

Board of Education
Worth School District 127
Worth Elementary

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
May 11, 2022

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Drew Sernus, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Dave Blanks, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Administrators:

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent
Cindy Dykas, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager/CSBO
Linda Esposito, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Sinead Chambers, Director of Special Education
Dr. Joseph Zampillo, Worth Junior High Principal
Jason Tooth, Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High
Maureen Eichstaedt, Principal, Worth Elementary
Ashley Toms, Principal, Worthwoods
Melissa Wills, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary
Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology
David Dvorchak, Director of Facilities and Grounds

Board Recording Secretary

Jill Moore

Others Present

Mary Zirngibl
Alyssa Zirngibl
Diane Zirngibl
Abby Hill
JoAnne Albrecht
Kris Martin
Alyssa Flanagan
Krystal Goldschmidt
Sarah Catt
Liz Bandola
Paul Rowell
Megan Dresden
Jolanta Sikora
Jasmine Master
Colleen DeGonia

2. APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action: A. APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – MISSY SINCLAIR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education appoint Missy Sinclair as a member to the Board of Education."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

3. OATH OF OFFICE

President, Drew Sernus, led new Board Member, Missy Sinclair, to recite the Oath of Office.

I, (*Missy Sinclair*), **do solemnly affirm** that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education of Worth School District 127 in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further affirm that:

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the School District's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board meeting; and

4. ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

A. NOMINATION/ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Nominated: Danette Keeler

Danette Keeler accepted the nomination of Board Vice President

Nominated: David Blanks

David Blanks accepted the nomination of Board Vice President

Danette Keeler voted for Danette Keeler

Drew Sernus voted for Danette Keeler

Meghan Sisk voted for David Blanks

David Blanks voted for David Blanks

Michelle Egan voted for David Blanks

Vince Flores voted for Danette Keeler

Missy Sinclair voted for Danette Keeler

Danette Keeler received 4 votes

David Blanks received 3 votes

Danette Keeler was elected Board Vice President

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. FOIA REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated that since the last Board Meeting, there have been no new FOIA Requests.

B. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Dr. Fleming stated that the Worth Elementary Construction project was in a lull the past few weeks, but it is now progressing. The storm trap is covered with dirt and the field should be covered with grass seed by the end of next week. The most excited update on this project is the installation of the playground equipment which is almost finished. The original north end of the building will be demolished in June and will be replaced with a parking lot. To honor the history of this original building the concrete district name plate on the building will not be demolished, but will be carefully disassembled for reassembly on the new north wall of the building.

The Admin. Center renovation is progressing well and a few new walls have been constructed and the new plumbing and electrical work is in progress. A new garage is framed and waiting for shingles and siding.

C. WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT AND NORTH PALOS FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

The Worth Police Department and North Palos Fire Department are utilizing the vacated North end of the building for special training. The police are practicing intruder drills and the fire department will focus on training with smoke machines, but will not use water as that would increase the cost of demolishing the building. The partnership with both departments is solid and we appreciate all of their services.

Dr. Fleming stated that his next item was not listed under his report, but he wanted to share a few thoughts on implementing an Accelerated Placement Program Teacher, which would support Policy 6:135.

- I shared a rough DRAFT job description with each of you for this potential position.
- I know the Board would like services in the area of accelerated learning to be enhanced so this is one way to improve accelerated learning for students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement.
- As you look over the DRAFT job description, I will share a timeline for implementation.
- At the June 8 meeting, you could take action to create the new position and hire for the new position, which would allow Mrs. Esposito and the principals to implement this position in August for the 22/23 school year.
- Or, we could wait to review other options and consider this position for the 23/24 school year.

D. BUILDING UPDATE/REPORT

Mrs. Eichstaedt stated that in January, Worth Elementary had their drama club performance. Many of the teachers volunteered their time to help out in various ways. The Choir had their performance last week Friday and they again performed this afternoon. The celebration is also for our teachers for the time and effort put into making these programs so successful and we are so lucky to have them in Worth School District.

