

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108
Tuesday, December 20, 2016
Willow Springs School Library**

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President, David Kent.

Acceptance of the Superintendent's Agenda

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

Motion 17-51 by McSweeney, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the superintendent's Agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Audience Participation

Lori Smuda, Principal, Teachers: Nicole Jaronczyk, Jason Noble and Ann Musto.

Financial Report

Auditor's reports for October and November were in the packets. We continue to be right on target during both months. We continue to wait for the State to pay for the Mandated Categoricals, which have not been paid at all this fiscal year – transportation, special education... Due to scheduling conflicts, neither Nick nor Carl attended the meeting.

2016 Levy Adoption

As in last month, the superintendent included the letter from Nick Cavaliere at Baker Tilly outlining the strategy behind tax levies, and ours in particular. It is a pretty clear analysis of the current taxing situation and the rationale behind the levy.

The superintendent, along with Nick, are recommending an increase in the levy for 2016 of 4.9%. This rate would only be in place for any new properties. Existing properties are treated by the PTELL(property tax caps) and CPI (consumer price index) caps, so that will be a 0.7% increase (CPI, which is generally what we can expect. Once the ceilings and CPI and PTEL have all been applied it amounts to a real increase of \$25,931 (the most pessimistic scenario with an EAV drop and no new property). The teacher raises alone have typically been around \$60,000. The total 2016 levy will be for \$3,918,320. This levy strategy also maximizes the amount of the levy by anticipating a transfer from the Transportation Fund.

As we will be levying less than a 5% increase, we are not required to hold a special meeting or hearing to adopt the levy. It will be part of the regular meeting.

The superintendent recommends the adoption of the resolution and ordinance levying and assessing taxes of taxes of the Willow Springs School District 108 for 2016 with a 4.9% increase as presented.

Motion 17-52 by McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent that we adopt the resolution and ordinance levying and assessing taxes of the Willow Springs School District 108 for 2016 with a 4.9% increase as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, and L McSweeney

Nays: Ciota

Minutes

A copy of the November 21, 2016 regular meeting minutes were included in the packets.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for November 21, 2016.

Motion 17-53 by L McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on November 21, 2016.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Ciota and L McSweeney

Abstain: Weeg and McSweeney

Consent Agenda

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

Motion 17-54 by Weeg, seconded by L 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 \$202,381.27 (7A-1-2), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$708.00 (7B) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$58,106.38(7C) for the month of December 2016.

Consent #2

The superintendent recommends the approval of the report of the auditor for the months of October 2016 and November 2016.

Consent #3

The superintendent recommends that as accurate minutes exist that the closed session audio recording from May 18, 2015 be destroyed.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Notices and Communications

The superintendent presented the following news articles:

A-a. 0 journal articles related to National and Illinois Education Issues at this time.

A-b. 1 Newspaper and related articles related to Willow Springs School.

A brief article from the Des Plaines Valley News about the upcoming school board elections in April.

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

Item 8B Legislative/SCOPE report: 2 Items.

There are 2 Alliance Legislative Reports that reported on the Fall Veto Session. The most notable item reported is the lack of a State budget. The good news is that the Education budget that passed in July was a 12 month budget. The rest of the State will run on empty again.

Item 8C State Board of Education Correspondence: 0 Items.

Item 8D Illinois Association of School Boards Correspondence: 0 Items.

Item 8E AERO Correspondence items: 0 Item.

Item 8F EBC Health Insurance Co-op Correspondence items: 0 Items.

Item 8G Village of Willow Springs Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 8H County Clerk Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 8I Intermediate Service Center Correspondence: 0 items.

Item 8J Township Treasurer Correspondence: 1 item.

A formal request to the Township Treasurer for their auditors to release confirmed balances to districts so that district audits and reporting can be submitted by the December 15, 2016 deadline. That deadline will not be met.

Item 8K

Superintendent Correspondence Received: 0 items.

Superintendent Correspondence Sent: 1 item.

1. The letter sent home to kindergarten parents regarding the upcoming 3rd section of kindergarten.

Item 8K-A Freedom of Information Act Requests and Notices 1 item

A request from the Illinois Retired Teachers Association for names of anticipated retirements in June. We had none to report.

