WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD MINUTES
September 13, 2016

The Board of Education Regular Meeting convened in open and public session on September 13, 2016 at 7:15 PM in the Boardroom at the Wakefield Community Schools, 802 Highland Street, Wakefield, NE.

President Bebee informed the group of the Open Meetings Act posted in the boardroom and accessible to all members of the public as required by law. All board members had received notice of the meeting and the meeting notice had been published/posted in a timely manner prior to the meeting date.

Attendance Taken at 7:18 PM:
Present Board Members: Tim Bebee, Karen Borg, Bree Brown, Ben Donner, Julie Rose and Mark Victor
Absent Board Members: None

Also in attendance: Superintendent Bejot, Elementary Principal Wulf, Secondary Principal Heitz and Recording Secretary Gothier.

Approval of Agenda
Motion Passed: To approve the agenda passed with a motion by Borg and a second by Rose.
Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor
No: None

Awards and Special Recognition
Mr. Heitz shared an article in Huskerland Prep giving recognition to our football team and coaches.

Reports
Elementary Principal Report
We have changed the way that ELL services are delivered this year with the addition of a ½ time teacher. Wakefield Elementary School has partnered with Wayne State College on their Professional Development School (PDS). This program places college education majors the semester before their student teaching, in our classrooms for ½ of the day. Every classroom teacher except for two currently has a PDS student. We have begun our first round of MAP assessments. Students in grades K-2 will take the test 3 times during the school year. Students in grades 4-6 will take the test 2 times this year. September 15th is National Dot Day. This is a day that encourages students to be who they are and make a difference in the world. I recently sent a note home to parents regarding the difference between a Lockdown Response and a Lockdown No-Response. This was done as an education piece so that parents know what is happening if they get a Blackboard Connect phone call saying we were on lockdown.

Secondary Principal Report

The Nebraska State Board of Education officially ruled that the ACT test will be required for all juniors this year. This will take the place of all NeSA tests at that grade level. NeSA will still be given in Math and ELA (Reading) for grades 3-8, and Science for grades 5 and 8. TDA (Text Dependent Analysis) will be included in the ELA tests for grades 5-8. This will take the place of NeSA Writing. Other than two families who made appointments with me, all parents/guardians of high school volleyball and football players were present at one of the meetings. We have received positive feedback about these meetings. Parent/Teachers Conferences are coming up on October 6. Homecoming Week will be the week of September 26-30. The week's activities will include hall decorating, coronation, pep rally with the elementary, and the homecoming dance. The football game is at 3:00 on the 30th, so we will have a pep rally at approx. 12:30, with a 1:00 dismissal. Coronation will take place at the field after the football game. The Booster Club has organized a celebration for the 2006 State Football Championship team. The team members are invited to attend the Homecoming game, and will be announced as a team at halftime. Following the game, there will be a reception and dinner for players, spouses, and their parents, at the Legion Hall.

Superintendent Report

The beginning of the year "Meat & Greet" was well attended and a great opportunity for parents to meet their student's educators for the upcoming school year. I believe the board served approximately 650 hot dogs and hamburgers. School census is taken each year on September 30 in Nebraska public school; as of September 8th enrollment has increased by 29 students. Currently the district has a total of 486 students.

PK - 3 Yr Olds	27
PK - 4 Yr Olds	31
K	41
1st	32
2nd	34
3rd	37
4th	26
5th	33
6th	26
7th	25
8th	43
9th	35
10th	26
11th	35

Our Board of Education Retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, September 28th at ESU #1. The retreat is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Plans are to review our board goals, tier projects, discuss some scenarios that board members encounter, and any other discussions of the board's choosing.

Board Committee Reports

Business & Finance

Business and Finance Committee met on August 30 to pay final bills for the 2015-16 school year and review the School Budget. The Committee approved $380,418.86 in General Fund; $326.80 in Lunch; $28,109.06 in Depreciation bills. $300,000 was transferred from the General Fund to Depreciation. Mr Bejot presented the proposed 2016-17 budget. The committee will recommend lowering the District's total mill levy to $.982430.

Public & Personnel Relations

The negotiation process will be beginning soon.

Discussion and Action Items

Consent Agenda

Motion Passed: To approve the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Borg and a second by Brown.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor

No: None

Bills were approved as follow: General: $243,235.83; Lunch $4,606.90; Depreciation: $ 1,332.50; Employee Benefit: $252.00; Payroll: $185,198.58.

Discuss and take appropriate action to approve Mrs. Danielle Klein's request to option enroll three minor students for the upcoming 2016-17 school year.