Mrs. Toms shared that since March, our 5th grade students at Worthwoods Elementary School have diligently been working on their Wax Museum projects. Each student had to choose a historical figure that has made a positive impact on American History. Our 5th graders spent time researching their person, reading about their lives and learning about their achievements that make them so memorable and influential. Students created visual presentations, put together costumes, wrote speeches and then practiced them until they were perfect.

Our 5th graders were able to bring their characters to life during their Living Wax Museum event that was held last week on May 5th. This was the first time since the shutdown where we invited our families back into the building for an in school event. In previous years, students collected donations for various local organizations and this year was no exception. Keeping up to date on current events, the 5th graders felt that donating to a local food pantry would be the best choice. Our students, in 90 minutes, raised \$859.96. Using their estimation skills, they determined that this was about \$100 every 10 minutes. They've selected to donate this to the Mosque Foundation's Food Pantry, a location where many of our families and community members go to seek assistance.

We keep rolling with exciting news! Our Worthwoods Drama Club just had their first ever performance last night! Led by Mrs. Dawn Young, Ms. Alyssa Flanagan, Mr. Kris Martin, and Ms. Krystal Goldschmidt, our students performed their version of Rapping with Mother Goose. They worked so hard to put it together staying after school every Tuesday and Thursday and adding in additional practices as they neared their show time. With the help of our directors, students created the sets and scenery and put together a fabulous show!

Dr. Zampillo introduced Sarah Catt to give an update regarding the Scholastic Bowl. Ms. Catt stated that the team initially had a rough start, but they worked together as a team and won 3rd place.

Dr. Fleming stated that each Board Member received a flyer this evening regarding the Worth Fraternal Order of Policy 7th Annual Golf Outing, which is being held on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at the Water's Edge Golf Club. This is a great cause and we hope many of you will be able to attend.

6. BUSINESS MANAGER

A. Local Wellness Policy

- The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) requires all sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP) to establish a written Local School Wellness Policy for all schools under its jurisdiction. Sponsors have the flexibility to develop Local School Wellness Policies that meet the needs of their students and school community, but must meet the minimum requirements set by USDA.

- The committee met on Monday, March 14th and Monday, April 11th
- Committee members include all Administrators, Health Coordinator, two teachers, one Paraprofessional, and a parent volunteer. 12 people in total
- Topics for the policy include nutrition, physical activity and miscellaneous school based activities related to wellness.
- It was a great exercise and discussion, and we were able to share a draft with our nutrition auditor from ISBE when he was here in April
- This is valid for three years, and will need to be reviewed again in 2025 and updated at that time, if needed

Student Food Committees

- Worth Elementary and Worth JH students (16 total) tomorrow, Thursday, May 12
- Worthwoods Elementary students (10 total) next Friday, May 20
- All students participating turned in a completed parent permission slip
- Staff from Quest Food Management will be onsite to meet with students
- Students will sample a variety of new food offerings for next school year
- The group will discuss current offerings, likes, dislikes, etc.
- The students will be asked about what they would like to see in the future
- The past committees were very successful and everyone involved enjoyed the event

7. DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

A. ART SHOW

Mrs. Esposito was excited to introduce staff members to share information regarding the Art show, Drama and Choir Clubs.

Alyssa Flanagan addressed the Board and described how she has a passion and love for performing and being a part of the choir. She extended a warm thank you to the Board of Education for their support with allowing the Drama Club. Worth Elementary had 70 students participate and Worthwoods had 40 students participate. It was a wonderful experience to see our students grow and participate.

Krystal Goldschmidt addressed the Board and stated how hard the students worked at Choir this year and it was wonderful students got to perform in person. She is very proud of each one of them and how the students took leadership roles this year. Students worked very hard during rehearsals and were very eager to learn. It was exciting to see students practice together outside of school and meet together in their homes. We are super excited to see the Choir grow and see how supportive students are of each other. We thank the Board of Education and the administrators for all their support.

