



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Mead School District Board of Directors
Thursday, March 28, 2024

The Board of Directors held a Special Board Meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2024. The meeting began at 3:30 pm. This was a Zoom Meeting. Directors Cannon, Gray, Burchard, Nolan and Killman were present. Also attending was Superintendent Travis Hanson.

I. Approval of Agenda

There was no formal approval of the meeting agenda which included seven action items for board consideration - proposed amendments to five existing WSSDA positions and two proposed new WSSDA positions.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Item

No members of the community were in attendance at this Zoom Meeting and, therefore, there was no public comment on the proposed amendments to current WSSDA positions or the proposed new WSSDA positions.

**III. Proposed Amendment to WSSDA Existing Position
Local Board Control of All Instructional Materials**

Prior to taking action on this first amendment to WSSDA's current position on instructional materials, President Cannon noted, as was shared at the March 25th Work Session, that in order to meet WSSDA timelines for amending current positions and/or requesting new positions be taken, board action must take place prior to April 8, 2024. If the five position amendments and two new positions are approved, the Mead School Board will be communicating their support of these changes to the WSSDA General Assembly.

Following discussion, Director Nolan made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to WSSDA's existing position on *Local Board Control of All Instructional Materials*, as written/presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the existing WSSDA position, proposed amended position and rationale for the change is attached.

**IV. Proposed Amendment to WSSDA Existing Position
Local Control**

Following discussion, Director Nolan made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to WSSDA's existing position on *Local Control*, as written/presented. Director Killman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the existing WSSDA position, proposed amended position and rationale for the change is attached.

**V. Proposed Amendment to WSSDA Existing Position
Goals**

Following discussion, Director Gray made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to WSSDA's existing position on *Goals*, as written/presented. Director Nolan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the existing WSSDA position, proposed amended position and rationale for the change is attached.

**VI. Proposed Amendment to WSSDA Existing Position
WSSDA Equity Statement**

Following discussion, Director Killman made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to WSSDA's existing *Equity Statement*, as written/presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the existing WSSDA position, proposed amended position and rationale for the change is attached.

**VII. Proposed Amendment to WSSDA Existing Position
Diversity**

Following discussion, that included Director Killman's concern that the proposed amendment is oversimplified as there is more to diversity than simply thought and perspective, Director Nolan made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to WSSDA's existing position on *Diversity*, as written/presented. Director Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried with four voting in favor and one opposed. A copy of the existing WSSDA position, proposed amended position and rationale for the change is attached.

**VIII. Proposed New WSSDA Position
Local Control Legislation**

Following discussion, Director Nolan made a motion to approve the proposed new WSSDA position on *Local Control Legislation*, as written/presented. Director Killman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the proposed new position and rationale is attached.

**IX. Proposed New WSSDA Position
Unfunded Mandates**

Following discussion, Director Killman made a motion to approve the proposed new WSSDA position on *Unfunded Mandates*, as written/presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the proposed new position and rationale is attached.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

President

Secretary

III. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WSSDA EXISTING POSITION Local Board Control of All Instructional Materials

WSSDA Existing Position:

Local Board Adoption of Core Instructional Materials

WSSDA believes that policy providing for course design, selection and adoption of instructional materials is the responsibility of the local school board. Such policy shall provide for board adoption of core instructional materials. The policy will also provide opportunities for staff, parent, and citizen involvement in development and review of instructional materials and participation on district instructional materials committees.

Proposed Amended Position:

Local Board Control of All Instructional Materials

WSSDA believes that the responsibility for course design, selection and adoption of all instructional materials rests solely with the local school board. Local control will allow opportunities for staff, parent, student, and community involvement in development, review, and selection of instructional materials and participation on district instructional materials committees, while the board will adopt. Local control empowers community and parents, giving them greater influence and participation in the decision-making process, reflecting the values and needs of their respective district, and ensures each district the opportunity for experimentation, innovation, and a healthy competition for educational excellence.

Rationale:

Strengthened position from just adoption of instructional materials to local board control of all aspects of instructional materials with explanation. This will also help when WSSDA advocates for local control during the legislative sessions.

IV. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WSSDA EXISTING POSITION

Local Control

WSSDA Existing Position:

Local Control

WSSDA believes local control is essential to public education and therefore laws, regulations and policies should be written to support the public election of local school directors and boards.

