

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting ~ August 7, 2023

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on August 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the District Administration Office - ABC Building - 909 S. 76th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: Beth Morrisette, President
Dana Blakely, Vice President
Adam Yale, Treasurer
Kris Karnes, Treasurer-Elect
Sarah Rider, Director

Board member absent (excused): Meagan Van Gelder, Secretary

Notice of the meeting was given by placing advance notice on the front page of the District's website no less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled commencement of the meeting as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice for this meeting appeared beginning on July 18, 2023, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on August 4 and 7, 2023, and on their website. Copies of proof of publication are attached to the official minutes. Notice of this meeting and the availability of the agenda was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education and available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

District Staff in Attendance: Mike Lucas, Mark Weichel, Brian Gabriel, Molly Hurley, Nick Lesiak, Kim De La Cruz, Kami Jessop, Kelcy Tapp, Laura Mann, Paul Lindgren, Guy O'Brien.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill. *Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

Ms. Morrisette called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. She welcomed those in attendance and confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the meeting and on the district website, as required by law. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. Board Meeting attendance is noted above. Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for an excused absence for Dr. Van Gelder. Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Due to the requirement of an authorized signature on the 2023 General Obligation Bonds document that is on the agenda for board approval this evening, Ms. Morrisette requested a motion to appoint Sarah Rider as Acting Secretary for August 7, 2023, to serve in Dr. Van Gelder's absence. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes - 7/17/23 Board Meeting

Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting held on July 17, 2023. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Board of Education Meeting

August 7, 2023

Page 2 of 5

Approval of Minutes - 7/21/23 Board Workshop

Ms. Morrisette requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Workshop held on July 21, 2023. Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Communications

Ms. Elizabeth Power, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, and her team have been busy promoting "*Back-To-School*" with videos and signs, including a downloadable poster that families can print for first-day-of-school pictures. Ms. Power has also been making media connections and lining up stories to highlight the amazing things happening in Westside Community Schools.

Approval to Authorize Issuance of District's Series 2023 General Obligation Bonds

Mr. Brian Gabriel, District Officer of Business and Finance, along with Mr. Craig Jones from First National Capital Markets, requested board approval to adopt a resolution to authorize the issuance of general obligation school building bonds, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$121,000,000, for the purpose of financing the construction of capital improvements as related to Phase II of the District's Facilities Master Plan, which was approved by voters on May 9, 2023. Mr. Yale moved for approval of the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale by Douglas County School District 0066 (Westside Community Schools) in the State of Nebraska of its general obligation school building bonds, series 2023, in one or more series and in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed one hundred twenty-one million dollars (\$121,000,000); canvassing the returns of the special election held in connection with such bonds; authorizing certain officials to determine the final aggregate principal amount, maturities, rates, terms and other details of such bonds; imposing an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the district to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and the interest on such bonds; authorizing the designation of certain bonds as qualified tax-exempt obligations, if applicable; authorizing the sale and delivery of the bonds to the purchaser thereof; authorizing the taking of certain actions and the execution and delivery of certain documents; and prescribing other matters relating thereto; Ms. Blakely seconded. Resolution passed by unanimous roll call vote of the Board. Copies of the Executive Summary and the Resolution are included in the board documents folder.

Phase II Bond Projects: Approval of Architects - WMS and ABC Building

Mr. Matt Herzog, Principal, Project Advocates, presented two Architect contracts for board approval: one for the Westside Middle School Project and one for the ABC Building Project. Requests for Qualifications for both renovation projects were issued on June 12, 2023. Proposals were due by July 11, 2023. Project Advocates received five proposals for the WMS project and five proposals for the ABC Building project. Project Advocates and district and Board representatives reviewed all proposals for the WMS and ABC Building projects on July 13, 2023. Kris Karnes represented the board at these meetings. Interviews were held on July 24, 2023, for the WMS project (Meagan Van Gelder represented the Board), and on July 27, 2023, for the ABC Building project (Adam Yale represented the Board). The architect firms selected are: BVH Architecture for WMS; and BCDM Architects for the ABC Building. The District will pay BVH Architects \$310,000 for the Middle School Project and BCDM \$160,000 for the ABC Building Project.

Board of Education Meeting

August 7, 2023

Page 3 of 5

Architect and Engineering Services for Westside Middle School Project

Ms. Blakely moved for approval of BVH Architects; Ms. Karnes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Architect and Engineering Services for ABC Building Project

Ms. Karnes moved for approval of BCDM Architects; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Copies of the Executive Summaries and architect firm contracts are included in the board documents folder.

Approval to Adopt State Mathematics Standards

Dr. Mark Weichel, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, requested board approval to adopt the Mathematics Academic Content Standards as recommended and approved by the Nebraska Department of Education on September 2, 2022. Nebraska Rule 10 requires that new / updated / revised standards be adopted by the District within one year of State Board of Education adoption. Dr. Weichel shared that district math curriculum leaders have been working this past year to incorporate the newest changes into our written curriculum. Some of those changes include an increased focus on essential math concepts and the application of content, as well as connections between math and other fields. Ms. Karnes moved for approval of BCDM Architects; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary is included in the board documents folder.

