

**BUDGET HEARING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
JUNE 15, 2020**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Budget Hearing of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020 in the Boardroom at McNair Elementary School and via Zoom. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Michael Rossol, Wendy Schneider, Christopher Schoeneweiss, and Nichole Smith. Jamie Gray were absent.

Mr. Schoeneweiss read the following statement: This Public Hearing is convened for the purpose of presenting in a public meeting, the 2019-20 Amended Winnebago Community Unit School District 323 Budget as proposed by its Board of Education. Notice of this Hearing was published in the Gazette, a local newspaper, on April 30, 2020. A copy of the proposed budget has been on file and continuously available for public inspection at the School District Office since April 21, 2020.

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.

At 6:05 p.m., Mr. Rossol made a motion to close the Budget Hearing; seconded by Mr. Daly. All voted aye, motion was approved.

**REGULAR MEETING
WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #323
JUNE 15, 2020**

Christopher Schoeneweiss called the Regular Meeting of the Winnebago Board of Education to order at 6:06 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020 in the Boardroom at McNair Elementary School and via Zoom. Members answering roll call were Dennis Daly, Elizabeth Johnson-Lovett, Michael Rossol, Wendy Schneider, Christopher Schoeneweiss, and Nichole Smith. Jamie Gray were absent. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; seconded by Mrs. Smith. 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. Rossol.

Items on consent agenda:

- 6.1. Approval of Minutes
 1. Regular Meeting – May 12, 2020
 2. Executive Session – May 12, 2020
 3. Special Board Meeting – May 21, 2020
 4. Executive Session – May 21, 2020
 5. Special Board Meeting – June 2, 2020
2. Approve Accounts Payable
3. Approve Personnel Report – NEW HIRE: Brittany Wagner – WMS – English Language Arts Teacher – effective 2020-21 school year; CHANGE IN POSITION: Robert Moore – from WMS – Special Education Teacher to WHS – Special Education Teacher; FMLA LEAVE: Michelle Dalla Valle Pearson – WHS – Teacher – from September 2, 2020 – January 4, 2021; RESIGNATIONS: Kathryn Mitchell – WMS – English Language Arts Teacher – effective end of 2019-20 school year, Tracy Thompson – WHS – Special Education Teacher – effective end of 2019-20 school year, Cathy Behn – Simon – part-time Special Education Paraprofessional, Tammy Bennett – McNair – part-time Special Education Paraprofessional, Laura West – McNair Special Education Paraprofessional, Abby Jergens – Simon – Kids Club Director, Kids Club Staff Members - Tobin Freeman, William Miller, Matt Morrissey, and Abby Workman.
4. Report on monthly FOIA Requests
5. Approve Fuel Bid for FY20
6. Approve Sealcoating Bid
7. Approve Running Start Program Intergovernmental Agreement
8. Approve 2020-21 Ombudsman Contract
9. Approve 2020-21 Linking Talent with Opportunity MOU
10. Approve Request for Early Graduation

It was asked if the school district would be charged extra because the approval of the Ombudsman Contract was delayed, and it was answered that there would be no additional charge. It was asked if the Running Start tuition will remain the same as the 2019-20 school year, and it was answered that the tuition will stay the same.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none

Approved: 6-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

There were no verbal Administrative Reports given.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Schwuchow explained that insurance rates are increasing by 6% for the upcoming school year with projected amounts being built into the budget. The Insurance Committee had the opportunity to meet with Gallagher, the Insurance Cooperative representative. It is understood the many benefits of being part of the Cooperative and noted that another school district is slated to join the Cooperative.

Dr. Schwuchow spoke about the Amended FY20 Budget. He stated that the numbers are tight. Comments were made about: not all the transportation categoricals have been received, the Winnebago County Clerk's office is behind on payments, the final payment will be coming and could be smaller than expected. During

the audit process, it will be noted that funds came in for one fiscal year, but actually hit the books in the next fiscal year. This situation matches what happened last year.

