

WWG School Board Meeting

December 18, 2023

Walnut Grove 7:00 PM

Members present: Madson, Kuehl, Knakmuhs, Warner, Hemp, Kleven, Foster, Hansen, Superintendent Woelber, Principal Woitalewicz, Principal Jenniges, AD Klumper, also present were Tom Merchant, Sam Malmberg. Absent – none

Madson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Motion made by Hemp and seconded by Warner to approve the November 20, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion Carried

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

Visitor reports –

Old Business –

Motion made by Kleven Kuehl for approval of Levy for pay 24 for the 2024-2025 school year. A 4% increase for the amount of \$1,069,881.28. Motion Carried

AD Klumper –

Junior High and Varsity basketball programs are off to a good start and having success. The boys have 19 kids out for basketball in grades 9-12. There are 17 boys out for basketball in grades 7-8. The girls have 20 out for basketball in grades 9-12, and 15 girls playing JH basketball in grades 6-12. We asked sixth grade girls to join JH basketball this year due to only three 7th grade girls participating. The 7th grade class is small. Future Chargers basketball programs for boys and girls are well attended and thanks to Coach Jenniges and Coach Klumper for all the extra time they put into these programs so that we can continue to have competitive teams in the future.

Football helmets have been sent off for reconditioning, which must be done every two years. We don't yet know the cost, but reconditioning has gone up since Covid and we have to recondition them, or the helmets are illegal. Needed to order some medium sized helmets.

A new high jump pit and standards were purchased for a total of \$7,265. We had budgeted for \$10,000, so we got a good deal on this pit and it's much safer for the high jumpers. The jersey rotation schedule says it's time for Track and Field to order new jerseys. We have 25 girls on varsity and 15 boys on varsity. Coach Klumper is looking to order top jerseys that say "Chargers" and stock shorts in solid black to keep the cost lower. Orders will be placed before Christmas. Last year we were short on varsity jerseys and short on JV jerseys and did a lot of mixing and matching to get everyone a jersey. We even used WSJ jerseys from way back. New jerseys are very much needed. Girls' jerseys: \$54 for the top and \$12 for

the shorts (limited shorts will be ordered as most girls will now purchase and wear their own spandex as done in volleyball. Boys' jerseys: \$36 for the top and \$12 for the shorts

Backboard pads in the gym must be replaced as they are cracked and falling off. Darren Peters has patched them together as much as he can and brought this to my attention. The new pads should last ten years, according to the Center Sports rep. Pads are \$650 each and we will replace all six by this summer. A new sound system was put in at the high school gymnasium. The sound system was purchased last year and is now working and sounds great!

The livestream is a great service we offer to our community. At times, things need to be adjusted and fixed on the computer, which is tough for me to take care of when I am coaching. We have Caleb Schmidt (new para) helping us with the technology and he ensures all runs smoothly. He will be paid per event at the end of the basketball season. We will use livestream advertisement money (\$50/night) to pay him to keep things running smoothly. Abby Klumper took care of fixing the livestream during the volleyball season while supervising. We want to continue to provide the livestream service to our community free of charge this year. We would also like to move our livestream viewers to HUDL TV which is linked on our school website and eventually quit broadcasting the games on Facebook.

Mr. Jenniges

Relatively quiet couple weeks at the elementary as far as activities are concerned

- December Charger Pals
- Teacher Swap Announcement
- K-3 Concert

December has been a busy time for annual IEP meetings. Wellness Policy Updated. Changes to transportation - we are working through them. K-1 bathroom sink issues, looking at replacement options.

Anonymous donation to purchase items for Christmas

- Helped with classroom gift exchange if needed
- Students who did not get on the Giving Tree list
- New game for each classroom
- Treat for all

Thursday, December 21

- Teacher Swap, Family Day, 5-6th Music performance

Many thanks to Connie Knott (classroom) and Mike Peterson (lessons) for helping us out in 4-6th music for the first few months of school

Principal Woitalewicz –

WBWF/A&I Plan submitted

• We have goals we did not meet in our plan, so need to include 20% of our 2025 A&I funding towards improving those goals.

**From Last Year - - -

- This past week has included some crazy weather.
- We've used 2 of our 5 e-learning days this week.
- Friday the 16th we decided to have our first official snow day (no in-person, no e-learning).

Brings about a discussion on this year's school calendar and our district plan for e-learning days vs. calendar snow days. Which do we use first, snow days on the calendar or e-learning days? What is our

plan?

- Right now, we have Friday, Jan 19 (teacher in-service), Monday, Feb 19 (President's Day), Thursday, March 28th (Easter Break), and Monday April 22nd (teacher in-service) as planned days off school.

