

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ~ DISTRICT 66

Board of Education Meeting Minutes ~ July 15, 2024

The Board of Education of School District 66 was convened in an open and public session on July 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at Westside High School, 8701 Pacific St., Omaha, Nebraska.

Board members present: Dana Blakely, President
Adam Yale, Vice President
Sarah Rider, Secretary
Beth Morrisette, Director

Board members absent (excused): Kris Karnes, Treasurer
Meagan Van Gelder, Treasurer-Elect

Notice of the meeting was given by placing advance notice on the front page of the District's website no less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled commencement of the meeting as authorized by Board Policy 1220. Notice for this meeting appeared beginning on June 11, 2024, and appeared continuously up through the start of this board meeting. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Record on July 12 and 15, 2024, and on their website. Copies of proof of publication are attached to the official minutes. Notice of this meeting and the availability of the agenda was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education and available to anyone at the Board of Education office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

District Staff in Attendance: Mike Lucas, Andrea Haynes, Mark Weichel, Kami Jessop, Molly Hurley, Laura Mann, Kelcy Tapp, Paul Lindgren, Amber Biegler, Karin Mussman.

Others in Attendance*: Diane Cahill, Chris Bilau. *Members of the public are not required to identify themselves to attend. Attendee names appearing in these minutes are those who signed a voluntary sign-in sheet.

Ms. Blakely called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. She welcomed those in attendance and confirmed with Ms. Hurley that public notice had been given of the meeting under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the meeting and on the district website, as required by law. She acknowledged that the meeting had been publicly announced and the agenda was available to any interested parties. Board Meeting attendance is noted above. Ms. Blakely noted excused absences for Ms. Karnes and Dr. Van Gelder and requested a motion for approval of these absences. Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Blakely requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Meeting held on June 10, 2024. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ms. Blakely requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the Board of Education Workshop held on July 9, 2024. Ms. Morrisette moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Board of Education Meeting

July 15, 2024

Page 2 of 4

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Yale presented the treasurer's report for June 2024 and moved for approval of expenditures in the amount of \$15,793,353; Ms. Morrissette seconded. Approval of expenditures was passed by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the June 2024 financial reports (financial statements, general fund disbursement summary and general fund check register) are included in the board documents folder.

Communications

No communications report; Ms. Power and her staff are attending the National School Public Relations Association Conference.

Westside Middle School Scott Scholars "Design Thinking" Summer Experience

Ms. Kim De La Cruz, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, welcomed three middle school students (Amisha, Harmony and Rex) who participated in the first Scott Scholars "Design Thinking" Summer Experience at UNO in June. This event - hosted and facilitated by the UNO Design Studio Staff and Scott Scholar interns - invited 40 students from Westside Middle School to learn the Stanford design school thinking process and gain exposure to the Scott Scholars program. Students spent the week immersed in collaborative activities with their peers that included an introduction to programming concepts and applying design-thinking to real world problems. Students participated in design-thinking challenges each morning and spent the afternoon working in groups (with Scott Scholars as their mentors) on a larger project that culminated with a presentation at the end of the week to UNO Design Studio staff and Westside administrators. A copy of Ms. De La Cruz's Executive Summary and slide presentation are included in the board documents folder.

Phase II: Approval of GMP for Hillside Elementary Project

Mr. Matt Herzog with Project Advocates requested approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment to the Construction Manager at Risk Contract with Boyd Jones Construction Co. for the Hillside Elementary School project. The proposed GMP value is \$22,554,868. Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and contract amendment are included in the board documents folder.

WHS Life Complex: Approval of GMP

Mr. Herzog requested approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment to the Construction Manager at Risk Contract with The Weitz Company for the Westside High School addition and renovation project (WHS Life Complex). The proposed GMP value is \$29,867,613. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Copies of the Executive Summary and contract amendment are included in the board documents folder.

Special Services Annual Update

Dr. Kami Jessop, Director of Special Services, presented an annual update on special education services including staffing, professional learning opportunities and new initiatives for the 2024-2025 school year. Dr. Jessop was pleased to report that all special education certified staff positions are filled for the upcoming school year.

Board of Education Meeting

July 15, 2024

Page 3 of 4

Tomorrow - July 16th - Dr. Jessop and her leadership team, along with HR, are hosting a hiring event for special education classified staff positions (Educational Assistants, CNA's and nurses). With nearly 40 applicants signed up, they are optimistic about filling a number of openings. For the 2024-2025 school year, Dr. Jessop shared that they have created an expanded Professional Learning series for Educational Assistants that will offer weekly training sessions. A "504 Plan refresher training" will be held for principals and administrators. Community partnerships continue to be an important element of the Special Education Department, as well as the "Parent Navigators" program that connects parents with each other and outside agencies that can offer support and guidance for families. Dr. Jessop reinforced the three "i's" of her department - Individualize; Innovate; Include - and prioritizing achievement for every student. A copy of Dr. Jessop's Executive Summary and infographic are included in the board documents folder.

