

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108
Monday, September 27, 2016
Willow Springs School Library**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Council.

Acceptance of the Superintendent's Agenda

Motion 17-18 by Weeg, seconded by Estrada as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the superintendent's Agenda.

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

Audience Participation

Lori Smuda, Principal, Teachers: Erin Kelly, Gina Nelson, Terri Baricovich, Margaret Schomburg & Leyla Sosur, Carl Thomas from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause along with Student Council Members Emma Szponder with mom Edyta Modia & Jordan Wendt with mom Kolette Wendt.

Introduction of the Student Council Officers / New Staff

The superintendent invited the new Student Council executive board to the meeting to meet the Board and to review their plans for the coming school year. There are also classroom representatives. They presented items they would like to achieve this year such as "Coins for Cancer"; Students Dances & Spirt Days just to name a few. The faculty advisors are Shannon McEntee & Leyla Sosur.

The superintendent also introduces our Title I reading teacher, Erin Kelly and our new second grade teacher, Gina Nelson.

Item 6A Budget Hearing

By law, we are required to hold a Budget Hearing. The purpose of the Budget Hearing is to receive any public testimony in regards to the FY17 Budget.

Carl opened the hearing on the FY2017 budget. The tentative budget was presented to the Board last month and is nearly the same. There are some minor changes that were presented. Recalling from last month, the budget does balance the Ed. Fund by transferring money from the Transportation Fund and the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The transfer is also good to move money to the fund where it is needed the most, as has been discussed at multiple meetings. This is what we've been doing the past several years. The actual transfer will take place at the end of the fiscal year.

The official budget was in the packet. Reviewed it with the Board and then answered any questions from the Board and audience.

The budget we have been operating under thus far has been a tentative budget and was accepted last month. It has been on display for the past 30 days, and no one has come into the office to review it.

The superintendent recommends opening the Budget Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Motion 17-19 by Estrada, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent we open the Budget Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

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

The superintendent recommends closing the Budget Hearing at 7:18 p.m.

Motion 17-20 by L McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent we close the Budget Hearing at 7:18 p.m.

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

The superintendent recommends the adoption of the FY2017 budget as presented.

Motion 17-21 by McSweeney, seconded by Estrada as recommended by the superintendent we Adopt the budget for FY 2017 as presented.

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

Financial Report

The Auditor's report for the month of August was in the packet. Carl Thomas was at the meeting to answer questions.

Minutes

A copy of the August 15, 2016 regular meeting minutes were included in your packet.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for August 15, 2016.

Motion 17-22 by Ciota, seconded by L. McSweeney as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on August 15, 2016.

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

Abstain: Weeg, Estrada,

Consent Agenda

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

Motion 17-23 by Kent, 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 \$313,589.81 (8A-1-2), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$618.91 (8B) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$54,866.21(8C) for the month of September 2016.

Consent #2

The superintendent recommends the approval of the financial report of the auditor for the month of August 2016. Fund balances: Educational: \$4,427,294; Operations & Maintenance: \$630,114; Debt Service: \$808,965; Transportation: \$469,684; IMRF: \$264,900; Capital Projects: \$24,040; Working Cash: \$474,789; Tort: \$711,971; and Fire Prevention & Life Safety \$474.

Consent #3

The superintendent recommends the approval of the report of the auditor for the month of August 2016.

Consent #4

The superintendent recommends the approval of the Recognition of Schools application as presented.

Consent #5

The superintendent recommends accepting the review of the Salary Compensation Report for FY16.

Consent #6

The superintendent recommends that as accurate minutes exist, that the closed session audio recordings from the February 24, 2015 and the March 24, 2015 Closed Session be destroyed.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Weeg, Estrada, 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.

1. Our legal listings in the Des Plaines Valley News for the Budget Hearing and for the Interfund Transfer Hearing

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

Item 9B Legislative/SCOPE report: 1 Item.

The lone report that discusses vetoed laws and bills signed into law. The legislature has been out of session since the end of June. It will reconvene after the November election.

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

Item 9D Illinois Association of School Boards Correspondence: 2 Items.

1. A portion of the flyer for the October 26 Regional meeting in Hickory Hills. If you'd like to attend, let the superintendent know.
2. A copy of the IASB Conference in November. Please let the superintendent know if you'd like to attend. There is also a Friday preconference session on collective bargaining which may be of note as we will need to engage in that in the Spring with the Union.

Item 9E AERO Correspondence items: 0 Item.

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: 4 items.

1. A letter of thanks sent to Bob and Barb Swanson for endowing the Soozy Q Helping Hands Fund...
2. The letter sent to 2nd grade parents announcing the appointment of Gina Nelson as the new second grade teacher and inviting them to meet her.
3. The letter sent to parents in the Willow Weekly about our water being free from lead.
4. One version of the letter sent to Student Council board members congratulating them and inviting them to this evening's meeting.

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

1. Jared Rutecki of the Better Government Association sent a request for multiple items. The request was complied with on 9/14.

Item 11 Special Education

Cindy McSweeney reported:

AERO Transition Program

Cook County Workforce Partnership Grant of \$172,310 is federally funded through the US Department of Community & Economic Opportunity. They along with other monies cover \$400,000 out of the \$500,000 budget. With the Work Force Act now each student has to have 2 work experiences. This could be in school or in the community.

AERO's opening day focused on "Making a Difference". Celebrating how AERO staff make a difference in lives of students with disabilities & their families. Staff includes instructional staff, behind the scenes staff & Board members.

