

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108
Tuesday, January 28, 2020
Willow Springs School Library**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac(6:55), and Patrick

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President, Mary Ellen Weeg.

Acceptance of the Superintendent's Agenda

The superintendent recommends the approval of the Superintendent's Agenda.

Motion 20-065 by Ristić, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the superintendent's Agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić,, McSweeney, and Patrick

Public Comment

Lori Smuda, Principal; Teachers: Theresa Baricovich & Stephanie VanWagner; and Auditor Anna Wiszwoty from Baker Tilly

Community Member:

Dave Patterson, (206 E Ravine), addressed the Board regarding the building development work that is going in the Village. They are targeting every empty space with the intent to develop them to further share the tax burden reducing property taxes. The 1997 Master Plan for the Village is being updated. The TIF2 work has begun with the groundbreaking back in November. Work is being done to develop the property currently occupied by the Community Center and the Little League fields behind it. He also shared that he's obtained information from the township School Treasurer's Office. His intent is to reduce the number of school districts serving students who live in 60480.

Audit Report FY2019

Anna Wiszwoty, from Baker Tilly presented the FY2019 Audit Report. It was unremarkable again this year.

Financial Report

The auditor's report for the month of December was in the packets. The financials are right on track for both expenditures and revenues.

Bohac arrived.

Minutes

A copy of the December 17, 2019 regular meeting minutes were included in the packets.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for December 17, 2019.

Motion 20-066 by Ristić, seconded by Patrick as recommended by the superintendent that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for December 17, 2019.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, and Patrick

Abstain: Weeg and Bohac

Consent Agenda

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

Motion 20-067 by Weeg, seconded by McSweeney as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the consent agenda.

Consent #1

The superintendent recommends the approval of the payroll and the approval of the bills in the amount of \$251,418.43 (8A-1-2), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$533 (8B) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$59,651.84 (8C) for the month of January 2020.

Consent #2

The superintendent recommends the approval of the financial report for the month of December 2019. Fund balances: Educational: \$3,671,483; Operations & Maintenance: \$377,150; Debt Service: \$360,048; Transportation: \$475,323; IMRF: \$257,378; Capital Projects: 602,682; Working Cash: \$535,261; Tort: \$56,038; and Fire Prevention & Life Safety \$4

Consent #3

The superintendent recommends the acceptance of the FY2019 Annual Audit Report as prepared and reported by Baker Tilly.

Consent #4

The superintendent recommends the approval of the 2019-2020 Seniority List.

Consent #5

The superintendent recommends the approval of Micki Hayes 12 week FMLA request beginning January 9, 2020.

Consent #6

The superintendent recommends that as accurate minutes exist, the audio recording for the June 26, 2018 Closed Session be destroyed.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Notices and Communications

The superintendent presented the following news articles:

A-a. 1 journal articles related to National and Illinois Education issues at this time.

From the Illinois School Board Journal, an article talking about the importance of the 2020 Census – and working to get everyone counted. Federal dollars are based upon the Census Count. The superintendent is working with the Village to develop strategies to get everyone counted.

A-b. 1 newspaper and related articles related to Willow Springs School District 108.

From the DesPlaines Valley News, several of our students and families participated in the Willow Springs Police Department Shop with a Cop in December.

A-c. 0 Newspaper and related articles related to early childhood education.

Item 9B Legislative/SCOPE report: 1 Item.

The legislative session is just beginning and there have been no reports yet. The superintendent included a Capitol Watch Report concerning the Property Tax Relief Task Force Report and its inconclusiveness.

Item 9C State Board of Education Correspondence: 0 Items.

Item 9D Illinois Association of School Boards Correspondence: 0 Items.

Item 9E AERO Correspondence items: 0 Items.

Item 9F EBC Health Insurance Co-op Correspondence items: 0 Items.

Item 9G Village of Willow Springs Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 9H County Clerk Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 9I Intermediate Service Center Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 9J Township Treasurer Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 9K

Superintendent Correspondence Received: 0 items.

Superintendent Correspondence Sent: 0 items.

Item 9K-A Freedom of Information Act Requests and Notices 2 items.

1. A December 29th request from ABC7 News requesting discipline reports from 2017-2019 concerning alcohol, violence with injury, drugs, firearms, other weapons, other reasons and tobacco. The request was fulfilled on January 3 with reports redacted of student identification.
2. Dave Patterson requested enrollment data sorted by student zip code from FY15-18 on January 14. The request was fulfilled on January 17.

Special Education

Mickey Bohac reported:

Aides' salary schedules were approved. They are short 27 aides and 2-3 teachers.

Queen of Peace is moving along. Everyone wants bricks from the building. People went as far as stealing the construction bricks, thinking they were the Queen of Peace bricks.

