

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108
Tuesday, June 30, 2020
Meeting Held Virtually**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:38 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Weeg, Ciota, McSweeney, and Patrick
Administration: Superintendent Patrick & Principal Smuda

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 20-112 by Ciota, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the superintendent's Agenda.

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

Public Comment

Community members are invited to share their questions, comments or concerns with the school Board. When speaking, citizens should state their name and address for the record and limit their presentation to three minutes. All comments are a matter of public record and as such will be documented and recorded. Where possible, the Board will answer factual questions immediately. A written response may be provided when information is not available. If a response would involve discussion of board policy or decisions which might be of interest to citizens not present at the meeting, the Board may place the item on a future meeting agenda.

Additionally, board policy 2:230 permits the Board President to shorten a person's opportunity to speak. "The President may also deny the opportunity to speak to a person who has previously addressed the Board on the same subject." (2:230)

No community members present.
Valerie Wacker took the minutes.

Financial Report

The auditor's report for the month of May was in the packet. May includes the bulk of the remainder of salaries, which is the largest expense to the District. All looks reasonably good to budget. Nick Cavalier from Baker Tilly was unable to attend the meeting due to Baker Tilly policy about attending meetings in person.

Transfer of Interest

All of our funds earn interest. A transfer allows us to get maximum funds into the Ed. Fund, which is where most of our regular expenditures come from. This is a step we take every June.

The superintendent recommends the Resolution to Transfer Interest from the Debt Service Fund, the Transportation Fund, the Operations and Maintenance Fund and the Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund.

Motion 20-113 by Weeg, seconded by McSweeney as recommended by the superintendent that the Board approve the Resolution to Transfer Interest from the Debt Service Fund, the Transportation Fund, the Operations and Maintenance Fund and the Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund.

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

Minutes

A copy of the May 18, 2020 regular meeting minutes were included in the packet.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for May 18, 2020.

This motion was tabled till next month.

Consent Agenda

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

Motion 20-114 by Ciota, 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 \$432,637.75 (8A-1-2-3), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$725 (8B) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$48,713.31 (8C) for the month of June 2020.

Consent #2

The superintendent recommends the approval of the financial report for the month of May 2020. Fund balances: Educational: \$3,595,389; Operations & Maintenance: \$371,526; Debt Service: \$656,716; Transportation: \$468,463; IMRF: \$238,330; Capital Projects: 553,597; Working Cash: \$541,690; Tort: \$78,046; and Fire Prevention & Life Safety \$4.

Consent #3

Every summer the Board should approve an endorsement of the Prevailing Wage Act. This states that the wages of laborers, mechanics and other workers employed in any public works by the state, county or city or any political subdivision or by anyone under contract for public construction works will be paid a prevailing wage.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the Prevailing Rate of Wages defined in the Prevailing Wage Act, 20, ILCS 130/00.1 et. Seq. resolution.

Consent #4

Every summer the Board should approve an endorsement of our Transportation Hazard Claim. The hazard is because there are not sidewalks along Archer. Having this hazard allows us to receive reimbursement for transporting affected students.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the Transportation Hazard Claim resolution.

Consent #5

The superintendent recommends the acceptance of a \$300 donation for the Willow Springs School music program from the Willow Springs Lioness Club and \$3,000 from Karen Triezenberg to go toward library books.

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

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. 3 newspaper and related articles related to Willow Springs School District 108.
From the Des Plaines Valley News listing our 8th grade graduates, an article describing our graduation plans, and a reminder about Graduation.
- A-c. 0 Newspaper and related articles related to early childhood education.

Item 9B Legislative/SCOPE report: 4 Items.

There are 2 Capitol Watch Reports detailing Springfield legislative actions at the end of the session, which were only a few days long. The legislature passed an encompassing budget bill that maintains school funding at the FY2020 levels. However, it is not a realistic budget if there is not a federal stimulus package geared toward state spending as sales tax revenues have dropped significantly during the COVID19 Pandemic. If that doesn't happen, the superintendent suspects that the payments from the State will be prorated.