Local control:

- Provides the best and most direct form of accountability to the community, resulting in more effective programs and the most efficient use of funds;
- Allows schools to reflect the values of local communities;
- Allows directors and staff to be sensitive to local student equity issues; and
- Allows school districts the flexibility to meet local demands and the evolving needs of students with local programs and solutions.

Proposed Amended Position:

Local Control:

WSSDA believes local control is essential to public education. Laws, regulations, and policies should be written to support, never to limit or impede the powers of locally elected school directors and boards.

Local control:

- Provides the best and most direct form of accountability to the community, resulting in more effective programs and the most efficient use of funds;
- Allows schools to reflect the values of local communities;
- Allows directors and staff to address local student equity issues; and
- Allows school districts the flexibility to meet local demands and the evolving needs of students with local programs and solutions

Rationale:

Strengthening our local control position.

V. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WSSDA EXISTING POSITION Goals

WSSDA Existing Position:

Goals

- WSSDA's organizational culture and structure continuously improves service to school directors and their districts.
- WSSDA's premier membership development cultivates and strengthens school director leadership skills and effective governance.
- WSSDA's advocacy fosters and promotes partnerships with other education leaders and stakeholders, and initiates or enhances legislation to advance education policy.
- WSSDA leads in policy development to promote safe, secure, and respectful learning environments for each and every student.
- WSSDA expands public awareness of local school district governance and public education. WSSDA provides concise, timely information, and meets the communication needs of its members.
- WSSDA promotes innovation to address new educational trends, advances, and the future needs of students and school districts.
- WSSDA leads in advocating, modeling, and promoting equity to address the educational needs of each and every student.

Proposed Amended Position:

Goals:

WSSDA's organizational culture and structure continuously improves service to school directors and their districts.

- WSSDA's premier membership development cultivates and strengthens school director leadership skills and effective governance.
- WSSDA's advocacy fosters and promotes partnerships with other education leaders and stakeholders, and initiates or enhances legislation to advance education policy.
- WSSDA advocates to preserve local control for its membership and opposes any and all legislation that infringes on local control or is an unfunded mandate.
- WSSDA expands public awareness of local school district governance and public education. WSSDA provides concise, timely information, and meets the communication needs of its members.
- WSSDA promotes innovation to address new educational trends, advances, and the future needs of students and school districts.
- WSSDA leads in advocating, modeling, and promoting equity to address the educational needs of each and every student.

Rationale:

Adding local control to WSSDA goals is essential to the future of public education.

VI. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WSSDA EXISTING POSITION
WSSDA Equity Statement

WSSDA Existing Position:

WSSDA Equity Statement

Equity is foundational to the work of WSSDA. Educational equity can only exist when a student's level of opportunity and achievement cannot be predicted based on race, characteristics, or circumstances. Therefore, we must identify and eliminate any discriminatory, practices, and prejudices within our State's public education system.

Proposed Amended Position:

WSSDA Equity Statement:

Equity is foundational to the work of WSSDA. Educational equality can only exist when a student's level of opportunity and achievement cannot be predicted based on personal circumstances.

Rationale:

The original position suggests we have discriminatory practices and prejudices in our education system, so we removed some language and replaced it with personal characteristics.

VII. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WSSDA EXISTING POSITION
Diversity

WSSDA Existing Position:
Diversity

WSSDA believes that diversity is an important and valuable part of the learning and work environments in our schools. To this end school directors should adopt and periodically review the board policies which promote and protect diversity through affirming the humanity of each person, and supporting the safety, dignity, access, belonging, and success of all present and future students, families, and staff.

Proposed Amended Position:
Diversity:

WSSDA believes that diversity of thought and perspectives is an important and valuable part of the learning and work environments in our schools.

Rationale:

Simplified position to cover all diversity of thought and removed unnecessary wording.

VIII. PROPOSED NEW WSSDA POSITION

Local Control Legislation

Proposed Position:

Local Control Legislation

WSSDA will actively oppose any legislation that reduces local school board control.

Rationale:

WSSDA continues to sign in and testify as OTHER to several bills that reduce local control due to other WSSDA positions. This position will prioritize local control over all other positions.

IX. PROPOSED NEW WSSDA POSITION
Unfunded Mandates

Proposed Position:

Unfunded Mandates

WSSDA will not support any legislation that creates an unfunded mandate.

Rationale:

Unfunded mandates create hardships on districts, so we need a position to oppose all legislation that creates an unfunded mandate.