

WWG School Board Meeting

February 23, 2023

Walnut Grove, 5:00 PM

Members present: Maas, Hemp, Madson (virtual), Warner, Kuehl, Kleven, Foster, Superintendent Woelber, Principal Woitalewicz, Derrick Jenniges also present were Chris Curry, Mandy Dibble, Leo Theisen and Tom Merchant. Absent

Maas called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Hemp and seconded by Kuehl to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Warner to approve the January 23, 2023. Motion Carried

Motion made by Foster seconded by Hemp to approve the claims, account balances, treasurer reports and vendor payments. Motion Carried

Visitor reports – Chris Curry came to discuss Trap Shooting Team. Season start March 25th.

Old Business – Day Care updates – received the approval from the Fire Marshall this week.

Administrative Reports

AD Theisen – The winter athletic seasons are winding down.

- Girls Basketball team was seeded #2 in the south sub-section and will play at 2:30 on Saturday February 25th in Worthington. Their record is 17-7. They are the Red Rock Conference runner-up. The JH girls' basketball team finished their season with a win over SWC in the Conference Tournament. Amy Swenson and Mandy Dibble coached the JH team.
- Boys Basketball team finishes up the regular season next Monday with a home game vs MCC> Their record is 19-4. Their section seeding will be known on Friday. They will play at Worthington on March 4th in the first round of sections. The JH boys basketball team coached by Carter Ross improved during the season.
- It was successful day for the WWG/RRC Speech team on 2/18/23 at the Redwood Valley Cardinals' Invitational. Mrs. Caygle took sixteen students who competed in seven of the thirteen categories.
- Congrats to Adrienne Kletscher and the One Act Play group for placing second in the subsection and advancing to the Region. Sam Malmberg will direct the WWG Spring play.
- Spring athletic practices start on March 13/20. Two JH baseball coaches are still needed, at this time. Golf will again be paired with HLOF this spring.
- Chris Curry will give a Trap Shooting update at the board meeting tonight.
- The TMB/WWG youth wrestling team has been very successful this year. Several WWG elementary students are part of that group. The February 17th Logger Wrestling tournament

was a success. The TMB/WWG varsity wrestling team made it to the final-four in the section this season before being eliminated.

- Roof leak in the gym at Westbrook. Snow blows under the ridge cap and then melts and leaks into the gym. Could we look at some type of sealer?
- The Westbrook Lions Club (John Madson, Bob and Sally Nelson, Jim Hoyt) volunteered at the ticket stands for all of the 23 home games this winter. (Janet, Wendy filled in a few times) Thank you!
- Thank you to the WWG Janitors for all their work this winter athletic season.

Mr. Jenniges Power Outage on January 31 - Thanks to Andy Foster / Chad Freeburg for bringing light to the building! Thanks to Redwood Electric for a relatively quick turnaround. Thanks to staff and families for their understanding / assistance.

- NED Show Virtual Presentation (Feb 10)
 - Never Give Up
 - Encourage Others
 - Do Your Best

Yo-Yo sales to pay it forward

High number of subs in February - Thanks to all the substitutes and staff for helping to make sure our students had consistent, positive experiences.

February 17 - Loggers wrestling event (150 participants) - Thanks to Loggers for donated extra Gatorade for school rewards.

Elementary basketball season is pretty much wrapped up - they are SO excited to be Chargers and eagerly await their turn for the BIG TIME!

4-6th Pops Concert - Rescheduled from February 23 to March 2

5-6th Spelling Bee (20 participants) on Tuesday, February 28. We will attempt to live stream this event from the gym.

Macie Christians and Chandra Carlson brought Winston (therapy dog) to school on Tuesday to visit teachers (4-6th / SPED) and answer questions; Macie will continue to bring Winston on Tuesday mornings.

5-8th Trip to Lake Shetek rescheduled for March 3 (from February 16)

Beginnergarten update

- 10 students on the roster

5th grade celebrated their 1000th day of school by collecting dimes

- Donated \$300 to the playground fund / took their dimes to Integrity Bank for counting

Starting to get the spring field trips on the calendar

Principal Woitalewicz – 2nd Semester in full swing

MN Honor Society update

- Welcomed 9 new members into our MN Honor Society on February 8.
- Congratulations to our previous members - Olivia Anderson, Dan Kleven, Elijah Merrick
- Congratulations to our new members - Izzy Rentschler, Luke DeSmith, Colton Carter, Addison Jenniges, Mark Mershon, Phoenix Weckman, Izzy Klumper, Ella Knakmuhs, and Abby Wiggins.
- Many thanks to our teachers - Megan Bonnstetter, Josh Barron, and Pat Merrick for taking the time to reform our honor society induction. These teachers are also looking at ways to get honor society members more involved in school and community leadership.

- One way we would like to do that is to send some of our MHS members to MASSP-sponsored leadership conferences. The MAHS/MASC (MN Assn of Honor Societies and MN Assn of Student Councils) leadership conference is April 28-29 this year.
- There is also a summer leadership conference.
- Other changes with MHS include the possibility of having our MHS inductees also serve as our student leadership team (student council). Additionally, we are looking into creating a junior honor society program for grades 7-9. Your thoughts?

