

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education  
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108  
Tuesday, March 22, 2016  
Willow Springs School Library**

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:33 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 Kent.

**Acceptance of the Superintendent's Agenda**

**Motion 15-198 by Ciota, seconded by Ristić 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: Sharon Conrad & Adam Lee  
Nick Cavaliere from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause.

**Financial Report**

The Auditor's report for the month of February was separate in the packets. Nick Cavaliere was here to answer questions.

**Minutes**

The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes as amended from the Regular Board Meeting for February 23, 2016.

**Motion 15-199 by Kent, seconded by Ristić as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the minutes as amended from the Regular Board Meeting on January 26, 2016.**

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

**Consent Agenda**

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

**Motion 15-200 by L McSweeney, seconded by Weeg 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 \$225,567.94 (7A-1-2), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$417.10 (7B) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$62,746.76 (7C) for the month of March 2016.**

**Consent #2**

The superintendent recommends the approval of the financial report of the auditor for the month of February 2016. Fund balances: Educational: \$3,857,572; Operations & Maintenance: \$605,715; Debt Service: \$423,261; Transportation: \$170,739; IMRF: \$199,626; Capital Projects: \$81,831; Working Cash: \$454,122; Tort: \$485,046; and Fire Prevention & Life Safety \$471.

**Consent # 3**

The superintendent recommends the approval of leave for Michael Patzelt for the 2016-2017 school year.

**Consent #4**

The superintendent recommends the acceptance of the retirement resignation from Linda Svejcar with gratitude for her service to the students of the District.

**Consent #5**

The superintendent recommends the acceptance of Mary Federlick's intent to retire at the end of the 2016-17 school year with gratitude for her years of service to the students and families of Willow Springs School.

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

**Notices and Communications**

The superintendent presented the following news articles:

- A-a. 3 journal articles related to National and Illinois Education Issues at this time.
  - 1. From the IASB Journal, an article discussing the teacher shortage and the enrollment decline in schools of education.
  - 2. A second article from the IASB journal, this one focusing on IASB's response to the Governor's Education Task Force – most notably, no forced consolidation.
  - 3. From the Des Plaines Valley News, a piece about Pleasantdale's new teacher contract, with generous increases.
  
- A-b. 0 Newspaper and articles related to Willow Springs School.
  
- A-c. 1 Newspaper and related article related to early childhood education.
  - 1. From the IASB Journal, a good introduction to the importance of preschool education across for all, especially low-income and at-risk students

**Item 8B Legislative/SCOPE report: 2 Items.**

- 1. Included is 1 Alliance Legislative Report. It contains only Senate actions as the House has been recessed.
  
- 2. Also, the invitation to the SCOPE Spring dinner was in the packet.

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

**Item 8D Illinois Association of School Boards Correspondence: 1 Item.**

1. An invitation to the Spring Dinner, "The Future of Illinois and State Funding" on April 14, 2016

**Item 8E AERO Correspondence items: 0 Items.**

**Item 8F EBC Health Insurance Co-op Correspondence items: 1 Item.**

The rates for FY17 are in. The average increase across the Cooperative was 5.5%. Because of the banding formula, based upon claims, our PPO increase is 6.5% and our HMO 4.7%. The Dental HMO is going up 6.1%. The Dental PPO and Vision insurance (the employee bears the complete cost of the vision insurance) are still being negotiated.

On a side note, the superintendent was formally elected to the EBC Executive Committee on 3/16 after being appointed nearly 2 years ago. He is also the chairperson of the Trend Committee which focuses on wellness initiatives as a way to keep premium costs down.

**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: 0 items.**

**Item 8K**

Superintendent Correspondence Received: 0 item.

Superintendent Correspondence Sent: 0 items.

**Item 8K-A Freedom of Information Act Requests and Notices 0 item**

**Item 9 Special Education**

Cindy reported the following:

They received an Educational Grant Award.

ESY work summer program – 35-40 high school students, including EALP will work 4 days a week for 5 weeks Monday – Thursday. 4 hours vs 1-2 while in school. They will be paid \$4 an hour. Working at Christ, Midway Hotel Center, St XAU in food service, Maintenance, IT, clerical, grounds keeping, laundry & housekeeping. They will work alongside regular employees with AERO job coach on site. The students will be given a grade, receive credit and a paycheck.

Besides teaching life skills i.e.: handle money, purchase things with behavior bucks, create menus, cook and serve, they want to teach community based skills so they know how to get around in the community. Such as golfed at the Pavilions, taking yoga and/or Zumba at the Community Center so students can move toward more independent living.

Dr. Gunnell intends to retire June 2021.

Preliminary 2016-2017 budget – 2%.

Mr. Bof Mallo from E.P. Schools Federal Credit Union presented this year's Educational Grant Award of \$1,000.00 to Cindy Fremback, Special Ed Teacher with AERO Functional and academic Learning Program at Reavis, Greenhouse Project.

**Project Objective:** To allow students with disabilities, ages 17-21, who are interested in acquiring botanical knowledge and skills, the opportunity to do so in a novel environment. Teach students' general understanding of all aspects of horticulture, vocational and leisure skills. Additionally, the project may foster fundraising activities (i.e., marketing product), which would enhance the program by ensuring financial stability to keep the greenhouse project afloat for longer than 1 year.

