

WDS Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE: October 17, 2022

PLACE: VAC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Means, Chris Mahoney, Jim TenBrink, Rachel Mitteer, Shannon McGoran, Doug Ogden, Paula Martin

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry McDowell, Steve Aardema, Michelle Pulver, other staff and community members

President Ogden called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion TenBrink/Mitteer to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes (7) TenBrink, Mitteer, Means, Mahoney, McGoran, Martin, Ogden

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Public Comment

Autumn Thomas – high school classes

Christina Normandin – district facebook page

Melissa Brower – book chapter review

Julie Johnson – school board support

Consent Action Agenda

Motion Martin/McGoran to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes (7) Martin, McGoran, TenBrink, Means, Mahoney, Mitteer, Ogden

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Items Approved: minutes of meetings dated September 19, October 6 and October 7, disbursements for the month of September 2022: general fund \$754,587.91, community education \$427,856.24, food service \$44,849.36, technology MAISD \$54,760.80, activity account \$24,557.14, common debt \$0, capital projects–bond \$0, new hire recommendation – Hall, high school overnight trip

Committee Reports and any Discussions

Policy committee member Martin, gave a brief update on recent policy meeting.

Unfinished Business - None

First Reading Policy Updates

Board reviewed the policy updates. Will be reviewed and adopted at next board meeting.

Career Tech Center

Dr. McDowell shared the programs the Career Tech Center offers students: Allied Health 1 and 2, Auto Collision, Auto Service, Bio Tech, CAD, Construction Trades A & B, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Electrical/Computer, Enviro/Vet, Graphics Production, Health Science Academy, Hospitality, Network & Security, Engineering, Welding. CTC has a total enrollment of 847 students, 130 of those being Whitehall students (higher than any other district in Muskegon County). Our high school currently offers trades classes including: Intro to Engineering, Mechatronics, Construction Trades and Intro to Technology.

Monthly Financial Reports

Finance Director Aardema shared the monthly financials with the Board.

Superintendent Report

Dr. McDowell shared information on the 98c learning loss grant the district is applying for. The district will use the 98c funds provided to prevent learning loss at the secondary level. We will use the funds to implement evidence-based activities and to monitor student academic progress to identify students who need assistance. This could look like additional teaching support in the math classroom at the secondary level. This would include administering and using high quality assessments to identify students, monitor their progress, and implement evidence-based activities to support their growth. An academic focused counselor at the secondary level may be considered if it is determined this would be best practice to support struggling students.

Summarized as:

1. Administering and Using High Quality Assessments (NWEA, Math Assessment)
2. Implementing Evidence-Based Activities (small group, research-based intervention)
3. Monitor Student Academic Progress to Identify Students Who Need More Help (interim and progress monitoring assessments)

TenBrink asked if these funds will be available for all schools. McDowell/Aardema answered that \$25 million is available and will be dispersed to all schools.

McDowell explained how to read and understand the Whitehall School data that offered on the Munetrix financial and MiSchool data websites. WDS has had an excellent "O" rating on the Munetrix site over the last 7 years. This means the district is in excellent financial health. WDS out-performed the state in most ELA and math scores in 3rd thru 8th grades. WDS scored at or above the state average for both the PSAT and SAT scores.

TenBrink asked why we track the data if colleges are waiving the test scores for kids to get into colleges. McDowell answered that districts have to publish scores to receive federal funds.

TenBrink asked who creates the standards that teachers have to teach to. McDowell answered that the state creates content standards that teachers must follow

Means asked what is the percentage of students that take the SAT. McDowell answered that most all students take the SAT. A very small percentage may not, for example if a student has it written into their 504 plan.

Tenbrink – shared that the powder puff football game was fun and it was great to see kids out having fun.
Ogden – shared the glo show will take place at Montague next Monday, October 24.

Adjournment

Motion TenBrink/Mitteer to adjourn.

Ayes (7) TenBrink, Mitteer, Mahoney, Martin, Means, McGoran, Ogden

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Board Secretary or Designee