Strategic planning re: AERO facility

Hired an architect, approved creation of a Special Executive Board Finance & Facility Committee, contacted a realtor to use, will send a survey to staff as to what their needs are & some field trips to other facilities. They will have something to present by the end of the school year.

With withdrawal of 123 there has been talk that Special Ed Coops are dismantling. Right now there are 61 Coops with 763 districts, 90 districts do not belong to a Coop.

Audience Participation

Principal's Report

Principal Smuda reported:

MAP testing was completed for all students during the first few weeks of school. Teachers have been analyzing data and creating flexible groupings to meet the needs of the students.

Gina Nelson had Curriculum Night on September 14th. All but four families attended! Gina made the transition smooth and the students have kept up with the 2nd grade curriculum.

Preschool screenings were held on the 13th and 15th. Approximately 10 students were tested.

Outdoor Education for the 5th graders was, again, a huge success! The students rappelled in trees, went canoeing, participated in archery, and learned about nature. No students went home this year!

Speaking of nature, the Mighty Acorns program kicks off in October for the 3rd – 5th graders. Students will attend during the three seasons of fall, winter and spring. We had staff development training with Julie Vandervort, director of the Little Red Schoolhouse, and improved the activities to match the new science standards.

The Canal Rendezvous expanded its student education program this year. The principal was told that there were about 1,000 students there on Friday! Our 4th and 5th graders attended and received many compliments about the inquisitive questions they asked and their overall great behavior.

Second Step students are being recognized again this year for displaying new skills from the social-emotional learning curriculum. Students' names are announced on Wednesdays and their names hung in the student lunchroom.

Item 12A Class Size Information

The enrollment report was included in the packet.

Item 13A Building Issues

As previously reported, in talking with the contractors, we could minimize disruption to the program by doing the bulk of the repair work over Winter Break. The 20% of the flooring that needs to be replaced will be done then, and should not interrupt the use of the gym. We're on all of the contractors' calendars to start on 12/23. The court lines were painted at the end of August while the kids could go outside. All in all, the gym floor is much safer to play on for our students.

Item 13B Policy Updates, first reading

In looking at the packet, it would appear that there are several updates. Actually, nearly all of it are changes in exhibits, procedures or footnotes. There is really nothing to talk about here.

The superintendent accidentally left out changes to 6:130 in the last set of updates. This policy talks about developing gifted education programs should the State provide grants for it. The State doesn't provide grants for this, but the superintendent thought it would be best to keep the policy up to date just in case it ever happens again.

Item 13C Concussions in Student Athletes

Mentioned in previous meetings, there are many new laws that govern what we do when we suspect that a student athlete has sustained a concussion. The coaching staff needs to determine if the student should see a doctor or continue to play. That's a great deal of responsibility for someone that's not a medical professional. High schools utilize athletic trainers in this role.

To help our coaching staff out, we've purchased the King-Devick Test. This test was developed in association with the Mayo Clinic. It really helps take the guesswork out for our coaches. The superintendent explained more about it at the meeting.

Item 13D Copier Lease

We lease our large copiers from Imagetec, and while our lease still has a year left on it, the equipment is aging and has required more service visits than we've experienced in the past. With the lease and service agreements, we are currently paying an estimated \$17,561.84 per year (estimated because of copy overage costs).

In talking with Imagetec, they are willing to release us from our current lease to upgrade our equipment with them. The new lease/service agreements would cost us an estimated \$14,654.80 per year. A substantial savings – and for better copiers. It seems like a win/win for us. The Board elected to hold off on a motion for these copiers pending looking into estimates from other companies.

Item 14 Calendar Information

Item 16 Closed Session

The superintendent needs to go into closed session for personnel issues.

Motion 17-24 by Ciota, seconded by Weeg to go into Closed Session at 8:02 p.m. with the purpose of discussing personnel items.

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

Motion 17-25 Board returned to open session at 8:50 p.m.

Members present Kent, Weeg, Estrada, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney

Item 17 Final Actions

The superintendent recommends accepting the resignation of Megan Omiecinski.

Motion 17-26 by Estrada, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent we accept the resignation of Megan Omiecinski.

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

Abstain:

The superintendent recommends the employment of Gina Scaletta-Nelson as the second grade teacher for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year at Step 3, Lane D, prorated to 161 days, \$41,406.

Motion 17-27 by Ciota, seconded by L McSweeney as recommended by the superintendent that we hire Gina Scaletta-Nelson as the second grade teacher for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year at Step 3, Lane D, prorated to 161 days, \$41,406.

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

Abstain:

The superintendent recommends the approval of Amanda Lascola's FMLA request from October 24, 2016 through February 3, 2017, and the granting of unpaid leave from February 3, 2017 through March 20, 2017.

Motion 17-28 by L McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent that we approve Amanda Lascola's FMLA request from October 24, 2016 through February 3, 2017, and the granting of unpaid leave from February 3, 2017 through March 20, 2017.

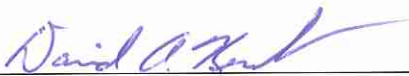
**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Kent, Weeg, Estrada, McSweeney, Ciota and L McSweeney
Abstain:**

Item 17 Adjournment

Motion 17-29: Adjournment

Motion made by Weeg, Seconded by McSweeney

Hearing no objections so moved.



President



Secretary