

**Minutes of the Board of Education
Waterloo Schools
County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa
April 24, 2023**

The Board of Education of the Waterloo Schools, County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa, was called to meet in regular session at 5:00pm on Monday, April 24, 2023, in the Board Room of the Education Service Center, 1516 Washington Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

Present: Board members: Stacie Mills, Jesse Knight, Endya Johnson, Sue Flynn, Astor Williams, Janelle Ewing and Lyle Schmitt
Superintendent, Dr. Jared Smith
Associate Superintendent for Educational Services, Dr. Stephanie Mohorne
Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer, Michael Coughlin
Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, Pam Arndorfer

Absent: Chief Human Resources and Equity Officer, Anthony Spurgetis (*present during Item L, Closed Session*)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Flynn at 5:03pm.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Mission Statement

The Waterloo Schools Mission Statement was read by Ms. Mills.

V. Public Hearing – 2023-24 Budget Certification

The Public Hearing for the 2023-24 Budget Certification was declared open at 5:05 pm. No public comments were brought forth. It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Mills to close the Public Hearing for the 2023-24 Budget Certification. Motion carried 7-0. The Public Hearing was closed at 5:07pm.

VI. Information from Individuals and Delegations

- Mr. Robert Tyson, 4350 Hoff Road, Waterloo, Chair of the NAACP Education Committee, read a statement from the NAACP emphasizing the importance of maintaining a diverse workforce and calling upon the district to address any disparate behavior(s) impacting students of color
- Ms. Lynette Scott, 209 West 5th, Waterloo, spoke regarding issues with her grandson's teacher, alleging that messages are not being responded to and her concerns are not being addressed
- Mr. Marvin Spencer, 3411 Crown Court, Waterloo, spoke about the recent town hall meeting where several community concerns were vocalized; he urged board members to attend the next town hall meeting which will be publicized on the NAACP website/facebook page

- Debra Simpson Carr, 916 Ash Street, Waterloo, shared concerns with how the District is supporting students of color and those with special needs
- Lynn Eldridge, 512 Pine Street, Waterloo, spoke in support of the individuals who shared their concerns tonight and at the town hall meeting, stating that racial concerns affect the entire community
- Felicia Smith-Nalls, 133 Alta Vista, Waterloo, reminded the Board that we are a majority minority district, urging the District to support our minority staff; she also shared concerns regarding the achievement gap and what is being done to address the gap

VII. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as revised. Motion carried 7-0. The following items were approved:

- Minutes of the April 10, 2023 Regular Board Meeting and the April 17, 2023 Special Board Meeting
- Bills Due & Payable and Bills Paid Between Board Meetings

Exhibit C: Personnel Appointments and Adjustments

It was moved by Mr. Schmitt and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Education approve the personnel items as listed. Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, provided information. Motion carried 6-0-1; Ms. Johnson abstained.

Exhibit E: 28E Agreement Between North Tama County CSD and Waterloo Schools/Waterloo Career Center (WCC)

It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Johnson that the Board of Education approve the 28E Agreement between the Waterloo Schools/Waterloo Career Center and North Tama County Community School District beginning with the 2023-2024 school year as presented. Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, and Michael Coughlin, Chief Financial Officer, provided information. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. Waterloo Career Center Travel to Atlanta, GA

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Education approve travel for the WCC's Cybersecurity Team to Atlanta, GA, from June 27-July 1, 2023, to compete at the FBLA National Leadership Conference. Kyle Kuhlers, Web Programming Teacher/Cyber Defense Coach at the WCC, provided information. Motion carried 7-0.

IX. East High Football Trip to St. Louis, MO

It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Mills that the Board of Education approve travel for East High football players and coaches from April 28-29, 2023, to participate in the Rivals Camp Series in St. Louis, MO. De'Carlos Anderson, East High Football Coach, provided information. Mr. Knight and Ms. Mills agreed to a friendly amendment to the motion to read that the Board of Education approve travel for East High football players and coaches from April 29-30, 2023, to participate in the Rivals Camp Series in St. Louis, MO. Amended motion carried 7-0.

X. 2023-24 Budget Certification and Adoption

It was moved by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Mills that the Board of Education certify and adopt the 2023-24 Budget with maximum expenditures of \$208,068,380 and property tax levy rate of \$13.36062 as presented. Michael Coughlin, Chief Financial Officer, provided information. Motion carried 7-0.

XI. Board Policy Changes – First Reading

This item was presented as Information Only. Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, provided information on the following policies which were presented for first reading:

- 201.0 – *School Board Elections*
- 207.0 – *Legal Counsel*
- 217.0 – *School Board Association Memberships*
- 504.71 – *Probation*

XII. Director District Boundaries and Numbers

This item was presented as Information Only. Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, and Sue Flynn, Board President, provided information.

XIII. Separation Agreement

It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Johnson that the Board of Education approve the Separation Agreement and authorize the Board President to sign such agreement. Motion carried 7-0.

XIV. Closed Session Pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(c)

The Board retired to Room 110 for this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Ms. Mills that the Board of Education go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(c) to discuss strategy with counsel in a matter that is presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote. The Board entered into closed session at 6:20pm.

Mr. Spurgetis was present for this portion of the board meeting.

The Board returned to Open Session in the Board Room at 7:54pm.

XV. Superintendent's Report

- The Waterloo Schools Foundation's *Sparkling Academic Excellence* Breakfast is this Thursday, April 27, at 7am
- Dr. Smith, along with Ms. Johnson and Ms. Schmitt will present at the IASB Student Success Summit this coming Friday in Ankeny

XVI. Information from Board Members

Each board member was given the opportunity to comment.

XVII. Adjourn

It was moved by Ms. Mills and seconded by Ms. Johnson that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela G. Arndorfer, Board Secretary

Date Approved by the Board of Education

THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION IS:

“the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 24, 2023, Regular Board meeting.”