Danielle Klein is option enrolling their triplets into Kindergarten at Wakefield Community School.

Motion Passed: To approve option enrollment request by Mrs. Danielle Klein passed with a motion by Victor and a second by Borg.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor

No: None

Discuss and take appropriate action on the 2016-2017 budget with consideration for the following funds: General, Depreciation, Employee Benefits, Contingency, Activities, Special Building, Bond, School Lunch, Qualified Capital Purchase, Cooperative and Student Fee Funds.

The district's property valuation increased by 4.57% this year, which translates to one cent of tax generating $50,055, as compared to one cent last year generating $47,865 in taxes. Although Wakefield Community School is not unequalized, we are moving closer with each year as property valuations increase. During the 2015-16 state aid was $437,929 and for the 2016-17 year state aid will be $240,407. This represents a loss of $197,522 in state aid which is now a local district responsibility.

Assumptions used when building this year's budget are: 1) planning to lower the General Fund mill levy and lower general the overall mill levy the same as last year or lower; 2) continue replenishing the Depreciation fund, 3) lower cash reserves, 4) adding funds to special building fund, 5) maximize general fund spending authority to the 2% level, 6) build in known costs increases for salaries, technology, building maintenance and curriculum into the budget.

Our cash reserve is decreased by $84,317 which will be $790,024 in reserves. Ideally we should carry three months of cash reserve which would be approximately $1,500,000 as our expenses run approximately $500,000 per month. We will be much tighter this year however, this is doable by limiting spending during the fall to necessary expenditures. I believe the property tax payer needs a decrease in overall spending from the school district resulting in a lower overall levy reduction by 1.5 cents.

Motion Passed: To adopt the proposed 2016-2017 budget passed with a motion by Victor and a second by Donner.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor
No: None

Discuss and take appropriate action on the district property tax request(s) for the 2016-2017 school fiscal year.

The tax request for the General Fund is $4,715,366; the Tax Request for the Bond fund is $0; the Tax Request for the Special Building Fund is $75,841 and Tax Request for the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund for K-12 is $126,402. Total Personal and Real Property Tax request is $4,917,609.

Motion Passed: To adopt the new property tax request for the 2016-2017 year passed with a motion by Brown and a second by Borg.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor
No: None

Discuss and take appropriate action to property and liability insurance from EMC Insurance Company.

Mr. Cap Peterson presented quotes on our property liability insurance, transportation insurance, commercial umbrella and commercial insurance of our property. Currently the school district insures the school property for 90% of replacement valuation. We could increase our insurance coverage to 100%. The Finance Committee discussed the premium difference and their view is to recommend the 90% coverage. The team thought it is highly unlikely that our school property would be 100% destroyed as a result of a catastrophe.

Motion Passed: Move to approve purchase of liability, auto, and property insurance from EMC Insurance at a cost of $44,031 at 90% coverage passed with a motion by Donner and a second by Victor.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor
No: None

Discuss and take appropriate action to declare surplus property.

Mrs. Galles removed nine sewing machines from the FACS classroom and no longer plans to use the machines. Specifically, three white Blue Jean Machines, three Blue Dress Maker units and three Bernenia sport sewing machines.

Motion Passed: To approve nine sewing machines as surplus property passed with a motion by Borg and a second by Rose.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor

No: None

Discuss 2015-16 ACT Score results.

The National ACT exam serves as a measure of college readiness to attend a four year college or university. Just last week the Nebraska State Board of Education approved using the ACT as the new high school state assessment for juniors. We had a total of 17 junior/seniors participate in the ACT exam last year having a school composite score of 21.1. I am pleased with the improvement our students demonstrated improving one half composite point last year and just 0.3 tenths below the state average of 21.4.

Discuss 2016 Senior Exit Survey.

One of the components of Rule 10 for high schools is to conduct a senior survey at least every five years with the goal of collecting additional information from our graduate alumni as they progress through post high school. I contracted with LifeTrack Services to provide us an exit survey and they will survey the students after four years out of high school. Mr. Heitz reviewed the outcome from this year's survey.

Upcoming Dates and Times

The Board Policy Committee will meet September 22 and 5:00pm; Building, Sites & Transportation will meet September 26 at 5:30pm; Personnel & Public Relations committee will find a date to meet with the WEA Negotiation Team. The next regular board meeting will be Monday, October 10 at 7:00pm

Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn the meeting at 9:19 passed with a motion by Borg and a second by Donner.

Yes: Bebee, Borg, Brown, Donner, Rose, Victor

No: None

Bree Brown, Secretary

Becky Gothier, Recording Secretary