Mid-terms came and went last Monday, December 12th.

- The Eligibility list was run last week and students in a sport who are failing a course will be required to sit their next game beginning on Monday, December 18th.
- 73 names on the list, 44 students - 4 of those students are in a sport or activity.

Honor Society Banquet Held

- 5 new inductees and 6 returning for a total of 11 student honorees.
- **From Mr. Merrick, Mrs. Bonnstetter, and Mr. Barron - Honor Society Advisors - This program has been reimagined in the last 16 months. Our goal is to move from an award to a chance for our future leaders to help shape our school and community. Moving from simply "looks good on a resume" to creating a society of servant leaders while still trying to be reasonable with expectations for students, advisors, and the budget.
- December 3rd new members were inducted in a Sunday ceremony that was attended by approx 40 adults as well as the students. A meal was provided as well as a keynote speaker. The induction lasted 75 minutes.
- Monthly meetings are held for students to create and execute projects to make their school/community better.
 - This year students have helped organize and run the school blood drive.
 - Cleaned brush and debris from ¼ of Good Sam building
 - Maintain a "what's new" bulletin board.
 - Are in discussion for a D.E.A.R afternoon for students who have completed minimum requirements in their classes
 - Are creating weekly uplifting quotes or challenges to be placed in the announcements.
- WWG is part of the State Program and gets access to workshops, scholarships (last year one of our students won one of only 4 given to all students in Minnesota regardless of school size!), and ideas.

Giving Tree Update from Mrs. Klumper

- The Giving Tree is in its fourth year of service at WWG. We have assisted families with gifts, both wants and needs, for families in need who reach out for help. Generally, that is between 25-30 WWG students each year. This year, we have 74 WWG students on our Giving Tree list and have raised over \$2,000 to provide students with warm clothing and gear for winter and things on their wish lists as well. This is due to the generous community we live in. Thank you to all who gave in one form or another.

Superintendent Woelber –

Transportation meeting needed to discuss bus rotation (meet on January 22nd at 6:00 pm). Decision needed for ordering new bus and whether or not to lease 2 additional buses.

Facilities (daycare door seals, stage cleanup)

Administrative / staffing updates

- Administration meeting over break to talk snow days, workshop agendas, staffing needs, facility updates.

Prek – 55 (3day 40 / 2day 15)

1st grade – 37

3rd grade – 36

Kindergarten – 36

2nd grade – 37

4th grade – 36

5th grade – 43
6th grade – 35

7th grade – 30
8th grade – 32
9th grade – 41

10th grade – 35
11th grade – 25
12th grade – 24

PreK – 6 enrollment total – 315

7th – 12th grade enrollment total – 187

Total – 502

Purchasing pork and hamburger from Lucan Locker and seeing how it goes and the cost over time.
Lease levy to assist in supporting city parks (discussion)

I would like to have the SW MN drug task force present to board and public at the January meeting in Westbrook.

Board Reports and recognition of donors/supporters

Motion made by Warner and seconded by Hemp to approve the Board reports and recognition of donors/supporters. Motion Carried.

- Cottonwood County (Paul Johnson) for donation of AED for FB.
- Giving Tree donors to date
- Mike Peterson for Music help (lessons)
- Kerry Knakmuhs for filling in for the School Board and his dedication to WWG school district.

New Business

Motion made by Kuehl and seconded by Foster for to approve the resolution establishing combined polling place for multiple precincts and designating hours during which the polling places will remain open for voting for school district elections not held the day of a statewide election. WALNUT GROVE COMMUNITY CENTER AND THE WESTBROOK COMMUNITY CENTER. Kuehl – aye, Foster – aye, Warner – aye, Kleven – aye, Hemp – aye, Knakmuhs – aye, Madson – aye. Motion Carried

Motion made by and seconded by to approve the following Staffing updates / approvals. Motion Carried

Motin made by Knakmuhs and seconded by Kleven to approve the moving of \$5,566.78 from the robotics account to the student council (\$2,066.78), 1 Nation Club (\$1,000), Band (\$1,500), Choir (\$500), and Earth Yes (\$500) account. Motion Carried

Motion made by Kuehl and seconded by Hemp to approve paying Lake Benton school \$250 per month January through May for the usage of the 10-passenger van. Motion Carried

Motion made by Hemp and seconded by Warner to declare surplus meat slicer in WG due to safety regulations. Motion Carried.

Next meeting is Monday **January 22, 2024** in Westbrook.

Adjourned 7:05

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Foster
Board Clerk