

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School District of Webster
Webster 5-12 School IMC
February 17, 2025 - 5:00 pm

Board Members Present: President Chaz Heinz, Vice President Terry Larsen, Clerk Kim Johnson, Directors Mark Elliott, Katie Smith, and Galina Werdier

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Pamela Peterson

Board President Chaz Heinz called the regular meeting to order at 5:02 pm. President Heinz was informed that the meeting was posted and the press was notified on February 13, 2025.

The full board and audience recited the pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Katie Smith/Galina Werdier to approve the minutes of the Policy Ad Hoc Committee Meetings of January 20, January 29, and February 04, 2025, and the Regular Board Meeting and Executive Session of January 20, 2025. Motion carried.

Motion by Terry Larsen/Mark Elliott to approve financial report for the month ending January 31, 2025 as reported by Kim Johnson (*In Absence of Pamela Peterson*). Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Elliott/Katie Smith to approve payroll expenditures of \$323,119.07 and vouchers numbered 1134549-1134595 plus ACH Transfers totaling \$474,292.79 for the month of January 2025. Motion carried.

Motion by Terry Larsen/Galina Werdier to approve and release vouchers numbered 1134597-1134642 plus ACH payments dated February 17, 2025 totaling \$978,096.26. Motion carried.

Eagle Project Presentation: High School Student, Jamison Mogen, presented on a project that he is proposing for Eagle Scouts. This project entails building a life-size chess board to permanently place near the Middle School outdoor playground for students in the District to enjoy for years to come. He discussed the process for the project, along with the estimated cost of materials.

Employee Book Study Presentation: Renee Ones (*High School Counselor*), Ann Pardun (*Pupil Services Secretary*), and Jessica Hedrick (*Kindergarten Teacher*), shared an overview of the recent optional book study that was completed by participating district staff. This book study was on a book titled 'The Anxious Generation', and was funded by the Vibrant Communities grant that was applied for by the Pupil Services Department, and awarded by the St. Croix Foundation.

Motion by Mark Elliott/Katie Smith to approve the High School Social Studies Chicago Trip as proposed. Motion carried.

Audience Recognition: None.

Property – Committee of the Whole

Land Acquisition – Offer to Purchase Approval: Chaz Heinz shared information on the district's interest to purchase 25.3 acres north of the 5-12 building. The offer to purchase is a land contract for \$110,000 with \$35,000 down, and three annual payments of \$25,000 with no interest charges. Joshua Hetfeld addressed possible concerns regarding the district's current budget. Terry Larsen added additional comments on how this investment could have long lasting benefits for our district, and is a unique opportunity.

Motion by Mark Elliott/Terry Larsen to approve the land contract as presented. Motion carried.

Sturgeon Park Project Update and Public Meeting Notification: Chaz Heinz and Joshua Hetfeld led the discussion regarding the lease of school property located on the northwest corner of Highway 35 and County Road X. Joshua Hetfeld shared that there will be a public meeting for public approval on leasing the school's property.

Motion by Katie Smith/Galina Werdier to approve setting the public meeting date to March 03, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the 5-12 Cafetorium. Motion carried.

Budget – Committee of the Whole

Crystal Hومان, District Accountant, reported on the 2024-2025 district expenditures. She shared that the district is currently on track from the September proposed deficit, and are not looking for any revisions at this time.

Joshua Hetfeld, District Administrator, discussed the budget overview, along with goals and options to consider for future planning.

2025 Wisconsin State Education Convention Overview: Chaz Heinz, Kim Johnson, and Joshua Hetfeld presented on their experience at the State Education Convention.

Strategic Planning Discussion and Consideration: The board discussed the timeline for Strategic Planning, and what that would look like. Galina Werdier mentioned that she would like to see student input during this process.

Motion by Galina Werdier/Katie Smith to approve the board moving forward with Strategic Planning. Motion carried.

Policy Ad Hoc Committee Report

Chaz Heinz provided an update regarding the Policy Ad Hoc Committee, including recent meeting dates and topics. The following policies were presented for a 2nd reading: *(These policies were not approved for final adoption, but rather to give the full board the opportunity to review any changes that have been made since the first reading)*

- 0000 – Bylaws
- 3000 – Professional Staff
- 4000 – Support Staff

Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Report: Ashley Nagel, Elementary Principal, gave the semi-annual report on Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR). This is an update that is given twice a year reporting progress of growth in reading and math.

Principal Reports

- Elementary School: Ashley Nagel, Principal, acknowledged Grace Lutheran Church for their recent donation. She also reported on recent and upcoming events.
- Middle School: Ron Stelson, Principal, shared the number of students who earned a spot on the A and B Honor Rolls. In addition, he discussed upcoming events for the Middle School.
- High School: Jason Wolf, Principal, gave an update on recent events at the High School. He also provided an overview of the current planning that is happening for the upcoming school year.

District Administrator Report

Joshua Hetfeld proposed changing the paid holiday for 12-month staff from Easter Monday to New Year's Eve Day to accommodate for better school calendar planning. This change would occur in the Employee Handbook effective for the 2025-2026 school year. In addition, Joshua provided an overview of the Second Friday in January Pupil Count, along with the Tiger Tech Open House.

Motion by Galina Werdier/Mark Elliott to update the employee handbook as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Elliott/Terry Larsen to approve the Association for Equity in Funding Membership Renewal as proposed. Motion carried.

Joshua Hetfeld discussed possible pros and cons of switching from 11-man football to 8-man football. The consensus was to hold an informational meeting regarding this in the spring with additional staff, coaches and district families.

Possible Future Agenda Items: None.

Motion by Mark Elliott/Katie Smith to adjourn to Executive session per Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1)(c)(e) at 6:30 pm. Roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes. Motion carried.

The regular session of the February 17, 2025 meeting reconvened at 7:48 pm.

Motion by Terry Larsen/Katie Smith to approve Kevin Belland as the High School Golf Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Katie Smith/Galina Werdier to approve Shane Miller as the High School Assistant Baseball Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Katie Smith/Galina Werdier to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Johnson, School Board Clerk