

Board of Education  
Worth School District 127  
Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administrative Center

Meeting In-Person and Zoom Video Conference

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**October 14, 2020**

**1. MEETING OPENING**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Drew Sernus, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

Zoom: David Blanks

Absent: Danette Keeler

**Administrators:**

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent

Cindy Dykas, Business Manager/CSBO

Linda Esposito, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Sinead Chambers, Director of Special Services

Ashley Toms, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary/Worthwoods

Jason Tooth, Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High

Maureen Eichstaedt, Worth Elementary Principal

**Others Present:**

JoAnne Albrecht, WEA President

Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology

Bryan Baier, Director of Facilities and Maintenance

Dawn Davita,

Pam Ephraim,

Mary Zirngibl,

Jill Moore, Board Recording Secretary

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Drew Sernus read the guidelines for the Covid-19 restrictions and the purpose of offering a remote meeting.

**2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Fleming opened by stating that there have been some renovations done to the gym and the entrance way of the Administration Center. The security door was moved and a window was added to the registrar's area. A door was sealed in the gym for added security from the R.I.S.E. students.

**Recognition: A. BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION AWARDS - MICHELLE EGAN & DANETTE KEELER**

Dr. Fleming recognized Board Member Michelle Egan as Master Board Member Level II. Dr. Fleming thanked her for her dedication to students and staff. Ms. Egan was given a gift on behalf of the IASB - Illinois Association of School Boards. (Danette Keeler was unable to attend this meeting and will be recognized at the November Board Meeting).

**Information: B. WORTHWOODS RENOVATION**

Dr. Fleming stated that since the last Board Meeting In September there have been some additional finishing touches to Worthwoods: Signage has been added to the hallways; new bench and garbage cans outside; a bench was added around the tree in the library; we are still waiting for the community wall outside the gym. Once that is completed, Dr. Fleming will post more picture on social media.

**Information: C. WORTHWOODS PRINCIPAL POSTING - 2021/2022**

Dr. Fleming shared with the Board that as of today, we have 21 applicants for the principal position in Frontline. The tentative date for round one interviews is Oct. 21 with round 2 interviews taking places around October 28. Depending on how the rounds of interviews go, we may need an additional round. Dr. Fleming would like to bring a candidate to the November or December board Meeting for Board Members to take action.

**Information: D. BUILDING UPDATE/REPORT**

Dr. Fleming stated that the Illinois Department of Public Health released a new exclusion guidelines this week. Dr. Chambers will meet with the nurses and study the changes in detail. Jill Moore and I will be contacting the Cook County Health Department to determine if there are any specific changes in how we are reporting positive Covid cases.

Dr. Fleming shared that the IASB Virtual Summit will take place on November 20 which is in place of the annual Tri-Conference. If any Board Members are interested in this virtual conference, please let Jill Moore know and she will register you.

Dr. Fleming stated that in each of the Board Members supplemental folders is a copy of the 2020 Resolutions Report. Dr. Fleming will read through the report and put an update in his weekly board update.

Dr. Fleming thanked staff members for wearing pink in honor of Breast Cancer awareness month. He stated that his mother is a breast cancer survivor and also appreciated that Jill Moore made pins for each board member and staff in honor of breast cancer month.

### **3. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

#### Information: A. BUSINESS MANAGER

Cindy Dykas shared with the Board regarding Alpha Bus and the 37% payment. Ms. Dykas stated that it is fully reimbursable by the state because it's a qualifying expense. The district will pursue the transportation bid in December or January.

On October 8, the district held a wellness screening at the Worth Junior High. We had a wonderful response and all time slots were filled with over 50 participants. Employees had an opportunity to get a flu shot and everything was offered at no cost to employees.

During remote learning, we continue to pass out school breakfasts and lunches, however; we will now be extending it to Saturday and Sundays. Students will now be receiving meals 7 days a week. The weekend meals will be distributed on Friday and we are pleased to report the feedback has been positive.

#### Information: B. DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION - RETURNING TO IN-PERSON LEARNING

Linda Esposito shared with the Board the details of the return-to-learn plan. Ms. Esposito stated that a lot of research and planning has gone into putting this together and there is still work to be done in making it work. Math and reading will be the primary focuses and will take place in the morning, with essentials in the afternoon. Assistant Principal, Jason Tooth shared the schedule for Worth Junior High. Board Members took time to ask questions regarding in-person learning, chromebooks, curriculum books, school supplies, socially distancing students six feet apart, teacher planning time, upcoming student orientation, and the parent survey that will be sent out. Board Member expressed some concern that when students go back to in-person learning, there may be a lack of time devoted to remote learners. The following topics were covered:

- Gen Ed Teacher Schedule 1-5
- Group A Student Schedule
- Pre-K/Kindergarten Schedule
- EC Schedule
- Worth Junior High Hybrid/Remote Schedule

#### Information: C. DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

Dr. Chambers shared an update regarding the pilot program Accutran for translation services. The district has been utilizing the trial service that covers translation for Arabic, Polish, and Spanish translations. Dr. Chambers shared that we received 100 minutes in the free trial and we've tested the program on several phone calls. During the trial, we've had some success and other times calls were not successful. We've also tried the program during a Google Meet and we've had great feedback and it's created trust between the parents. Dr. Chambers will continue to monitor the progress of the program.

### **4. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no citizen's remarks.

### **5. CLOSED SESSION**

#### Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 6:56 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and 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."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

#### Action: B. RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education upon completion of its discussions in closed session reconvene in public session at 7:01 p.m."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

## **6. 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 listed below in 6b - 6c

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Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

### **Action (Consent): B. BOARD BILLS PAYABLE**

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable for \$204,831.23 (EDUCATIONAL); \$282,827.25 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); for a total of \$487,658.48."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as listed below in 6b - 6c

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

### **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 \$675,430.93, the Building Fund in the amount of \$42,805.93, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of \$54,322.40."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as listed below in 6b - 6c

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

## **7. MOTIONS**

### **Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES**

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting on September 16, 2020."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Stephanie Peltzer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

Abstain: Meghan Sisk

### **Action: B. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the closed session minutes of the September 16, 2020 regular meeting."

Motion by Stephanie Peltzer, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

Abstain: Meghan Sisk

### **Action: C. APPROVAL TO BID SUMMER 2021 WORK, AS DESIGNED BY DIA, LTD.**

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education authorize the creation of bid specifications and release bid documents for summer 2021 projects, including the addition and remodel work at Worth Elementary School."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

*Board Member stated he had some further questions regarding the Worth Elementary bid and will follow-up with Dr. Fleming.*

Action: D. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Personal Property as presented in the attachment".

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

Action: E. SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the superintendent contract for Mark T. Fleming through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Vince Flores, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

**8. BOARD DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION****9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS**

Discussion, Information: A. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

**10. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA ITEMS****11. CLOSED SESSION**Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 7:32 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and 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."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

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 8:37 p.m."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Michelle Egan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Stephanie Peltzer

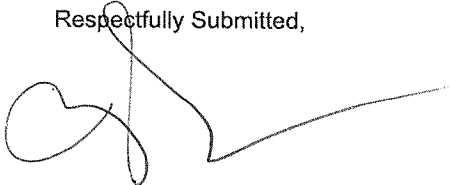
**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m."

Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Meghan Sisk

Secretary, Board of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Drew Sernus', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Drew Sernus  
President, Board of Education