



## MEETING MINUTES

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### Attendees

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#### Voting Members

Astor Williams, Board President  
Lyle Schmitt, Board Vice President  
Jonathan Cox, Board Member  
Janelle Ewing, Board Member  
Jesse Knight, Board Member  
Stacie Mills, Board Member

#### Non-Voting Members

Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent  
Anthony Spurgetis, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Jeff Sommerfeldt, Chief Financial Officer / Board Treasurer  
Pam Arndorfer, Board Secretary

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### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Williams at 5:01pm.

### II. Moment of Silence

### III. Pledge of Allegiance

### IV. Mission Statement

The Waterloo Schools mission statement was read by Director Schmitt.

### V. Business Partner Show of Support

This item was presented as Information Only. Amy Hunzelman, Coordinator of Experiential Learning, provided information and presented board members with a letter signed by several partners in support of the proposed single high school project. Dr. Jared Smith also shared information regarding the numerous interactions he has had and continues to have with business partners throughout the community who are in support of the project.

### VI. School Presentation: Cunningham School for Excellence

This item was presented as Information Only. Neldrekka Whitaker, Cunningham School for Excellence principal, along with Lindsay Heying, Korie Frazier, Ashley Clark, and Katie Tims, presented "It's Our Time to Shine."

## **VII. School Presentation: Lowell Elementary**

This item was presented as Information only. Carrie Heinzerling, Lowell Elementary principal, along with Stephanie Peters and Maddie Milks, presented information about Lowell's Lighthouse journey.

## **VIII. Board Celebration: West High Wahawk Insider Update**

This item was presented as Information Only. Nicole Goodman, Wahawk Insider Adviser, along with senior yearbook co-editors, Mallory and Lucy, provided information.

## **IX. Graduation Dates for WCSD High Schools - Class of 2025**

This item was presented as information only. Graduation dates for the Class of 2025 have been established as follows:

- Expo Alternative Learning Center at Expo, Tuesday, May 27, 2025 6:00pm
- West High School at McLeod Center, UNI, Wednesday, May 28, 2025 6:00pm
- East High School at McLeod Center, UNI, Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:00pm

## **X. Information from Individuals and Delegations**

- Tracy Richmond, 2543 Saratoga Drive, Waterloo, and Chief Negotiator for the Waterloo Education Association (WEA) spoke about the upcoming negotiations process. He requested that items which were previously stripped from the master contract be added back in, stating that many situations are left open to interpretation which becomes problematic when new administrators are brought in and don't know the history of certain situations. He further stated that writing things down and putting them back in the contract will help address these questions.
- Michael Chapman, 2761 Deere Road, Waterloo, stated his belief that the quality of education has been in serious decline over the past 5-6 years. He believes the Board is not paying attention to personal accountability and base problems within the classroom. He further stated his belief that the Board and District are attempting to throw money at new infrastructure and athletic facilities rather than getting down to the real issues.
- Forest Dillavou, 1725 Huntington Road, Waterloo shared his concern over the recent land purchase across from Central Middle School, reiterating that a portion of the property is in the flood plain. He further shared his concerns that as soon as development takes place on the property the neighbors will begin to experience flooding in their basements due to runoff.
- Glen Anderkay, 316 Prospect Blvd., Waterloo, stated that we don't need a new high school as we already have two good ones. He questioned the location of the proposed high school, asking why we do not locate it in the middle of the city. He also shared concerns about the state of schools in the state, ranking in the bottom half nationally, while in the 60's and 70's we ranked at the top academically.

Motion: That the Board of Education recess to hold a Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget Certification.

Motion made by: Jesse Knight

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Astor Williams - Yes

Lyle Schmitt - Yes  
Jonathan Cox - Yes  
Janelle Ewing - Yes  
Jesse Knight - Yes  
Stacie Mills - Yes

The Board recessed at 6:27pm.

President Williams called the meeting back to order at 6:51pm.

## **XI. Consent Agenda**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda including items i, iii, vi, and viii as presented.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Jesse Knight

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

### **i. Approval of Minutes: February 26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and March 7, 2024, Special Board Meeting**

#### **ii. Personnel Appointments and Adjustments**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the personnel items as amended.

Motion made by: Jesse Knight

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Anthony Spurgetis, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided information. The resignation date of a classified employee was amended.

#### **iii. Bills Due & Payable and Bills Paid Between Board Meetings**

#### **iv. Area Education Agency (AEA) Food Purchasing Agreement 2023-2024**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the contract between Waterloo Schools and the Area Education Agency for food purchasing during the 2024-2025 school year as outlined.

Motion made by: Jesse Knight

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Jeff Sommerfeld, Chief Financial Officer, provided information.

#### **v. Publication of Notice of Intent for Construction Manager at Risk (CMaR)**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the publication of a Notice of Intent to engage the services of a Construction Manager at Risk (CMaR) and the

subsequent issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP).

Motion made by: Jesse Knight

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Kate Payne, Architect/Managing Director with InVision Architects, provided information. Board members serving on the Facilities Committee also shared comments.

#### **vi. Public Utility Easement Agreement with City of Waterloo**

#### **vii. Request for Proposal for Photography Services**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the Request for Proposal for School Photographic Services as attached.

Motion made by: Jesse Knight

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, provided information.

#### **viii. Set Date of Public Hearing for the East High Auditorium and Pool Roof Replacement Project**

### **XII. Technology Purchase**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 3360 student Chromebooks at a total cost of \$818,189.25, 225 staff 2-in-1 Chromebooks at a total cost of \$151,240.50, and 2445 carrying cases at a total cost of \$40,953.75.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Jesse Knight

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Matt O'Brien, Director of Technology, provided information.

### **XIII. Board Policy Changes - Second Reading**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the following policies: Student Substance Abuse, Expulsion, and Capital Assets.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Lyle Schmitt

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, provided information.

### **XIV. Superintendent's Report**

- We will hold the first of three work sessions tomorrow night based on feedback following the town hall meetings:

- Focus tomorrow will be on Chronic Absenteeism
  - What are we doing to address absenteeism currently?
  - How will a new high school help to continue addressing these issues?
- The ESC will undergo an HVAC renovation this summer which will impact the day-to-day operations of the building
  - Staff need to be out of the building for about 2 months
    - Staff will relocate to Lowell for the summer
    - We are working to set up a remote site for summer school board meetings at the WCC

#### **XV. Information from Board Members**

Each board member was given the opportunity to comment.

#### **XVI. Adjourn**

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Janelle Ewing

Motion seconded by: Stacie Mills

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Meeting adjourned @ 7:57pm

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Pamela G. Arndorfer, Board Secretary