An Architect was selected for the new building project. They have experience with both school and medical buildings so they know how to build the right types of spaces.

Local Legislators were invited to tour AERO Center to demonstrate the need for a new facility. Senator Bill Cunningham and the AERO superintendents extended the invitation. Seven attended as did Representative Mary Flowers who was very supportive.

Principal's Report

Principal Smuda reported:

Robert Crown presented the annual "puberty" information to the 5th graders. Robert Crown has changed the program a little to encompass an online component. We did have one student who opted out of the presentation.

Second quarter report cards were distributed. The middle school students' schedule really changed at the start of the third quarter. (Students switch Tech Lab with Art and Music.)

Winter MAP testing was just completed. The principal will be checking the data which measures each student's growth in math and reading. Typically, 50-60% of the students will make their growth goals from fall to winter. These percentages are also used in the teacher evaluation system.

Teachers and staff are preparing for Family Reading Night on February 6th. This year's theme is the Wild West! Students will be able to move from room to room while participating in reading activities. At the conclusion of the evening, there will be a raffle for the students.

State Testing: Students in 3rd - 8th will again take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, IAR, in March. This year we have 5 testing sessions with timeframes between 60-90 minutes each. The Illinois Science Assessment, ISA, will be given in mid-April. This test is a three session test for 5th and 8th graders.

Writing incentive: In mid-February, we will again honor our talented writers in grades 1st - 5th. Using a classroom writing assignment, the teachers pick the "best essay" and "most improved essay" from their classroom. The principal hangs their selections in the hallway for more recognition, too.

Teachers are reading the book "Wolf Called Wonder" to their class each day and the principal asked trivia questions during lunch.

We had a 61% growth in Reading and a 54% growth in Math which gave the teacher evaluation instrument a score of "Excellent".

The principal met with all the 8th grade students and talked to them about their PSAT Testing with regards to high school placement.

11A Class Size Information

Enrollment continues to fluctuate slightly.

Item 12A Graduation Date, 2020

Argo is set for graduation on Tuesday, May 19. Stagg's is set for Monday, May 18; currently the superintendent does not believe we have any 8th graders with senior siblings at Stagg. He is recommending Monday, May 18th at 7pm – with the Board meeting preceding the Ceremony.

The superintendent recommends that Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7pm be established as the 8th grade graduation ceremony.

Motion 20-068 by McSweeney, seconded by Bohac as recommended by the Superintendent the establishment of the 8th grade graduation ceremony to take place on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7pm.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Item 12B Board Secretary Payment

Every January, we pay the people who keep the minutes.

The superintendent recommends the payment to Valerie Wacker of \$900, Cindy McSweeney \$60 and Lauren McSweeney \$200 for taking and preparing Board minutes for 2019.

Motion 20-069 by Ristić, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the Superintendent the payment of \$900 to Valerie Wacker, \$60 to Cindy McSweeney and \$200 to Lauren McSweeney for the preparation of the Board minutes for 2019.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Item 12C Flooring Issues

Our legal team at Klein, Thorp, has reviewed our contract and the flooring inspection report. Carmen Forte, the lead attorney for construction related projects, thinks we have a good case, however, the statute of limitations may play into it. Though, we raised the idea well before that would have expired.

Their recommendation is that the superintendent is given the go ahead to have the attorney send a letter to the contractor we purchased the product from seeking remedy.

Item 12D Community Archer Project

The superintendent included the design that he obtained for the hotel and townhome project on Archer Avenue using the existing Community Center and Little League fields.

Item 13 Closed Session

Board needed to go into closed session to discuss probable litigation, personnel, discipline issues and school security measures.

Motion 20-070 by Weeg, seconded by McSweeney to go into Closed Session at 7:18 p.m. with the purpose of discussing probable litigation, personnel, discipline issues and school security measures.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Motion 20-071 by Weeg, seconded by Ciota Board returned to open session at 7:41 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Item 14 Final Actions

The superintendent recommends the approval of the closed session minutes from December 17, 2019 and to keep them closed to the public...

Motion 20-072 by Patrick, seconded by Bohac as recommended by the superintendent to approve the closed session minutes from December 17, 2019 closed session minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, Ristić, McSweeney, Bohac and Patrick

Abstain: Weeg and Bohac

The superintendent recommends approval of the Board's findings that the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of the following closed session minutes as presented.

Motion 20-073 by Weeg, seconded by Bohac as recommended by the superintendent to approve the Board's findings that the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of the following closed session minutes as presented.

Item 16 Adjournment

Motion 20-074: Adjournment at 7:45 pm

Motion made by Weeg, Seconded by Ristić

Hearing no objections so moved.



President



Secretary