Dr. Schwuchow talked about recent resignations from the Kids Club Program. Other school districts in the area have childcare services provided through the YMCA and have had positive experiences. If a transition would take place, parents would benefit from being able to use Y facilities at times when school is not in session. He explained that the program would still be hosted at Simon Elementary School, the Y would hire remaining staff members, and an assistance program is offered for families in need. Comments were made about what families are currently paying versus Y rates, which are higher. Going forward the Kids Club Staff will receive pay increases in conjunction with the state minimum wage hike. Concern was raised about fees, if multi-student families could get a discount, and if there is an educational component to the after school program.

Dr. Schwuchow spoke of the recent change order needed for the Stadium Project. He commented on resolved drainage issues, newly installed lighting poles, and completed concrete work. The project is moving along well and should be done on time. Confirmation was made that the architect does not collect fees on change orders. It was asked what the new lighting poles are made of and what was done with the ones taken down.

Information was shared on hail damage throughout the school district, including damage to roofs, windows, gutters, and vehicles. It is hoped to have all issues taken care of during the summer. The full report will be forwarded to school board members.

Dr. Schwuchow reviewed IHSA Return to Play guidelines. He spoke of how many players can be together during workouts and safety measures being used. As the state moves through re-opening phases, teams will be kept informed on updated guidelines. Details were also mentioned on Driver's Education in-class and behind-the-wheel instruction. Up to nine students can be taught at a time with many safety precautions in place. The ISBE provided guidance, which the school district is following strictly.

A report was given on the upcoming July 12, 2020 Class of 2020 Graduation. Plans have been put in place that need approval by both the Regional Office of Education and the Winnebago County Health Department. Graduates will be allowed to cross the stage, get their diploma, and take photos. Each graduate will sign up for a specific time, bring only immediate family members, practice social distancing guidelines, wear masks, and enter/exit the high school from differing doors. The ceremony will be on Facebook Live and a complete video, including speeches, will be created to share.

Dr. Schwuchow and Mrs. Schneider shared information about a joint grant opportunity with the Winnebago Park District. Also, another one was found that falls more in line with just the school district. Grants under Rebuild Illinois have gone away for the time being. Since neither the school district nor the park district are considered non-profit, both will need to find others to partner with. The school district would like to work with FEE, prepare all paperwork, and then ask FEE to let the application flow through them. It is desired to gain funding to add parking spots near the baseball diamond behind McNair School, make a walking path around the diamond, add a concrete strip from dugout to dugout, add more fencing for security, create an ADA compliant extension to the nearby playground, build an open air pavilion for shelter, add restrooms, and more. Comments were made about Winnebago Park District and their efforts to secure grant funding for facility improvements also. Acknowledgement was made on how school district facility improvements benefit the park district and vice versa.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Schwuchow recommended that 2020-21 salary increases for Administrators and Non-Certified Staff be set at 2%. When asked, he reported that the additional costs have been built into the budget.

Mrs. Schneider made a motion to approve 2% salary increases for Administrative and Non-Certified Staff, as presented; seconded by Mr. Daly.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: Mrs. Johnson-Lovett Approved: 5-1

Mr. Daly made a motion to approve the Amended FY20 Budget as Final, as presented; seconded by Mr. Rossol.

Roll call vote:

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

Nay: none Approved: 6-0

Dr. Schwuchow told about a conference call with the solar group, and they are projecting high energy cost savings. He and Mike Prestegaard will be gathering more information to share with the school board at a future meeting. He also told the Mrs. Baker intends to start meeting with Simon teachers via Zoom. As recommended, Lynn Gibson, retired Hononegah Superintendent, has agreed to be Mrs. Baker's mentor for the first year.

At 7:51 p.m., Mr. Daly made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Schneider. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.

Approved: July 20, 2020

Respectfully submitted:

Christopher Schoeneweiss, President

Jennifer Lindgren, Secretary