted that there are still ADA issues with the new baseball diamond. More meetings will be needed to look at the rest of WHS, Simon School, and WMS. When talking about the stadium project, it was stated that consideration will be needed if it is determined that additional cement work and sound system wiring should be done while the rest of the work is going on. The transfer of funds from the Transportation Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund for use in the stadium project will come for to the board for approval in April. As required, notice will be published in the newspaper in advance of the meeting. It was reported that a \$50,000 ISBE grant has been approved for the stadium project. Another grant has been applied for, but it will be some time before the school district learns if it has been awarded the grant. Dr. Schwuchow stated that the 2020-21 school calendar is ready for approval. It was explained that per the WEA Contract, teachers are to form the calendar with it coming to the School Board for final approval. Dr. Schwuchow told that the 2020-21 Student Handbook will be brought up for approval at the April meeting. He explained that recommendations from the Illinois Principals Association are used. Suggestions for edits involve students attending events without having to pay for admission and student dress code. School Board members raised concerns about language involving vaping, as well as, officials being abused at sporting events. Dr. Schwuchow shared information about the June 8, 2020 School Safety Presentation hosted in Winnebago and will also involve Pecatonica, Durand, and Dakota School Districts. Board members are being encouraged to attend. The purpose will be to train administrators first and later teachers in regards to if a dangerous situation should come onto school grounds.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING BOARD POLICIES

- 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
- 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
- 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition
- 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:100 Staff Development Program
- 5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
- 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- 5:220 Substitute Teachers
- 5:250 Leaves of Absence
- 5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions
- 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
- 6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction
- 6:60 Curriculum Content
- 6:300 Graduation Requirements
- 7:20 Harassment of Student Prohibited
- 7:150 Agency and Police Interviews
- 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
- 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students

- 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve these policies, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Johnson-Lovett.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mr. Rossol, Mr. Daly, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Gray, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved 6-0

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice of Non-Renewal of School Principal, as presented; seconded by Mr. Gray. Impacted by this Resolution is Benjamin Hickerson – Simon Elementary School Principal.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Daly, Mr. Gray, Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Rossol, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the NWEA MAP Assessment at a cost not to exceed \$19,500 from Title II Funds, as presented; seconded by Mr. Rossol.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Rossol, Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mr. Gray, Mr. Daly, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Calendar, as presented; seconded by Mr. Rossol.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mr. Daly, Mr. Gray, Mr. Rossol, Mrs. Johnson-Lovett, Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

At 7:18 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Schneider. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.

Approved: April 20, 2020

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Schoeneweiss, President

Jennifer Lindgren, Secretary