

**REGULAR MEETING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
MAY 12, 2020**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 in the Boardroom at McNair Elementary School via Zoom. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Wendy Schneider, Christopher Schoeneweiss, and Nichole Smith. Jamie Gray and Michael Rossol were absent. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; seconded by Mrs. Schneider. 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 Mrs. Johnson-Lovett. Items on consent agenda:

- 6.1. Approval of Minutes
 1. Regular Meeting – April 20, 2020
 2. Executive Session – April 20, 2020
2. Approve Accounts Payable
3. Approve Personnel Report – NEW HIRE: Heather Baker – Simon – Principal – effective 2020-21 school year; CHANGE IN POSITION: Kara Boyer – from WHS – Teacher to District – Diagnostician, Cheryl Conley – from WMS – part-time Cook to WMS – Head Cook, Brenda Huetsen – from WMS – part-time Cook to WMS – Custodian; SUMMER WORKERS: Jared Benson, Arianna Binicewicz, Kristin DiVerdi, Ryan Garst, Tara Hilton, Michelle McConnell, Lisa Pozzi, Curtis Rummel, Mackenzie Schuur, Lauren Spain, Jared Spickler, Cody Wilkins
4. Report on monthly FOIA Requests
5. Approve Requests for Early Graduation

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 5-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Schwuchow explained that during the school year options were considered for the Simon ELA Curriculum. Staci Thompson, Curriculum Director, provided details on the forming of a pilot committee, collecting data on what has been being done, gathering data on what would work better, alignment between grade levels, preparing students to advance to McNair, consideration of common core standards, goals, and more. The committee had curriculum presentations from four companies and ended up unanimously recommending Fountas & Pinnell. Committee members Danielle Buttell, Michele Stevens, and Wendy Mathieu shared information about resources and activities, working with students on reading, writing, phonics, comprehension, literacy, and engagement. It was explained that importance was also given to

supporting special education and interventionists with students working to shift away from RtI services. Dr. Schwuchow told how this curriculum purchase process falls in line with the Strategic Plan. It was asked if this program was used and would continue to be used during remote learning. It was noted that this would be an opportunity to test how it would work.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Schwuchow shared final steps for the remote learning plan and how situations with non-engaged students would be handled. More discussion is needed on planning for the start of the next school year, whether a traditional start, remote learning start, or a mixture of the two. Leadership meetings are still be held via zoom with flexibility continually needed. It was noted that decisions are being made at both the state level and local level. Concern was raised about if parents will be comfortable in sending students back into school buildings and staff members with similar worries. With so many unknowns, plans will evolve over time.

Dr. Schwuchow reported on the Simon Vestibule and WMS Office Entry Door projects, both having been previously approved as Health Life Safety. Materials have been ordered, and paces prepped, so work can begin as soon as possible.

Dr. Schwuchow updated the board on the Stadium Improvement Project stating that the timeline has not changed. Work is taking place on the irrigation system, visitor bleacher area, and light poles. While digging, a 30+ year old galvanized pipeline was discovered. If not replaced during the project, the field would have to be dug up in the future when replacement would be required. The new piping would be plastic, bring it up to code, run around the perimeter of the field, and have all controls located in the concession stand. Additionally, three electrical lines were found – one was abandoned, one being used for a current light pole, and one to the park district area will be disconnected. More details will be shared when they are available. It was commented that the lines were hit because they were not appropriately marked. When talking about other projects, it was reported that much painting has been taking place inside WHS.

Dr. Schwuchow commented on potential plans for a WHS graduation ceremony. The parameters set by the Illinois State Board of Education were more strict in May. It was hoped that a date and time of July 12, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. would work, but guidelines have not lessened enough to make this happen. A plan is being worked on with many options being considered. Other school districts are doing virtual ceremonies.

Dr. Schwuchow spoke about the Cares Act, which is being offered at the federal level. This provides assistance with remote learning initiatives. Once the application is made available, the district could receive \$250,000, which may be able to be used on previously purchased materials and professional development.

Dr. Schwuchow told that he has connected with a solar company representative and would like to have him speak with the school board. No meeting has been set. Also, an Insurance Committee Meeting, involving Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Schneider, will be needed soon.

AMENDED FY20 BUDGET

Dr. Schwuchow reviewed the annual budget commenting on late levy payments, which did not hit the books in the correct fiscal year. Unfortunately, this will likely happen again going forward. The Transportation Fund received two of four payments with the others not coming in. The recently approved transfer of funds has been reflected in the amended budget. Spending for this fiscal year was kept in check, and the school district did not run a deficit. The final approval for the budget will be needed at the June 15, 2020 board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING BOARD POLICIES

- 2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses
- 2:160 Board Attorney
- 5:150 Personnel Records
- 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
- 5:60 Expenses
- 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
- 6:280 Grading and Promotion
- 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
- 7:90 Release During School Hours
- 8:10 Connection with the Community
- 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve these policies as second read; seconded by Mrs. Smith.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved 5-0

Mr. Daly made a motion to place the Amended FY20 Budget on display with final approval taking place at the June 15, 2020 Meeting, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Schneider.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved 5-0

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the purchase of the Simon ELA Curriculum at a cost not to exceed \$72,509, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Johnson-Lovett. It was asked if it could be used if remote learning continued in the fall. Mrs. Thompson said that it would be ready to use.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved 5-0

Dr. Schwuchow explained that the district is nearing the end of a four-year lease on server storage. While investigating Ross Eberle, Technology Director, found that the district could get out of the current lease and buy its own server storage, which would avoid recurring costs. A large cost savings would ultimately be realized – half the price of continuing to lease.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the purchase of Server Storage Hardware at a cost not to exceed \$63,721, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Smith.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved 5-0

Explanation was given on the aging water line discovered during digging for the Stadium Project. Concern has been raised about it the pipe could fail within the next few years and how challenging it would be to replace it at that time. It was recommended to replace the water line while the football field is already torn up.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the replacement of the water line pipe running under the football field at a cost not to exceed \$21,815, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Schneider.

Roll call vote:

Aye: Mrs. Smith, Mrs Schneider, Mr. Daly, Mr. Schoeneweiss

Nay: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett Approved 4-1

At 7:51 a.m., Mr. Daly made a motion to enter Executive Session for the following reasons:

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 Mrs. Johnson-Lovett.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none Approved 5-0

At 8:20 p.m., the School Board returned to Open Session.

At 8:21 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Schneider. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.

Approved: June 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Schoeneweiss, President

Jennifer Lindgren, Secretary