One Act - Our One Act team (directed by Mrs. Kletscher) made it to section competition but did not advance to state. Overall, a great effort from our team members, who include Payeng Vue, Phoenix Weckman, Mark Mershon, Tim Kleeburger, Fred Plaetz, Caitlin Mershon, and Madison Xiong.

Class Trip update

- 17 confirmed senior students attending the class trip from April 5-10
- Trip cost coming in at \$1100, which is hundreds of dollars less expensive than previous NY/DC senior trips because we planned and scheduled the trip in house.
- Many thanks to Annalie Plaetz who has stepped up to not only take over our concessions programming but also our fundraising program. Her guidance and leadership have been much appreciated.

Rescheduled events

- Our bullying speaker (who was set to come in November before re-scheduling) had to again reschedule from his planned February 9 date. Unsure on whether he will be coming to WWG.
- One-day Shetek Environmental camp for grades 5-8 was set for February 16 but was rescheduled to March 3rd due to weather.

Upcoming Events

- Basketball playoffs begin soon. Good luck to both our boys and girls teams!
- Cory Greenwood is set to return to WWG on March 13th. He speaks on mental health and suicide prevention.
 - Cory will speak to both our elementary and senior high students, then also hold a community event on the night of the 13th in our high school auditorium. Macie Christians set this whole event up and even fundraised to have Cory speak to our community. She deserves huge recognition for this as we currently have a student mental health crisis in our school community, in our area, across the state, and across our nation. Hearing from Cory will help our students and help our community. Thank you, Macie!

A&I notes

- Formulating new 24-26 district A&I plan for approval at March board meeting.
- Simplifying our plan to include 3 goals instead of 5 and working to make the goals impactful, logical and obtainable.
- One goal we've always included funding for in our plan is our annual 5th grade Environmental.
- Science camp. We have not been able to attend the camp in the previous 2 years due to Covid, and the camp altogether may be no longer.
- Looking into alternatives, possibly through Lake Shetek. Communicating with other area districts on whether or not it is possible to create a multi-day environmental camp for our 5th graders at Shetek. There is interest from other area schools as well as reps at Shetek.

Locker installation has been mostly completed waiting on a few items to finish.

Superintendent Woelber –

- Transportation (new handicap bus is in MN)
- Food Service (summer lunch in the air) (new guidelines next year)
- Administrative updates
 - A. Mtg middle of March regarding Supt sharing.
- Shared Services
- ESSER will be used up June of 2024
- Enrollments
 - A. PreK- 59, K-46,
 - B. 1st-42, 2nd-40, 3rd-37,
 - C. 4th-40, 5th-36, 6th-25, WG Bldg K-6 266
 - D. 7th-30, 8th-38, 9th-39
 - E. 10th-25, 11th-26, 12th-23; WB Bldg 181
- Updating Strategic Plan (MSBA or Cliff Carmody)
- Empty houses in WG and parking

Board reports and recognition of donors / supporters

- Playground updates
- Motion made by Kuehl and seconded by Foster to approve the following staffing changes:
Motion Carried
 - A. Non renewals / ULA (if any) will take place at the March board meeting.
 - B. Approval of Makayla Ewy as Secondary para
 - C. Approval of Rocky Kolar and Digger Phelps as on call van drivers.

Motion made by Hemp and seconded by Warner to approve the recognition of the following donors/Supporters' motion carried

- Hearty thank you to Chad Freeburg and Andy Foster for their help during the power outage in Walnut Grove.
- Redwood Electric Power Company was very responsive.
- Lions Members – John Madson, Bob Nelson and Sally Nelson for taking tickets at winter sporting events
- Congratulations and many thanks to Leo on his many years as AD for the District. Also, congratulations for his AD of the year award.

New Business

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Kuehl to approve the revised budget for 22 - 23 school year. **Revenues of \$8,284,439.00 and Expenditures of \$8,613,402.00** (1 year ago revenue \$7,810,056, Expenditures \$7,971,000.00) Motion Carried

Motion made by Maas and seconded by Hemp to approve the Calendar discussion and online learning. Dates as proposed by Administration. Motion Carried

Motion made by Kuehl and seconded by Kleven to continue with signing and driving bonus for new bus drivers for the 23 - 24 school year. Motion Carried

Motion made by Warner and seconded by Hemp to approve the Board RESOLUTION Accepting the Eleven Tools of Civility. Kleven – Aye, Hemp – Aye, Kuehl – Aye, Foster – Aye, Maas – Aye, Warner - Aye

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Foster to declare surplus outdated IPADS, four 7 ft. diameter round tables – Locke and Woelber to advertise and dispose.

Woodstock telephone information regarding desired switch. Courtney will be at the March meeting to discuss options.

Looking ahead to projects summer of 2023 and beyond

- Walnut Grove playground (20 volunteers for 3 days)
- Walnut Grove Elementary Library facelift.
- Walnut Grove Classroom A/C
- Walnut Grove Snow Removal equipment
- Westbrook parking lot next couple years? Bond?
- Westbrook replace some galvanized pipe in Tech campus
- Westbrook Tech campus parking lot
- Other

Adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Foster
Board Clerk