The legislature also codified the emergency remote learning days that were implemented this spring and laid the groundwork for future remote learning days due to the Pandemic.

Also, Election Day was declared to be a state holiday and no school functions can occur on November 5th. This will cause the approval of an amended school calendar.

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: 3 items.

1. Email to Jason Kierna at First Student with the Board's 3-2 approval of the transportation contract amendment.
2. The letter sent to families during the protests following George Floyd's murder, highlighting the need to do the hard work of racial equity.
3. The letter sent to families on June 23rd notifying them that the coming school year will be very different and that childcare solutions will be needed.

Item 9K-A Freedom of Information Act Requests and Notices 1 item.

Jonathon Fagg from ABC7 requested attendance data during the state closure on May 28. The request was fulfilled on June 2.

Special Education

A. AERO Budget

The AERO budget for FY2021 is increasing a projected 4.9%. The increase is primarily due to an increase of the salary increases of the new collective bargaining agreement which begins to move AERO paraprofessionals towards a living wage.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the AERO Special Education FY2021 Budget as presented.

Motion 20-115 by McSweeney, seconded by Ciota as recommended by the Superintendent for the approval of the AERO Special Education FY2021 Budget as presented. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, McSweeney, and Patrick

B. Classroom Use Agreement

As part of our obligation to the Cooperative, we are required to provide at least 1 classroom to the Cooperative as an AERO program classroom. We've hosted the Communications Disorders (CD) classroom for many, many years. Many of the students in the classroom are on the autism spectrum. We have the space to continue to provide the classroom, for which we receive \$10,000.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the AERO Special Education Classroom Use Agreement.

Motion 20-116 by Patrick, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the Superintendent for the approval of the AERO Special Education Classroom Use Agreement. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, McSweeney, and Patrick

C. Resolution supporting the AERO building project

Included in the new budget, is a \$25 million grant to AERO for the building project on the former Queen of Peace property. This is super exciting and reduces the cost to the AERO districts by half!

This puts many wheels in motion. First, to prove that we mean business to the State, we need to pass a resolution that binds us to our portion of the remaining \$25 million. From there, AERO will seek bonds, of which we will pay our proportionate share.

And, of course, we live in Illinois, so there is always a timing hitch on the flow of the State money to AERO. The superintendent went into more detail of this during the meeting.

The superintendent recommends the adoption of the Resolution...supporting the AERO Special Education Cooperative project at 7659 Linder Ave., Burbank...

Motion 20-117 by Ciota, seconded by Weeg as recommended by the Superintendent for the adoption of the Resolution...supporting the AERO Special Education Cooperative project at 7659 Linder Ave., Burbank.... Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Weeg, Ciota, McSweeney, and Patrick

Principal's Report

Principal Smuda reported:

Graduation! We were extremely pleased we were able to host a safe, in-person graduation! The students were able to walk across the stage in their cap and gown while their families sat in the car. A few sentences were spoken about each student and the principal also acknowledged their awards and accomplishments. The parent's responses were very positive!

The principal has been busy preparing for the three scenarios for the upcoming year:

- A. Return to school in the traditional fashion (not this fall).
- B. Return to school fully remote. Instruction will be fully electronic.
- C. Return to school in a hybrid fashion. (half the students in school and half the students learning electronically)

We received guidance from ISBE on Wednesday afternoon. The principal had a thorough discussion about the schedule at the meeting.

Online registration will open on July 3rd for returning families! We are hoping this provides a more convenient way to register during this unprecedented year. Parents will still need to send in their residency documents, and Nurse Lisa will need to check in with each family regarding medical issues.

For families wishing to register in person, Carina is using SignUpGenius to make appointments. We are hoping this procedure helps speed the process along and keeps large numbers of people out of the building.

Four questions will appear on this year's registration:

1. If the State of Illinois gives direction to return to school using face masks and social distancing will you be sending your children to school? Yes/No
2. During a pandemic the number of students that can be safely transported on a school bus is 50 students at a time. If the State of Illinois gives the direction to return to school, would you be willing to transport your child back and forth to school? Yes/No
3. At your home do you have access to the internet? Yes/No
4. During a pandemic will your child be supervised by another Willow Springs parent? Yes/No
If yes, who is the parent?

