

**WEST PRAIRIE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #103
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEST PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL**

**May 25, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The West Prairie School District #103 Board of Education met on May 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in a regularly scheduled meeting, at West Prairie High School. Board members present were: Matt Zimmerman, Sherrie Weaver, Matt Mencil, Steve Kitch, Jennifer Cerven, and David Taulbee. Members absent: Scott Vogler. Vogler arrived at 7:09 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Board and audience stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Superintendent Gradert provided a wrap up of the 2020-2021 school year. The district was out for eight weeks on full remote, the rest was in-person learning. He thanked the staff for their grace and professionalism, the Board and the communities of West Prairie for the combined efforts to complete the year successfully. Superintendent Gradert reminded the board of the eighth grade promotion ceremony on May 28, 2021 and the high school graduation ceremony on May 29, 2021. He also announced that prom is still set for June 12, 2021

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Weaver moved and Kitch seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 29, 2021, the bills and activity accounts, the release of surplus items, the IESA membership dues, the board member professional development expenses for the Triple I Conference, and the Acceptance of a donation from Paul McDermitt for the purchase of book fair books for students. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Moore, Vogler, Weaver, Zimmerman, Butterfield, Mencil, and Geltmacher. Nays: None. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

AD Hall reported on the progress of the eight-man football program. Forty four students are interested in participating. The district will need helmets, shoulder pads and uniforms. The maintenance staff is getting ready for summer, but the middle school gym is still available through June.

Principal Hall thanked McDonough Telephone Cooperative for providing students with popcorn and snacks for the end of year movie day. Next year's enrollment is projected to increase from 116 students to 170 students with the inclusion of 5th and 6th grade.

Principal Edhlom also thanked McDonough Telephone Cooperative for their donations for end of year events. IAR student testing was successful. She highlighted the new Pre-K playground.

Principal Watson announced that there will be 25 students participating in the Summer Learning Program. The 8th graders will be at Friendway Park for their end of year celebration.

Principal Cox highlighted senior Maleigha Huston for winning the State Championship in the 800 meters and placing sixth in the 1600 meters. The West Prairie High School volleyball team was named the Hometown Heroes for the year and the BWP High School baseball team was the weekly winners of the award. Principal Cox announced that the blood drive was successful and that the building is getting ready for graduation.

Superintendent Gradert announced that the Illinois Principals Association Western Division awarded Principal Jennifer Edholm the Principal of the Year Award. The district is proud of her accomplishment.

Architect David Leggans provided an update on the building projects. The bid opening for the asbestos abatement is June 8, 2021 and the bid opening for the North Elementary classroom renovation is June 15, 2021. The initial designs for the middle school renovation will be presented in June with the bids for construction in August/September and construction starting in the fall.

APPROVE THE FINAL 2020-2021 PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR AS PRESENTED:

Mencel moved and Zimmerman seconded to approve the Final 2020-2021 Public School Calendar as presented. Those members on roll call voting "aye": Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE TO PLACE THE FY21 AMENDED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET ON DISPLAY AS PRESENTED:

Zimmerman moved and Taulbee seconded to place the FY21 Amended School District Budget on display as presented. Those members on roll call voting "aye": Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE TO MOVE THE JUNE BOARD MEETING TO JUNE 29, 2021 AS PRESENTED:

Mencel moved and Weaver seconded to move the June 22, 2021 board meeting to June 29, 2021 to accommodate the thirty day requirement for the amended budget. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE THE SET THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR JUNE 29, 2021 AS PRESENTED:

Zimmerman moved and Kitch seconded to set the public hearing on the amended budget for June 29, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at West Prairie High School as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE BID FOR NORTH ELEMENTARY SIDEWALK REPAIR AS PRESENTED:

Mencel moved and Weaver seconded to approve the bid from Tim Carnahan for the North Elementary sidewalk replacement repair not to exceed \$20,900 as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF A LAWN MOWER AS PRESENTED:

Zimmerman moved and Kitch seconded to approve the purchase of a zero-turn mower for \$12,362 as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH MACOMB CUSD 185 FOR COURSE OFFERINGS AS PRESENTED:

Weaver moved and Taulbee seconded to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Macomb CUSD 185 for course offerings as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Vogler moved and Mencel seconded to appoint Scott Vogler, Matt Zimmerman, and Steve Kitch for the Collective Bargaining Committee: President Vogler called for a voice vote. Those members voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

APPROVE TO SET SPECIAL BOE MEETING FOR SELF-EVALUATION WORKSHOP:

Zimmerman moved and Cerven seconded to set a special board meeting for self-evaluation with IASB for June 17, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., at West Prairie High School modular. President Vogler called for a voice vote. Those members voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried. *note, the meeting was rescheduled for June 10, 2021.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSFER/ABATEMENT OF WORKING CASH TO O&M AS PRESENTED:

Zimmerman moved and Kitch seconded to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Abatement/Transfer of Working Cash Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDING THE FY22 CALENDAR – EARLY RELEASE FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

The board discussed amending the FY22 Public School Calendar for the purposes of early release for professional development. Discussion only.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Taulbee moved and Weaver seconded to enter into executive session at 8:42 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1).

Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representative, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

Zimmerman moved and Weaver seconded to return to open session at 9:25 p.m. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT:

Mencel moved and Taulbee seconded to hire Nicole Schmidt as SE Pre-K teacher for the 2021-2022 school year pending all background checks and pre-employment requirements as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Weaver moved and Kitch seconded to hire Jennifer L Henry as HS Computer Literacy & Yearbook Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year pending all background checks and pre-employment requirements as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Zimmerman moved and Weaver seconded to hire Connor Sullivan as JH/HS English Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year pending all background checks and pre-employment requirements as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Kitch moved and Mencel seconded to hire Lyndsay Kelley as NE paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year pending all background checks and pre-employment requirements as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Weaver moved and Kitch seconded to hire Grant Bland as HS baseball coach for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

RESIGNATION:

Weaver moved and Zimmerman seconded to accept the resignation letter from Gracelyn Day as paraprofessional with thanks for her service as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

RETIREMENT:

Zimmerman moved and Kitch seconded to accept the letter of retirement from James Lozier with thanks for his many years of service to the students of West Prairie, effective May 31, 2021 as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Weaver moved and Mencel seconded to accept the letter of retirement from Annette Leckrone with thanks for her years of service to the students of West Prairie, effective June 30, 2021 as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencel, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Zimmerman moved and Mencil seconded to accept the letter of intent to retire from Maureen Nation with thanks for her many years of service to the students of West Prairie, effective at the end of the 2022 school year as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, and Cerven. Nays: Vogler, Kitch, and Taulbee. The motion carried.

RESCIND EMPLOYMENT:

Mencil moved and Kitch seconded to rescind the offer of employment to De’Laney Breen as WPSE 5th/6th Grade English/Language Arts Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Those members on roll call voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Weaver moved and Cerven seconded to adjourn at 9:43 p.m. President Vogler called for a voice vote. Those members voting “aye”: Vogler, Zimmerman, Weaver, Mencil, Kitch, Cerven, and Taulbee. Nays: none. The motion carried.

The next scheduled monthly meeting will be June 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at West Prairie High School.

**APPROVED BY RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEST PRAIRIE SCHOOL DISTRICT #103
McDonough, Hancock, Henderson Counties, Illinois on _____**

President

Secretary