

## WWG School Board Meeting

June 23, 2025

Walnut Grove 7:00 PM

Members present: Madson, Krick, Kuehl, Warner, Kleven, Foster, Superintendent Woelber, Principal Woitalewicz, also present were and Tom Merchant, Karly McClellen, Carter Ross and Jamie Kirsh.  
Absent: Hansen, AD Klumper, Mr. Jenniges

Madson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Krick to approve May 19, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion Carried

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

**Visitor reports** – None

**Old Business** – None

**AD Klumper – Congratulations** to Neil Kuehl who advanced to the Minnesota Golf State Tournament and placed 80th! He said it was a great experience and he's grateful to have advanced. Neil had nice weather the first day and rain most of the second day. Congratulations also to coaches Carter Ross and Leo Theisen. Thank you to the Walnut Grove Loggers and the WWG Sports Boosters for their generous donation to the Athletic Department in the purchase of a Dr. Dish shooting machine to be housed in the Walnut Grove gym for student athletes to use. We have a great community, and we appreciate the support they give our youth. Volleyball, girls basketball and boys basketball summer practices and team camps are in full swing. Thank you to the coaches for your dedication and time spent in the offseason to make our teams competitive during the regular season. Youth camps were well attended for volleyball and boys basketball and girls basketball. Coach Crosby is coaching two groups of boys who are in Charger Power this summer and Coach Klumper is coaching one group of girls involved in Charger Power. Trap shooting had their annual banquet and had a good turnout again this year. They use this opportunity to give out awards to their participants as well. Thanks to all who supported this event. Blackout Week (No Contact Week) begins on Monday, June 30th and ends on July 6th.

**Mr. Jenniges** - Final days of school were a success- Talent Show (20+ acts), Day at the Park, 6th grade final walk. Summer cleaning is off to a good start thanks to the summer crew for their early efforts! Landscaping project is moving along - thanks to Dan Warner for time and equipment to move rock, Butch Olson for equipment to remove plants and Mr. Woelber for operating, and Andy Foster for use of dump trailer to move rock. Summer lunch numbers increased from week 1 to week 2. Title Application completed and submitted (lower amount in Title II than past years). RTI assessments will once again happen in August (18-20th). Summer band lessons happening in June (Westbrook - Mondays / Walnut Grove - Tuesdays). Preschool PRe-registration is at 50+ students thus far (Preschool reporting for 24-25 completed. Integrity Bank Plus chose the school as one of three recipients of a Member Impact Fund

Grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank. Total grant is \$40,000. The Grant will be used for the following projects at the Walnut Grove building - Replace stage / wall mats in WG gym, resurface ballfields behind school/county park with a fresh coat of ag-lime, Landscaping and storage building project.

**Principal Woitalewicz** – Graduation 2025 went as planned - many thanks to Wendy Knakmuhs for planning graduation day - Successfully graduated 23 students. Ending the school year has 3 junior high students in summer school. Thanks to Mrs. Kleeberger for helping with summer school. YONDR Policy Update - School year went very well with YONDR pouches in place. Looking forward to continuing using them next year. A few minor changes for next year: I will not allow a student to tell us they will keep their cell phone at home unless a parent comes in to meet with me directly and signs our form in my presence. We had a few students abuse and took advantage of this last year. I will be requiring students with personal devices (laptops, Ipads, etc.) to register their device with Mrs. Locke and will provide a code of conduct for personal device use during school hours. If students do not abide by the code of conduct, they will not be allowed to bring a personal device to use in school. 2nd semester we saw more personal devices and students using these devices to text, get on Snapchat or other social media, and general misuse. Summer Projects - moved Hmong History Center out of “choir room” and into main library. Making space for the 70 choir students we will have next year. Repainting classrooms and hallways. Stripping flooring and removing all directional markers from hallway flooring. Complete remodel in bathrooms near band room. Loy moved in a storage shed for the daycare center. Working on playground and outdoor spaces for the center. Thanks to Rocky Kolar for installing trim in toddler room and bathroom. Thanks to Darren and crew for their hard work this summer. I’ve approved an idea from Mr. Merrick to create an “Adopt-a-flower-garden” program. He’s going to put information out to the general public asking people to “adopt” a flower bed or plant section around the high school. I think it’s a great plan to get help and support from local people while also promoting community pride in the way our school looks.

