



MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Voting Members

Astor Williams, Board President
Jonathan Cox, Board Member
Janelle Ewing, Board Member
Stacie Mills, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent
Amy Schmidt, Associate Superintendent for Teaching & Learning
J.T. Anderson, Chief Financial Officer / Board Treasurer
Sam Kreassig, Director of Human Resources (arrived 5:53pm)
Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent / Board Secretary

Absent

Lyle Schmitt, Board Vice President
Jesse Knight, Board Member
Krystal Madlock, Board Member

I. Call to Order

President Williams called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Mission Statement

The Waterloo Schools Mission Statement was read by President Williams.

V. Information from Individuals and Delegations

- Blake Smith, 3012 Kennedy Lane, Waterloo; member of the Waterloo Youth City Council - spoke regarding HF782 which restricts the use of cell phones for students and the corresponding school district policy. He shared comments about the definition of "instructional time" and urged the district to consider allowing teachers discretion

in defining instructional time. He also spoke about a national study which showed that listening to music can improve a student's retention of learned material.

- Carol Luce, 545 Sheridan Road, Waterloo; Director of the Waterloo Youth City Council - shared that the council members wish to offer support in the creation and implementation of the new cell phone policy, and urged the Board and District to involve the students in the process. Students do have questions and concerns which will be shared with Pam Arndorfer, Board Secretary.

VI. Cooperative Sponsorship Agreements

This item was presented as Information Only. Astor Williams, Board President, and Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, provided information.

VII. Board Policy Changes - Second Reading

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the following policies: *Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices* and *Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices - Regulation*.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Pam Arndorfer, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, and Amy Schmidt, Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, provided information.

VIII. Consent Agenda

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

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Jonathan Cox

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

i. Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting and June 26, 2025, Special Board Meeting

ii. Personnel Appointments and Adjustments

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

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Dr. Jared Smith, Superintendent, and Amy Schmidt, Associate Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, provided information.

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

iv. Contract for Services with SuccessLink for School Based Mental Health Services

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the Contract for Services between SuccessLink and Waterloo Community School District for School Based Mental Health Services at a maximum cost of \$450,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Information was provided by Sheena Canady, Director of Student & At-Risk Services; Donna Kitrick, WCSD Mental Health Coordinator; Alyssa Fruchtenicht, Behavior Health Services Manager with Black Hawk-Grundy Mental Health Center; and Brad McCalla, Executive Director of SuccessLink.

v. 28e Agreement between Cedar Valley Catholic Schools and Waterloo Community School District

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the 28e Agreement between Cedar Valley Catholic Schools and the Waterloo Community School District to share services of a 1.0 FTE Special Education teacher for the 2025-2026 school year as presented.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Megan Allen, Director of Special Education & Preschool, provided information.

vi. Tri-County Child and Family Development Council, Inc. Contracted Service Agreement

The Superintendent's recommendation is that Board of Education approve the contract service agreement between Tri County Child and Family Development Council, Inc., and the Waterloo Community School District for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Megan Allen, Director of Special Education and Preschool, provided information.

vii. Educational Service Agreement with Kirkwood Community College

viii. Junior Achievement Memorandum of Agreement for the 2025-2026 School Year

ix. Urban Education Network, 2025-26 Membership Dues

x. Set Date of Public Hearing for Sale of Excess Property at Auction

IX. Technology Purchase

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 60 workstations from Dell at a total cost of \$73,291.20.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

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

X. Cybersecurity Grant Software and Services Purchase

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the purchase of three years' service of CrowdStrike Falcon from DirSec at a total cost of \$185,405, penetration test services from Howard/InfoSight at a total cost of \$36,577, and two years of firewall support and maintenance from Sterling at a total cost of \$129,671.40, with approximately 85% of these costs to be reimbursed from the FCC's Cybersecurity Pilot Program.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

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

XI. Purchase of TalkingPoints Communication Platform

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the TalkingPoints communication platform at a cost of \$61,250 for FY2026.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

Emily Frederick, Director of School & Community Relations, provided information.

XII. Property, Casualty and Worker's Compensation Insurance Program

The Superintendent's recommendation is that the Board of Education approve the quote recommended by the District's Finance Committee to participate in the IASB Safety Group Plan with a total estimated premium of \$1,876,495 as presented.

Motion made by: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

J.T. Anderson, Chief Financial Officer, provided information.

XIII. Financial Information

This item was presented as Information Only. J.T. Anderson, Chief Financial Officer, provided information.

XIV. Superintendent's Report

- This year's June Retreat was a huge success
 - Set goals for the upcoming year
 - Attendance: chronic absenteeism will decrease from 23% to 20%
 - Culture: employee satisfaction will increase from 87% to 90%
 - Achievement:
 - ISASP scores in ELA will increase from 58% to 63%
 - ISASP scores in Math will increase from 58% to 63%
 - ISASP scores in Science will increase from 51% to 56%
 - Each building worked on their plan on how to support the District in meeting each of the goals
- Summer Soul Classic Parade was this past Saturday - there was a great turnout of students and staff both as attendees and participants in the parade.
- Drop out numbers are not yet official, but they are looking good right now. We are excited to share the report when it becomes official.

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: Stacie Mills

Motion seconded by: Janelle Ewing

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.