Sale of District Vehicle

Mr. Andy Wane, Director of Facilities, requested board approval for the sale of a red 2006 Ford Ranger 4x4 (VIN #1FTZR45E66PA03719) that has been used by the Director of Facilities since January of 2013. As part of the district's vehicle fleet, the proceeds from the sale will be applied to the lease of a new 2023 Ford Maverick as we continue to transition our fleet from owned to leased. Ms. Blakely moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Board Policies for Approval (#5300 and #6165)

Mr. Nick Lesiak, District In-House Legal Counsel, requested approval of revisions to existing board policy #5300 - Conduct (Students), and approval of new policy #6165 - Collection of Information Relating to Dyslexia (Instruction). Both policies were presented for discussion and consideration by the Board on July 17, 2023.

Policy #5300 - Conduct (Students): Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Policy #6165 - Collection of Information Relating to Dyslexia (Instruction): Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Copies of each policy and the Executive Summary are included in the board documents folder.

Board Policies for Review (#7250 and #7260)

Mr. Lesiak presented revisions for first reading to existing board policies #7250 - Distribution of Materials from Outside Organizations and #7260 - Use of School Facilities (Community Relations). A new law going into effect this year (section 126 of LB705) allows certain designated youth organizations (i.e. - boy scouts, girl scouts, FFA, etc.) into our buildings at least once each school year to provide information about their organization to students and to provide services to the organization's members. As a result of this law, revisions are being proposed to policy #7250 and #7260. Both policies will be presented again for board approval at the Board of Education Meeting on August 21, 2023. Copies of each policy and the Executive Summary are included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

Ms. Melanie Connelly, Director of Employee Information Systems, presented the personnel report (one non-approval of certified staff resignation) for board approval. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Blakely seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

Approval of Superintendent Goals - 2023-2024 School Year

Dr. Lucas presented his goals and priorities for the 2023-2024 school year for board approval. The establishment of the Superintendent goals and priorities is a collaborative effort between the Superintendent and the Board of Education that align with the Superintendent Performance Assessment, which is completed in the spring of each year. This year, Dr. Lucas highlighted a top goal / priority for each of the goal areas: Financial Leadership; Communication/Public Relations/Community Engagement; Facilities Leadership; WE-SIDE; Visionary Planning; Culture Enhancement; Instructional Leadership; and Legislative/Statewide Leadership. Ms. Karnes moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of Dr. Lucas' goals are included in the board documents folder.

Public Comment: Diane Cahill - "Thank a Police Officer" letter-writing campaign.

Board Member Representation / Legislative Updates / Announcements

Board members and district leaders helped welcome new teachers to Westside Community Schools at a luncheon on Wednesday, July 26th and all staff at a kick-off event at Baxter Arena on Wednesday, August 2nd. There will be a community "Back-To-School" barbeque and pep rally on Wednesday, August 23rd. Ms. Morrisette will represent the district at an NASB Legislative Committee Meeting on August 10th.

Ms. Morrisette reviewed upcoming events:

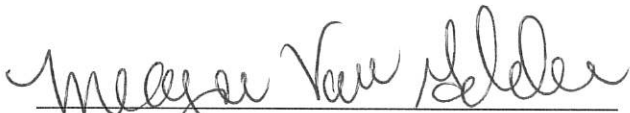
August 10, 2023	First Day of School!
August 21, 2023	Board of Education Meeting / FY23 Budget Amendment Public Hearing - ABC Building - 6:00 p.m.
September 1, 2023	Professional Learning Day for Staff / No School for Students
September 4, 2023	Labor Day - No School
September 5, 2023	Board of Education Meeting / FY24 Budget Public Hearing - ABC Building - 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting

August 7, 2023

Page 5 of 5

There being no further business, Ms. Morrisette adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Meagan Van Gelder". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Meagan Van Gelder, Board of Education Secretary

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education Meeting for the Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **Monday, August 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.** at the District Office, 909 S. 76th St., Omaha, NE. The agenda, continually kept current, is available at the District Office. The meeting is open to the public.

8/4, 8/7

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**THE DAILY RECORD
OF OMAHA
JASON W. HUFF, Publisher
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha

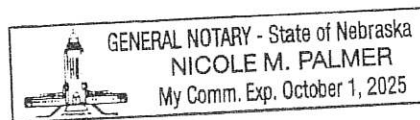
} ss.

JASON W. HUFF and/or JOSIE CHARRON, being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the PUBLISHER and/or MANAGING EDITOR of THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, a legal newspaper, printed and published daily in the English language, having a bona fide paid circulation in Douglas County in excess of 300 copies, and a general circulation in Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass and Dodge Counties, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, Nebraska for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice here-to attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, for 2 consecutive weeks on:

8/4/23

8/7/23

That said Newspaper during that time was regularly published and in general circulation in the County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska.



Publisher's Fee

\$24.36

Additional Copies

\$ _____

Filing Fee

\$ _____

Total \$24.36

Jason W. Huff

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me this AUGUST 07 2023

Nicole M. Palmer

Notary Public in and for Douglas County, State
of Nebraska

Board of Education Meeting
August 7, 2023

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that a Notice of Board Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was placed on the home page of the website of Westside Community Schools (www.westside66.org) beginning on July 18, 2023 and that it appeared there continuously up through the time of the scheduled board meeting.

Kemi Sedivy

Name

Assoc., Communications & Graphics

Title

STATE OF NEBRASKA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

Before me, a Notary Public, qualified in and for said County and State, personally came Kemi Sedivy known to me to be the identical person, and signed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the execution of this document to his or her voluntary deed.

[Signature]
Notary Public

