

WESTERN DUBUQUE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 11, 2013 – 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Board President Bob McCabe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room – District Administration Office, Farley, Iowa, with a moment of silence and the reading of the District Vision Statement and Goals.

Roll Call:

Present were President Bob McCabe, Vice-President Jeanne Coppola, Mark Knuth, Chad Vaske and Superintendent Jeff Corkery. Absent Gary McAndrew

Approval of Agenda:

The following addition to the published Agenda was presented.

New Business:

i. Student Expulsion:

Motion by Knuth, second by Coppola to approve the Agenda with the noted addition. Motion passed 4-0. Twenty-four hour notice was not provided on this Agenda addition. The Consent Agreement with the parents for the expulsion of the student was finalized earlier today (02-11-2013) and the District deemed that it was in the best interest of the student and the District to effectuate the Consent Agreement immediately.

Welcome to Visitors, Press, Staff, etc.:

Open Forum: No comments or communications were received.

Approval of Minutes and Bills:

- a. January 14, 2013 Workshop and Regular Meeting. Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to approve the Minutes. Motion passed 4-0.
- b. Bills and Claims for the month of January: Motion by Vaske, second by Knuth to approve the bills. Motion passed 4-0.

Reports:

Principal Reports:

Topics discussed were: Progress on building goals, literacy environment, book donations, Bingo fundraiser, Mariah Kauder - CHS named National Merit Semi-Finalist, food pantry work, athletic and activity awards, paraprofessional work with At-Risk students, Friendship Dance, Monsanto Award for Dyersville Elementary, winning workplace award from Telegraph Herald to Epworth Elementary, McGraw Hill book and snow pants donations to Epworth Elementary, staff retirements, PBIS, Pajama Day, bowling – popularity, Premier Tooling night at WDHS, professional development speakers and PBIS for instructional staff, WD featured as a positive behavior district at an upcoming meeting.

Superintendent Report:

Mr. Corkery expressed concern about the delay in approving the 2013-14 allowable growth for schools from the Governor and Legislature. Building drawings for the high school additions and improvements have been reviewed and approved by stakeholders. Plan documents are being worked on with a target date of late April or early May for bidding.

Cascade/Bernard Elementary Building Highlights:

It was announced that this report will be postponed to a later date.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Coppola, second by Knuth to approve the Consent Agenda items.
Motion passed 4-0.

- a. Financial Reports of District
- b. Personnel
 - 1. Resignations
 - a) Diane Aldrich - 2nd Grade Teacher – FES
 - b) Cindy Baker – Lang. Arts Teacher – DMIS
 - c) Esther Chapman – 5th Grade Teacher – DMIS
 - d) Steven Chapman – Science/Health Teacher – CHS
 - e) Mary Jo Einwalter – Spanish Teacher – WDHS
 - f) Robbin Harris – Kindergarten Teacher – FES
 - g) Susan Kalb – Special Needs Teacher – WDHS
 - h) Evelyn Stoll – 2nd Grade Teacher – CES
 - 2. Employment
 - a) Lindsey Digmann – Varsity Asst. Softball Coach – WDHS \$2,218.40
 - b) Christina Rose – Freshman Softball Coach – WDHS \$2,218.40
- c. Out of State Travel: None
- d. Policy Revisions 2nd Readings: None
- e. Equipment/Fund Raising Project Request
 - 1. Western Dubuque Booster Club Track Gift – hurdles, carts, pit covers and high jump pit items totaling \$27,003.

II. Old Business: None

III. New Business

- a. Approve Schools Fees for 2013-14. Motion by Vaske, second by Coppola to approve the fee schedule as presented. Motion passed 4-0. The schedule will be posted on the District's web page.
- b. Set Public Hearing Date on 2013-14 Calendar. Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to set March 11, 2013 as the public hearing date for the 2013-14 school calendar. Motion passed 4-0. Superintendent Corkery presented three calendar options. He indicated that he would most likely recommend the calendar with the starting date of August 19th and an ending date of May 23rd. This calendar would feature six early outs, the 1st semester ending before the Christmas break and elementary conferences spread out over a 10 day period. The calendars under consideration are on the District's web page.
- c. Approval of South Tama application to join the WAMAC. Motion by Coppola, second by Knuth to approve the application. Motion passed 4-0.
- d. Approval of Cascade joining the River Valley Conference. Motion by Knuth, second by Vaske to approve Cascade joining the River Valley Conference. Motion passed 4-0.
- e. School Funding Resolution: Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to approve the following resolution as drafted by the Iowa Association of School Administrators. Motion passed 4-0.
Now, therefore, be it resolved:
Over recent years, the failure of the Legislature to provide sufficient and increased annual funding to Iowa's school districts has a cumulative effect and significantly threatens the ability of Iowa schools to meet the current needs and demands of improved student achievement.
Be it further resolved:

To ensure appropriate annual educational funding and fiscal solvency the Western Dubuque County Community School District Board of Education resolves that to prepare for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 years, the legislature should, as statute dictates, approve allowable growth in the first thirty days of the 2013 Legislative Session.

Therefore; the Western Dubuque County Community School District Board of Education requests that the Iowa Legislature set a 4% allowable growth rate for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years prior to consideration of educational reform measures.

Therefore;

With 4% allowable growth established for 2013-14 and 2014-15, we believe the funding would support the Educational Reform Proposal.

This resolution is approved by the Western Dubuque County Community School District Board of Education in support of providing adequate current funding for Iowa schools and requests 4% allowable growth to be approved by the Iowa Legislature for 2013-14 and 2014-15 and conceptual implications of the Education Reform Proposal.

- f. Approval of Request to SBRC for ELL Allowable Growth. Motion by Knuth, second by Coppola to approve the additional allowable growth request to the School Budget Review Committee for the English Language Learners program in the amount of \$44,764 for the 2012-13 school year. Motion passed 4-0.
- g. Change Orders Drexler Middle School. Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to approve change orders #12 and #13 as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Change order #12 adds \$9,000 of work for partial replacement and repair of the gym floor to be completed in the summer of 2013. The cost to come from the unused contingency allowance for the project. Change order #13 reduces the contingency allowance balance from \$49,138.46 to \$0. As a result, the final contract sum for the project is reduced by \$49,138.46 - from \$7,908,761.33 to \$7,859,622.87.
- h. Authorize Final Payment for Drexler Middle School. Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to authorize the final payment to Conlon Construction for the Drexler Middle School Gym & Library Addition in the amount of \$124,986 exclusive of the \$9,000 for the gym floor repair. Motion passed 4-0. The final payment represents the unpaid retainage on completed work.
- i. Student Expulsion: Motion by Coppola, second by Knuth to expel student #18256 from attending school in the Western Dubuque Community School District pursuant to the contract and waiver of hearing signed by the parents on February 11, 2013. Motion passed 4-0.
- j. Closed Session: Iowa Code 20.17(3) for discussion of collective bargaining issues. Motion by Coppola, second by Knuth to enter into closed session per Iowa Code 20.17(3). Roll call vote. McCabe- yes, Coppola – yes, Knuth – yes and Vaske – yes. Motion passed 4-0. The Board entered into closed session at 7:45 pm and returned to open session at 8:17 pm.

Adjournment: Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. on February 11, 2013.

David A. Wegmann
Board Secretary

Robert McCabe
President, Board of Education