

Board of Education
Worth School District 127

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

May 8, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

Worth Junior High

11151 S. New England, Worth, Illinois

Administrators:

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent
Cindy Dykas, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager/CSBO
Dr. Sinead Chambers, Director of Student Services
Jason Tooth, Worth Junior High Principal
Melissa Wills, Assistant Principal
Dr. Maureen Eichstaedt, Principal, Worth Elementary
Ashley Toms Bonnstetter, Principal, Worthwoods Elementary
Elizabeth D'Andrea, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary
Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology
David Dvorchak, Director of Facilities and Grounds

Board Recording Secretary

Jill Moore

Others Present

JoAnne Albrecht, WJH
Christine Morrone, Admin. Center
Kathy Dennis, WW
Jill Engel, WJH
Deb Burghgraef, WW
Marian Colon, WE
Michelle Okrzesik, WE
JoAnn Tyree, WE
Amy Becker, Worth Resident
AnneMarie Berthold, WE
Sherry Strycker, WE
Kathy Wanatowicz, WE
Mary Zirngibl, WE
Jeff Pagano, WW
Kristina Cozzolino, WE
Liz Bandola, WE
Kathryn DeRuiter, WJH
Tim Dlh, WJH
Donna Weinert, Admin. Center

1. MEETING OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President, Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. FOIA REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated that since the last Board Meeting we have not received any FOIA Requests.

B. JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - NOVEMBER 22-24, 2024

Dr. Fleming stated that registration opens for the Joint Annual Conference on June 2, 2024 and if any Board Members are interested in attending to please let Jill Moore know so that she can register them.

Dr. Fleming stated that we will need to have a Special Board Meeting to approve the removal of asbestos at Worth Junior High and asked if the Board is available on May 22 at 6:00 p.m., which is the same day as the 8th grade graduation. Board Members will get back to Dr. Fleming regarding that date.

C. PREPARATION FOR 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Fleming stated that the district is almost fully staffed for the 2024/2025 school year and the Board will take action this evening to approve four new hires. We are looking into the possibility of bringing in another EL Teacher, but Dr. Chambers is reviewing the access scores first and we will then decide if one is necessary. We currently need: two more permanent subs; two more paraprofessionals; and we have many coaching positions open for the upcoming year to be filled.

D. WORTHWOODS WATER DETENTION OPTIONS

Dr. Fleming stated that in his Board Update last week, he shared that Option One would cost \$700,000; however, a new quote was presented at \$600,000, which also includes the fence. An additional \$50,000 would be taken off of the original \$1,050,000 for the storm trap. That would then bring the cost to \$600,000 if we want to put the above ground water retention with a fence, which could possibly prevent the ability to put a car lane in the future. At \$900,000 for the underground storm trap, this would then allow the district to use that land however we want for future use. Dr. Fleming further stated that his recommendation is to go with the underground storm trap and not go with the fence to prevent any safety concerns.

Dr. Fleming stated that we have not received further information from MWRD and he will have more information for the Board at the Special Board Meeting.

E. WORTH JUNIOR HIGH BAND PERFORMANCE

Dr. Fleming introduced Band Director, Kelly Gansauer, to present 7th grade student, Itzel Cahue and 6th grade student, Bryanna Marino to perform a piece called Calypso Morning.

F. WORTH JUNIOR HIGH ART FAIR

Dr. Fleming introduced Art Teacher, Ms. Jo Anne Albrecht, to give the Board an overview of all the art projects that are displayed and the history of the Art Fair that has taken place over the many years at the junior high. Ms. Albrecht thanked the Board and extended her appreciation for all their support in allowing students to be able to express themselves through art and the impact it has made on her and the students. Dr. Fleming thanked her and wished her well in her retirement and took a break to allow everyone to walk around and see the beautiful display of art that the students completed.

G. HONOR 2024 RETIREES

Dr. Fleming took time to honor all retirees and present a gift for the many years of service in Worth School District:

- Jo Anne Albrecht - 28 years of service
- Anne Marie Berthold - 33 years of service
- Debra Burghgraef - 21 years of service
- Marian Colon - 25 years of service
- Kathryn Dennis - 30 years of service
- Kathryn DeRuiter - 39 years of service
- Tim Dlhy - 24 years of service
- Sherry Strycker - 25 years of service
- Jill Engel - 15 years of service
- JoAnn Tyree - 26 years of service
- Christine Morrone - 25 years of service

Dr. Fleming extended an invitation to all Board Members on May 29, 2024, to attend Mama Vesuvio's from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m for the district end of year party and honoring retirees.

3. BUSINESS MANAGER

No Report

4. DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

No Report

5. DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

No Report

6. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Citizens' Remarks

7. CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Missy Sinclair.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, 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 7:33 p.m."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

8. 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 presented."

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Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): B. BOARD BILLS PAYABLE

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable for \$242,236.03 (EDUCATIONAL); \$44,588.45 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); \$11,299.24 (TRANSPORTATION); and \$266,885.20 (CAPITAL PROJECTS) for a total of \$565,008.92."

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, 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 \$724,093.27, the Building Fund in the amount of \$53,544.49, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of \$45,276.06."

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): D. RESIGNATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - PATRICK HARRIGAN - PART-TIME CUSTODIAN - EFFECTIVE MAY 3, 2024

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): E. EMPLOYMENT OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - JAMIE ROSSOW - PART-TIME CUSTODIAN - EFFECTIVE MAY 9, 2024

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): F. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - TIFFANY ALEXANDER-HARRIS - ELEMENTARY TEACHER - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): G. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - JESSICA PEREZ - ELEMENTARY TEACHER - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): H. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - MEGAN HEYWOOD - SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): I. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - NANCY GIBLIN - SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): J. UPDATED CALL LIST OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): K. FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICY #114

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the first reading of Policy #114 as listed in the attached."

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

9. MOTIONS

Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 10, 2024 regular meeting."

Motion by David Blanks, second by Michelle Egan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan

Abstain: Missy Sinclair

Action: B. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 10, 2024 closed session meeting."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan

Abstain: Missy Sinclair

Action: C. WORTH JUNIOR HIGH INSTRUCTIONAL INTERVENTIONIST POSITION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the hiring of one new Instructional Interventionist Position at Worth Junior High for FY25."

Motion by Missy Sinclair, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action: D. QUEST FOOD MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT RENEWAL

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the food contract renewal with Quest Food Management Services for the 2024-2025 school year."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Missy Sinclair.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action: E. TITLE ONE CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT PLAN

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Worth School District 127 Consolidated District Plan for the 2024/2025 School Year."

Motion by Missy Sinclair, second by Meghan Sisk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

Action: F. APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent Contract for Dr. Mark T. Fleming, beginning on July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027."

Motion by Missy Sinclair, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Missy Sinclair

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

- Board Member gave recognition to all the students that participated in the the Peter Pan play. The play was awesome and it was evident how much hard work was put into putting the play together.
- Board Member gave recognition to all retirees and expressed gratitude for all their hard work.
- Board Member stated that the Worth Fraternal Order of Police Golf Outing is Saturday, June 22, 2024 and everyone should consider attending to support this event.

11. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Citizens' Remarks.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m."

Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

 pro tem

Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education



Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education