**Project Description:** Students were recently given the opportunity to use the greenhouse at their high school. They are responsible for maintaining the greenhouse, preparing it for plantings, all plant care maintenance and marketing their product. Students will plant herbs, flowers, and vegetables.

How will the grant money be spent? The monies will be spent in the following way:

- \$300 – Wheelchair ramp for the threshold of the greenhouse. This will make it accessible for all participants.
  - \$150 – Potting soil 10 bags
  - \$ 50 – Plant fertilizer 4 containers
  - \$200 – Vegetable plants/seeds
  - \$200 – Flower plants/seeds
  - \$100 – Gardening materials (i.e., gardening gloves, aprons, shovels, aprons, watering cans, etc).
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\$1,000.00 Total

### **Principal's Report**

Principal Smuda reported:

Junior High students participated in Snowflake on March 14<sup>th</sup>. A speaker from the Attorney General's Office spoke about cyberbullying in today's fast –moving technology. She related well to the students and offered many scenarios on how to protect their privacy.

Staff were trained on the PARCC testing procedures using the computer. This year, we will only be using Chromebooks for testing. The Pearson software is very challenging to use; we hope that logging into the testing site will move faster this year.

The third quarter ended on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Report cards will go home on Monday following spring break. Honor roll assemblies are planned for April 8<sup>th</sup>. Again, my objective will be to celebrate success with some fun!

Two Kindle Fires were raffled off through the library program. If students fill out a heart report after they read a book, they get a chance in the drawing.

Delta Dental performed an assembly for the K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students last week. The students learned about dental hygiene in a fun way!

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team won one match in the Saturday tournament. Also, they competed against the staff in the traditional game, and of course, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders won again! Photos of the event were posted on Facebook.

Amy Logan, author of “The Girl with a Cape” book series, visited school today.

Carina has been working tirelessly in preparation for the state compliance visit to investigate the lunch program and our procedures.

### **Class Size Information**

Enrollment remains steady.

### **Item 12A Summer Projects 2016**

The bid notices are published. The PreBid meeting is March 31<sup>st</sup>, and the Bid Opening is April 14<sup>th</sup>. We’ll be set with a recommendation at the April Board meeting.

### **Item 12B Goals 2016 Adoption**

At the January Special meeting, the Board discussed wishes and priorities for the coming year. In February, the Board refined the field. This month, the superintendent put it together and they’re ready to be adopted.

The superintendent recommends the adoption of the 2016 District Goals as documented.

**Motion 15-201 by McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent the we adopt the 2016 District Goals as documented.**

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

### **Item 12C Policy Updates, First Reading**

From last month: Time for another update! The summary sheets are in the packet. There’s a lot to read there. There are quite a few changes. Some of them language clean-up (teacher certification to teacher license). Some of them are more extensive: suicide prevention and No Child Left Behind clean-up.

The superintendent recommends the adoption of policies: 2:100, 2:150, 2:200, 4:170, 5:90, 5:100, 6:15, 6:50, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 6:310, 6:315, 6:340, 7:50, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:290, 7:300, 7:305, 7:340, 8:30.

**Motion 15-202 by Ristić, seconded by Ciota as recommended by the superintendent that we adopt the following policies: 2:100, 2:150, 2:200, 4:170, 5:90, 5:100, 6:15, 6:50, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 6:310, 6:315, 6:340, 7:50, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:290, 7:300, 7:305, 7:340, 8:30.**

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

The superintendent recommends the deletion of policy: 6:320

**Motion 15-203 by Weeg, seconded by Ristić as recommended by the superintendent the we delete the following policy: 6:320.**

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

#### **Item 12D Financial Consultant Contract**

This month, for Nick Cavaliere's services. There is no rate increase for FY17. The superintendent used Nick's services, and his team's more and more over the past year or so. The expertise and counsel are invaluable to the superintendent.

The superintendent recommends approval of the engagement letter for consultant services with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause for FY17.

**Motion 15-204 by McSweeney, seconded by Kent as recommended by the superintendent we approve the engagement letter for consultant services with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause for FY17.**

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

#### **Item 13 Calendar Information**

##### **Item 14 Closed Session**

The superintendent created a closed session packet with the personnel information.

**Motion 15-205 by Weeg, seconded by Kent to go into Closed Session at 7:29 p.m. with the purpose of discussing personnel items.**

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

**Motion 15-206 Board returned to open session at 8:00 p.m.**

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

**Item 16 Final Actions**

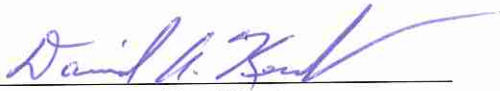
The superintendent recommends the acceptance of the February 23, 2016 Closed Session minutes and to keep them closed to the public.

**Motion 15-207 by McSweeney, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent we accept the February 23, 2016 Closed Session minutes and keep them closed to the public.**

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

**Item 17 Adjournment**

**Motion 15-208: Adjournment  
Motion made by Ciota, Seconded by Weeg.  
Hearing no objections so moved.**

  
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President

  
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Secretary