

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 11, 2023

CONVENE: 11:30 a.m.

PLACE: Charles R. Parsons Administration Building

ADJOURN: 12:50 p.m.

ATTENDEES: J. Batey, D. Beeman, K. Breitenbucher, D. Chase, K. Elsass, A. Hill,
L. Kramer, L. McDermitt, B. Neiser, B. Pinkerton, G. Rutherford, D. Slife,
M. Springer, L. Giermann

ABSENT: P. Alic, E. Allwood, A. Anderson, A. Barton, M. George, J. Lawrence, T. Manion,
M. Wagar, M. White

1. Presentation: Phil Luthman, Director of Technology

- a. The district has launched a new website, and we have hired a new employee, Sarah Kershaw, whose job it is to update and keep the website current. A question was raised about whether it would be possible to add an area to ask/submit questions.
- b. The department consists of six full-time employees.
- c. Grammarly, an assistive writing tool, is set to launch at Wadsworth High School.
- d. New staff badges, fitted with a microchip, have been issued. Badges allow access to copy machines and also serve as a way to unlock building doors, based on the access granted to an employee.
- e. Access control has been updated with new electronic reader installations.
- f. Additional security cameras have been purchased with grant money; installation will begin shortly.
- g. Network switches that were 10+ years old have been replaced.
- h. The district has moved to Lightspeed as our web filter. Lightspeed is an improvement over our previous web filter as it allows for faster connections to websites and better performance overall. Lightspeed also monitors student internet searches and alerts us of potential security concerns.
- i. The Media Communications classroom computers have been replaced with MACs with a Google-enabled log-in.

- j. Some of our core servers are being rebuilt to make them faster and more secure.
- k. Items set for future work include the installation of surveillance cameras in all elementary buildings, phone system upgrades, and the replacement of wireless access points.
- l. Chromebooks are provided to students beginning in 5th grade. Students keep their Chromebook until they reach 9th grade, when it is replaced. The replacement Chromebook issued in grade 9 remains with the student until they graduate. Used Chromebooks are sold.
- m. We hope to get seven years out of our desktop computers.

2. Review September 26 and October 9 Board of Education Meetings

a. September 26 Special Meeting

- i. The BOE members met on September 26 to review their 2022-2023 goals and set goals for the 2023-2024 school year
- ii. The board approved the FY 2024 permanent appropriations resolution.

b. October 9 Regular State Meeting

- i. Due to technical issues, the state report card presentation was moved to November.
- ii. Student fees were discussed.
 - 1. There have been few increases in the last 10 years.
 - 2. The idea of a fee cap for families is being discussed.
 - 3. The \$30 instructional fee that is collected is used to offset the purchase of paper.
 - 4. Course fees at the high school are used to cover the cost of consumables.
 - 5. Career-Tech class fees, which may be more expensive than other course fees, are many times used to purchase tools which students are able to keep.
 - 6. The district does have a L&J fund which is used to offset expenses for those families with a financial need.

iii. Adulterated drug test samples are being provided by students in some cases. This has led to an adoption of revised Policy 5512.01, *Random Alcohol, Drug and Nicotine Testing of Wadsworth City School District Students*, which will incentivize students to provide unadulterated samples.

1. Students who participate in extracurricular activities that are not tied to an academic grade or those who are issued a parking pass are subjected to drug tests. Students are tested at least once (advance notice given) and then are candidates for random/unannounced retests.

iv. A special Board of Education meeting was set for Friday, October 13, at 3:45 p.m. in the Charles R. Parsons Administration Building.

1. We will seek approval of three easement agreements with the City of Wadsworth which are necessary for the new intermediate school building.

2. Employment recommendations will also be made.

3. Around the Table

a. Grizzly Academy is going very well. We have a phenomenal, dedicated staff.

b. On October 16, the Chamber of Commerce will host a meet and greet at 7:00 p.m. for those people who are running for the Board of Education. There are three candidates who are running for two open positions (Linda Kramer and Jill Stevens).

4. Around the Table

5. Adjournment

a. The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.