

# Unofficial Minutes

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August 10, 2020

Regular Meeting

ZOOM/In Person

Wabaussee USD #329 District Office

6:00 PM

Board President Justin Frank called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence. Board members Callie Meinhardt, Jerome Hesse, Kelly Oliver, Justin Frank, and Tony Conrad attended in person. Board members Don Frank and Jim Vopata attended via ZOOM.

Board member Conrad moved to approve additions to the Agenda which included: Move Executive Session for Trade Secrets to New Business #8; Under Personnel-Substitute Classified Staff-add Sheryl Thowe. Meinhardt seconded. Motion carried 7-0

In addition to her submitted report, Principal Hutley reported that while the WHS Student Handbook was approved last month with no changes, there will most likely be changes in the coming months. She will keep the Board informed of any changes that are made. She reported that with the procedures that had been implemented for student safety with regards to Covid-19, there were no issues with the summer weight program. She has set up meetings with all Remote Learners to review expectations and schedule equipment check-out. Remote learning will be via multiple platforms. Some of the platforms that will be utilized are Zoom, Google Classroom and Acellus. With regards to athletics, she reported that when hosting events, there will be no sharing of locker rooms. Only one team will be allowed to use them at a time. Other information on Mid East League event protocols was shared by WHS Athletic Director, Jeron Weisshaar.

Principal Oliver reported students will not be using hall lockers, but will be using book bags instead. Paxico Middle School teachers will be splitting the classes with two 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes and two 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes. To limit interaction, one class will eat at a time. Additional recesses have been added as well, to give students additional outside time. Start times will be staggered and time will be utilized to go through procedures with students.

Principal Craghead shared with the Board that in an effort to even out class sizes and provide additional social distancing, some students from Alma Elementary will be attending Maple Hill Elementary. In an effort to allow more outside time, additional recesses have been scheduled. Lunch periods will also be staggered in order to achieve more social distancing.

In order to prepare students for this environment in the event schools are closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all students will be introduced to these remote methods of learning to some extent.

Written reports were submitted by Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor Freddie Johnson, Technology Director Josh Nisly, and Food Service Director, Deb Westhoff. Mr. Nisly reported thermal imaging cameras are in the process of being installed. They will

be installed at each building and used to take temperatures as individuals enter the buildings. Mr. Starnes added these were paid for with the Wabaunsee County SPARKS money. Board member Oliver thanked Mr. Starnes and all the staff for their efforts working through this to keep everyone safe.

Board member Oliver moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included: Approve minutes from the July 13, 2020 Regular meeting and approve payment of bills. Conrad seconded. Motion carried 7-0

Mr. Starnes reviewed the Reopening Plan. In addition, he shared only school sponsored groups will be using district facilities and teachers will be encouraged to have students outside as much as possible and following social distancing.

Board member Conrad moved to approve K-4 Variances. Meinhardt seconded. Motion carried 7-0

New Teacher Training will be August 12 at the district office. Our new SRO Taylor Schuldt will also be attending. Expectations will be reviewed and assistance with TLIM implementation will also be covered.

Mr. Starnes reviewed the enrollment numbers. Currently, there are 403 out of 417 students enrolled with 18 of the 403 selecting remote learning. He commended Jeanne Parry, Carrie Boeckman, Josh Nisly, and the staff for the hard work and effort they put forth to make this possible. It was very challenging and took much time and effort to get everything lined out.

Mr. Starnes reviewed the 2020-2021 Budget with Board members. The Special In-Person/Zoom meeting for the budget hearing is scheduled for Monday, August 17 at 6:00 at the district office. Mr. Starnes thanked administrators and district office staff for their cooperation with keeping costs down. The budget made great gains. Together with the decrease costs, increase in assessed valuation and increase in student funding, the mill levy dropped almost 5 mils. The Board will act on State Statute 72-1431 School buildings, closing; procedure at the January 2021 regular board meeting. Mr. Starnes updated Board members on ESP Professionals on-site visit last week. Board member Don Frank was available to go to the different locations, and shared he was very impressed with their expertise and ideas for cost savings.

At 7:26 pm, Board member Justin Frank moved to go into executive session- pursuant to the exception for data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships under KOMA. The open meeting will resume in the Board room at 7:36 pm. Conrad seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Starnes was included in the session. The open meeting resumed at 7:36 pm. At 7:36 pm, Board member Justin Frank moved to go into executive session- pursuant to the exception for data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships under KOMA. The open meeting will resume in the Board room at 7:41 pm. Conrad seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Starnes was included in the session. The open meeting resumed at 7:41 pm. Board member Justin Frank shared the Board has been in discussion with the County on the sale of the tower, and they want to continue those discussions.

At 7:42 pm, Board member Justin Frank moved to go into executive session to discuss the latest proposal for increasing the base pay rate from the teachers pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:00 pm. Oliver seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Starnes was included in the session. The Board reconvened at 8:00 pm. At 8:00 pm, Board member Vopata moved to go into executive session to discuss the latest proposal

for increasing the base pay rate from the teachers pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:05 pm. Justin Frank seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Starnes was included in the session. The Board reconvened at 8:05 pm.

Board member Conrad moved to approve Substitute Teachers, Emergency Subs, Classified Staff, Employment and Resignations as listed. Meinhardt seconded. Motion carried 7-0

In the Superintendent/Board Member's Forum, Mr. Starnes reviewed the Grant's we have received for Preschool Pilot, Mental Health Intervention, Mental Health Liaison, and the SRO. Board members thanked everyone for the work they are doing to keep our staff and students safe.

Board member Oliver moved to adjourn. Conrad seconded. Motion carried 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Submitted by Cheryl Zeller  
Clerk