Special Education

Our letter thanking Mary Meehan, Principal of PRIDE, was read and she was there to accept our thanks for help with our student. She also is retiring in June 2021.

AERO had a crises drill/active shooter drill and are looking to purchase “Clear Armor” Bullet Proof Film for windows for the AERO Center. Board discussed pros and cons then tabled the discussion. One question they had was the liability for all buildings that house AERO students.

AERO strategic plan update – Board Members discussed the ongoing work of TRIA (AERO Architects). Staff surveys have been compiled along with tours of PRIDE school and AERO Educational Center. TRIA and members of the AERO Administration have also toured the “Laramont Center” in Gages Lake, IL. The Laramont Center was designed and built specifically for students with significant disabilities. The next steps include conducting small focus groups with each AERO program.

Trinity announced they love Polish School and they had a Christmas program last week.

Audience Participation

Principal’s Report

Principal Smuda reported:

At the last School Improvement Day, we compared Eureka Math information. Good news! This year, the curriculum is running about 4-6 weeks ahead of last year’s schedule. Students are about 20 lessons ahead! Teachers are reporting that students have mastered more material and are ready to challenge themselves to harder concepts.

The PFC has been hard at work! They hosted the Holiday Fair last week, cooked for Hot Dog Day on the 9th, and will be financially supporting the assembly on the 23rd! Thank you!

The P.E. Department will be starting the roller skating unit in January. Students can either roller skate or roller blade. Emily Moses, the new PE teacher, is really looking forward to the unit!

The RTI program has started the Aimsweb program. We have used the program in the past, but now it is computerized! Students are using the iPads to monitor their progress. We are hoping the results can be used to help the program.

The Holiday Party was a hit! There were friendly conversations, pleasant camaraderie, fun games of Cling Wrap Ball and Heads Up, and much Christmas Cheer! The staff loved the appetizers, too! Thank You! (coincidentally the chef was a former student!)

Item 11A Class Size Information

Enrollment remains fairly steady, but still many ins and outs. We don't know what to anticipate over winter break.

Item 12A Kindergarten 3rd Section Update

The kindergarten parents have been very pleased with the Board's decision to split kindergarten. We're recommending the teacher listed in section 12B of the packet. Preparation for moving classrooms is well underway. Desiree and Alicia are gathering the materials needed by our new teacher. Lori has phoned all the parents of students who will be placed in the new classroom. All is set for a smooth transition on January 9.

Item 12B Personnel: Hiring of New Employee

The Principal and the superintendent are please to recommend Ms. Laura Nebor as the new kindergarten teacher. The recommendation for her hire is in the packet. We are excited to have her.

The superintendent recommends hiring Laura Nebor as a kindergarten teacher for the 2016-2017 school year at a salary of \$19,327.49 +TRS(Lane A, Step 1 prorated to 91 days).

Motion 17-55 by McSweeney, seconded by Ristić as recommended by the superintendent we hire Laura Nebor as a kindergarten teacher for the 2016-2017 school year at a salary of \$19,327.49 +TRS(Lane A, Step 1 prorated to 91 days).

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Abstain:

Item 12C Epinephrine Supply

Following up from October's meeting, the superintendent included policy and recommended procedure pages regarding maintaining a supply of EpiPens here at school for unspecified use.

The recommended policy/procedure stipulates that parents must give consent in advance for an EpiPen to be used. A list will need to be maintained. It requires training in administration and that is be refreshed regularly. It also stipulates that the pens be stored in a locked location.

Item 12D Board Meeting Calendar Adoption

The dates for the 2017 and 2018 Board meetings are in the packet. For 2018, the superintendent followed the same logic as has been practiced.

The superintendent recommends the adoption of the 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar.

Motion 17-56 by Kent, seconded by McSweeney as recommended by the superintendent that we adopt the recommended 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Ristić, Weeg, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Item 13 Calendar Information

Item 15 Final Actions

The superintendent recommends the approval of the October 25, 2016 closed session minutes.

Item 16 Adjournment

Motion 17-57: Adjournment

Motion made by Weeg, Seconded by Ciota

Hearing no objections so moved.



President



Secretary