**Superintendent Woelber –**

- Transportation: Van shuffle and should be good next year but need a car. New bus is very nice. Still anticipate 6 bus routes, an ELC route and an ALC route.
- Food Service: summer lunch is going well
- Administrative updates –
- Child Care center updates to date (Next committee meeting in June). Finances to date look better. Waiting for a director candidate decision. We will have to have additional after school space for our preschoolers.

Enrollments (March)

Prek – 57	4 <sup>th</sup> grade – 28	8 <sup>th</sup> grade – 31
Kindergarten – 46	5 <sup>th</sup> grade – 41	9 <sup>th</sup> grade – 30
1 <sup>st</sup> grade – 21	6 <sup>th</sup> grade – 38	10 <sup>th</sup> grade – <b>30</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade – 40		11 <sup>th</sup> grade – 37
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade – 40	7 <sup>th</sup> grade – 32	12 <sup>th</sup> grade – 22

**PreK – 6 enrollment total – (254+57) = 311**

**7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment total – 182**

**Total – 493 (PreK -12)**

- Staffing:
- Legislation – We faired better than expected, but still tight and will get tighter.
- Fitness Center rates to raise, in July. Deciding on equipment needs.
  - A. Westbrook – 258 FOBS over the past few years, 95 Silver Sneakers FOBS, 32 Active Silver Sneakers, 29 active general folks.
  - B. Walnut Grove – 94 total FOBS over the past few years, 30 Silver Sneakers, 6 active Silver Sneakers, 5 active general folks.
- Discussions are slow with area churches about daycare and fitness center space.

**Board Reports and recognition of donors/supporters** Motion made by Kuehl and seconded Krick to approve the following: Motion Carried

- Huge dept of gratitude to Integrity Bank of Walnut Grove for their assistance in acquiring a \$40,000 donation for projects at the Walnut Grove School, including additional concrete by the playground, sealcoating the pavement on the playground, Agra lime on the ball diamond and additional work on the new storage shed behind the ball diamond in Walnut Grove.
- Butch Olson for the donation of skid loader work in WG.
- Dan Warner for time and equipment to move rock
- Mr. Woelber for operating
- Andy Foster for use of dump trailer to move rock
- Walnut Grove Loggers and the WWG Sports Boosters for their generous donation to the Athletic Department in the purchase of a Dr. Dish shooting machine
- Rocky Kolar for installing trim in toddler room and bathroom in the Daycare

### **New Business**

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Kuehl for the approval of preliminary 2025 - 2026 budget. Overall revenues \$9,610,230. and expenditures of \$9,949,404. (Attached) Motion Carried

Capital outlay updates (information)

- Westbrook
- Walnut Grove

Motion made by Foster and seconded by Krick for the approval of updated staffing notes. Motion Carried

- Resignation of Misty Moser
- Hiring of Brady Ross for 7/8<sup>th</sup> Football Coach

Motion made by Kleven and seconded by Foster to approve the Superintendent contract for the 2025-2026 School year. Motion Carried

Motion made by Warner and seconded by Krick for the approval of Support Staff pay rates for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion Carried

Motion made by Krick and seconded by Warner to approve the FY26 property tax increase of 5% to \$167,722. Motion Carried

Motion made by Krick and seconded by Warner to approve the renewing of our MREA and MSBA memberships for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion Carried.

Next meeting July 21, 2025, in Westbrook

Adjourned 7:53 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Foster  
Board Clerk