

**WESTERN SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 101**

**APRIL 25, 2022
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Sendaydiego, President of the Board of Education, called the Closed Session of the Board of Education to order at 5:36PM pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

ATTENDANCE

The following were present: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Catherine Dudley, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Dan Pansing, and Caitlin Sendaydiego. Dr. Brian Barnhart and Dr. Sarah Coffey were also present.

Economic Interest Forms

Dr. Barnhart asked the Board if there were any outstanding questions regarding the completion of the required economic interest forms and there were none.

Healthcare

Dr. Barnhart reminded the Board that the district moved from BlueCross Blue Shield to United Healthcare for medical insurance last year. He shared that through our conversations with One Digital, our broker, we have learned that BCBS as an organization is in a state of disarray right now and their recommendation is the District not move to BCBS even with their aggressive offer of a 6.9% increase over our current rates. It was noted that the slightly less expensive BCBS plan is similar to UHC's, but includes more out-of-pocket liability to our staff as users of the plan. An interactive discussion ensued.

Devore Lawsuit

A lengthy and very interactive discussion was held by the Board on the Devore lawsuit. Dr. Barnhart shared that Kevin Gordon believes that Kriha Bocek can represent D101 in Sangamon County to argue for local control moving forward while also making it clear to the court that in no way do we support the mask mandate. The Board discussed the pros and cons of local control as well as what would be the outcome if we didn't send representation to Sangamon County. Dr. Barnhart commented that he would update Kevin on the conversation and ask him to provide additional thoughts and information that might help our thinking on the topic. He went on to note that if the lawsuit would be moving forward in advance of our May meeting, a special BOE meeting might need to be called to extend this conversation so that we could give Kriha Boucek clear direction on how to proceed; otherwise, members should continue to consider positioning on the lawsuit as we will pick this discussion up in May.

**WESTERN SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 101**

**APRIL 25, 2022
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

Assistant Superintendent Contract

Drs. Barnhart and Coffey left the meeting while the Board discussed issues related to succession planning, including contract parameters.

Personnel

A discussion ensued regarding the future plans of administrative personnel as it relates to succession planning and the future of leadership positions in the District. An interactive discussion was held on philosophical positioning for current and future leadership as well as tangible plans related to timelines.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

At 6:50PM, Mrs. Heit moved to adjourn the Closed Session. Mr. Pansing seconded the motion, and all voted yes.



Brian T. Barnhart, Ph.D.
Board of Education Secretary



Caitlin Sendaydiego
Board of Education President