Sale of District Equipment

Mr. Andy Wane requested approval to sell a piano that has been used for the Westside Middle School music program for many years. The Middle School has a new piano; the used piano is too large to be used in any of our elementary classrooms. Proceeds from the sale of the used piano will go into the General Reserve fund. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Executive Summary and contract amendment are included in the board documents folder.

Board Policies for Approval

Dr. Mark Weichel, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, presented revisions to five existing policies for board approval. Mr. Nick Lesiak, In-House Legal Counsel, previously presented these policies for board discussion and consideration at the Board of Education Meeting on June 10. These revisions are required by changes to laws (or new laws) enacted by the legislature during the most recent session.

Policy #1220 - Public Meetings: Agenda, Notifications, Weather Delays, Minutes (*Board of Education*)

Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Policy #1280 - Public Participation and Public Comment at Board Meetings (*Board of Education*)

Ms. Rider moved for approval; Ms. Morrisette seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Policy #2211 - Nondiscrimination (*Administration*)

Ms. Morrisette moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Policy #5160 - Student Attendance (*Students*)

Ms. Morrisette moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Policy #6155 - Reading Instruction and Intervention (*Instruction*)

Ms. Rider moved for approval; Mr. Yale seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Redline copies of each policy and the Executive Summary are included in the board documents folder.

Board of Education Meeting

July 15, 2024

Page 4 of 4

Board Policies for Review

Dr. Weichel presented two new policies and revisions to one existing policy for Board discussion and consideration. As with the previous policies, the two new policies and revisions to the existing policy are required due to changes to laws (or new laws) enacted by the legislature during their last session.

Policy #6175 - Projection Maps (*Instruction*) - New Policy

Policy #6205 - Malcolm X Day Education (*Instruction*) - New Policy

Policy #6210 - Citizenship - American History (*Instruction*) - Policy Revisions

These policy revisions will be presented again for approval at the Board of Education Meeting on August 5, 2024. Copies of each policy and the Executive Summary are included in the board documents folder.

Personnel Report

Dr. Haynes presented the personnel report (three certified staff probationary contracts) for board approval. Mr. Yale moved for approval; Ms. Rider seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of the Personnel Report is included in the board documents folder.

Board Member Representation / Legislative Updates / Announcements

Some board members were able to attend the WHS Summer School Graduation on June 27, 2024. Dr. Lucas and other area Superintendents will be attending a meeting with Gov. Pillen on Wednesday, July 17th regarding the Governor's request for a special session scheduled for July 25th.

July 17, 2024	Day 1: All Admin Jim Tangdall Leadership Retreat - MCC Fort Omaha Campus
July 18, 2024	Day 2: All Admin Jim Tangdall Leadership Retreat - WHS
July 25, 2024	New Teacher Luncheon - Westside Community Center - 11:15 a.m.
August 1, 2024	All Staff Back to School Event - Baxter Arena - 7:30 a.m.
August 5, 2024	Board of Education Meeting - <u>WHS Little Theater</u> - 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Ms. Blakely adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.



Sarah Rider, Secretary, Board of Education

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education Meeting for the Westside Community School District 66, Douglas County, in the State of Nebraska, to be held **Monday, July 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** at **Westside High School, 8701 Pacific St., Omaha, NE.** The agenda, continually kept current, is available at the District Office. The meeting is open to the public.

7/12, 7/15

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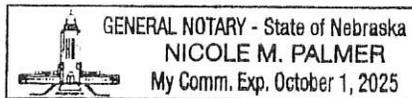
**THE DAILY RECORD
OF OMAHA
JASON W. HUFF, Publisher
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha } ss.

JASON W. HUFF and/or JOSIE CHARRON, being duly sworn, deposes and say that they are the PUBLISHER and/or MANAGING EDITOR of THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, a legal newspaper, printed and published daily in the English language, having a bona fide paid circulation in Douglas County in excess of 300 copies, and a general circulation in Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass and Dodge Counties, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, Nebraska for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice here-to attached was published in THE DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, for 2 consecutive weeks on:

7/12/24 7/15/24

That said Newspaper during that time was regularly published and in general circulation in the County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska.



Publisher's Fee \$26.18

Additional Copies \$ _____

Filing Fee \$ _____

Total \$26.18

Jason W. Huff

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this JULY 15 2024

Nicole M. Palmer

Notary Public in and for Douglas County, State of Nebraska

Board of Education Meeting
July 15, 2024

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that a Notice of Board Meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto, was placed on the home page of the website of Westside Community Schools (www.westside66.org) beginning on June 11, 2024, and that it appeared there continuously up through the time of the scheduled board meeting.

Kim Sedivy

Name

Communications : Graphics

Title

STATE OF NEBRASKA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

Before me, a Notary Public, qualified in and for said County and State, personally came Kim Sedivy, known to me to be the identical person, and signed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the execution of this document to his or her voluntary deed.

Chelsea Dubas

Notary Public