The answers will help us in planning for the next school year.

Fees: We are not charging for recorders or Outdoor Ed fees at the registration dates. If the students are able to participate in these 2 activities, we will add the fees at a later date.
(Outdoor Ed has been rescheduled for May, 2021)

11A Class Size Information

The report is in the packet.

Item 12A Summer Construction Update

1. Air handling units. The new a/c units for the 5 classrooms that do not have windows that open have been installed and that project is 95% complete. We're waiting on some sign-offs and inspection to formally complete the project.

2. The doors/windows. Everything was going very well until the door supplier changed vendors and the doors that were delivered are the wrong color. They are being replaced and rehung at no cost to the district. However, there's another 4 week wait time. We are still on target to be done before school starts. But we could have been done by 7/4. Front door security. That project is about 50% complete. We're waiting for 1 piece of equipment that will run the system to complete the project. It should be here by July 15th.

Item 12B Blended and Remote Learning Plans

The guidance document came out on Tuesday, June 23. They had some puzzle pieces ready and put them together to finalizing things. The principal and superintendent presented the Blended & Remote Learning Frameworks.

The superintendent presented a proposal for both Blended Learning and Remote Learning during the COVID19 crisis. During Blended Learning, all kindergarten through 2nd grade students, and self-contained special education students, will be in school daily. Third - 8th graders will be split into Gold and Blue Groups. Gold students will be in school Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Blue students will be in school Thursdays and Fridays. They will alternate Mondays. On the days not in school, they will learn from home. The on-site school day will be 5 hours long, and the teachers will work with the at-home students for 1 hour each day. The school is being reconfigured to allow for 6' of social distancing of students at desks. Masks are required by the State at all times while in the building. Other risk reducing strategies: contactless hand sanitizer stations installed in each classroom; water fountains replaced with dual bubbler and bottle filling stations (the bubbler is turned off); teachers will move during the day, not the students for art, music, etc.; lunch will be in the classroom; washrooms will be cleaned hourly. When we are in Remote Learning, the teachers will provide 5 hours of instruction via Zoom.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the Blended Learning and Remote Learning plans for implementation for the 2020-21 school year.

Motion 20-118 by Weeg, seconded by Patrick as recommended by the Superintendent for the for the approval of the Blended Learning and Remote Learning plans for implementation for the 2020-21 school year.

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

Item 12C School Calendar Amended, 2020-21

With the addition of Election Day as a State Holiday, and having to move to blended learning and remote learning days, there will be several changes to the school calendar. The superintendent presented the updated calendar.

The superintendent recommends the approval of the FY2020 School Calendar amendment as presented.

Motion 20-119 by McSweeney, seconded by Ciota as recommended by the Superintendent for the for the approval of the FY2020 School Calendar amendment as presented.

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

Item 12D Student Handbook Revision

The superintendent is waiting for the legal changes that need to be made to the student handbook for next school year. There are many because of the Pandemic. It will be ready for the July meeting.

Item 12E School Resource Officer Discussion

In light of discussions around the country about school resource officers following the murder of George Floyd, the superintendent wanted the Board to discuss this item.

When we decided to go with the SROs we were interested in them for assistance with threats from outside the building, not inside the building. We had the picketer and a few parent issues. Also, school shooters, nationally, are mostly external.

Our Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village for SROs prohibits them from being involved with school disciplinary issues except when the issue is a police matter (when the principal or superintendent would determine that the police should be called).

They also were all set to begin teaching classes about Stranger Danger, Gangs, Internet Safety, along with the DARE program that we've been doing for 30 years or so.

Item 14 Closed Session

The Board did not go into closed session.

Item 15 Final Actions

Item 16 Adjournment

**Motion 20-120: Adjournment at 9:30 pm
Motion made by, Ciota Seconded by McSweeney
Hearing no objections so moved.**



President



Secretary