Kristopher Martin, Worth Elementary and Worthwoods Art Teacher, addressed the Board on how wonderful it was to help with doing crew for the Drama Club. He extended a sincere Thank you to the Board for giving these kids this opportunity.

JoAnne Albrecht addressed the Board and shared how excited she is to be back at the junior high and not have to travel back and forth from the elementary schools. It's so wonderful to be able to have kids in class and kids were so excited about painting masks. The students were so enthusiastic about their projects and self portraits. They worked so hard and put in so much effort and were excited about Art. Thank you to the Board and the administration for all the support.

Linda Esposito stated that It was so good to have unity between everyone and bring back the Arts Festival.

8. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Paul Rowell – Sex Education

Mrs. Megan Dresden – Paper Flyers

Mrs. Jolanta Sikora – Feedback regarding students back in school

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent): A. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): B. BOARD BILLS PAYABLE

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable for \$287,333.18 (EDUCATIONAL); \$901,823.54 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); and \$47,378.44 (TRANSPORTATION) for a total of \$1,236,535.16."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): C. PAYROLL SUMMARY

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Payroll Summary for the Education Fund in the amount of \$657,007.82, the Building Fund in the amount of \$46,873.80, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of 46,581.48."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): E. RESIGNATION OF CERTIFIED STAFF – JANET BURTON – SOCIAL WORKER – WORTH ELEMENTARY – RETIREMENT EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THE 2021–2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): F. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – ROBERT TERVIN – SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER – WORTH JUNIOR HIGH – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): G. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – TAYLOR TOMS – PRE-K TEACHER – WORTH ELEMENTARY – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): H. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – KEVIN CARMODY – SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: I. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – SAMANTHA MURPHY – SOCIAL WORKER – WORTH ELEMENTARY – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): J. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – AMBER DABROWSKI – ELEMENTARY TEACHER – WORTHWOODS – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): K. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – JASMINE MASTER – ELEMENTARY TEACHER – WORTH ELEMENTARY – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): L. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF – GABRIELLA SINGER – FULL-TIME PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER – EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2022–2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as outlined below."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

10. MOTIONS

Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 13, 2022 regular meeting."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Abstain: Missy Sinclair

Action: B. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 13, 2022 closed session minutes."

Motion by Danette Keeler, second by Meghan Sisk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Abstain: Missy Sinclair

Action: C. SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent Contract for Dr. Mark T. Fleming, beginning on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: D. BOARD MEETING DATES FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Board of Education Meeting dates for the 2022-2023 School Year."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: E. LOCAL WELLNESS POLICY

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Local School Wellness policy as outlined in the attached."

Motion by Danette Keeler, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

11. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION AND/OR REPORTS/REQUESTS

Several Board Members commented on how exciting it is to see clubs come back to the district. Board Member stated the Scholastic Bowl was so nice and the dedication teachers have shown to devote their own personal time on a Saturday. Board Members all agreed that the participation has been wonderful and kudos to the staff for all they've done to help make all these after school programs so successful: Wax Museum, Fishing Club, Track Meets, Worth Parent Organization Event.

Dr. Fleming commented that the Worth Parent Organization is all about fun and creating memories and he will share with Mrs. Wills and Mr. Tooth the positive feedback.

12. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens' remarks.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property; the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probably or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recording and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: B. RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education upon completion of it's discussions in closed session reconvene in public session at 8:34 p.m."

Motion by Danette Keeler, second by Meghan Sisk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

14. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m."

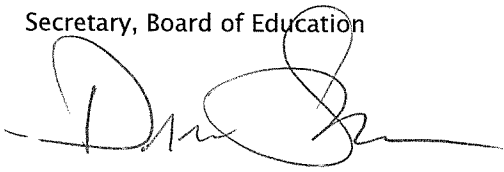
Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education



Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education