

**Board of Education
Worth School District 127
Worth Elementary School**

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

January 12, 2022

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Administrators:

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent
Cindy Dykas, 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
Ashley Toms, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary/Worthwoods
David Dvorchak, Director of Facilities and Grounds
Melissa Wills, Assistant Principal
Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology

Board Recording Secretary:

Jill Moore

Others Present

JoAnne Albrecht, WJH
Mary Zirngibl, WE
Alyssa Zirngibl, WE
Sandy Jager, WJH
Lisa Bray, WJH
Colleen Santomieri, WE
Jason Bragg, Math Consultant
Vicki Ramirez
Jolanta Sikora
Jadwiga Hajnos
Paul and Dawn Rowell
Megan Dresden

Worth Officials

Mayor Mary Werner
Bonnie Price
Officer Mike Cozzi
Chief Tim Denton
Deputy Chief Cristiano Fernandez
Robert O' Shaughnessy, WPD
Kelly Pezdek, WPD

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Fleming opened by welcoming and thanking everyone for attending this special night and being a part of the Worth Elementary Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Dr. Fleming introduced, Jason Bragg, who is the district's Math Consultant and has provided professional

development for teachers. Mr. Bragg stated that he is very excited to be a part of Worth School District and comes in every month for about four days to provide professional development to teachers.

A. K-9 FUNDRAISER

Dr. Fleming stated that the K-9 Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, January 29 at 6:00 p.m. We are so excited that Louie will be used as a therapy dog for students. We so appreciate your support and hope that you will be able to attend this event.

B. COPS SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT

Dr. Fleming thanked Officer Cozzi and Cindy Dykas for working long hours to obtain the Cops School Violence Prevention Grant. The grant is in the amount of \$397,120 and the district will match 10%. This grant will be used for fobs, security cameras, and mirrors in the hallways.

C. RECAPTURE LEVY

Revenue that has been budgeted for services, supplies and staff is too often lost to taxpayers that appeal for refunds. SB 508 provides a major benefit for taxing districts that annually lose thousands of tax dollars in taxpayer refunds, allowing them to receive their full extensions without concern that large refunds will interfere with planned expenditures.

- Worth 127 total 2020 tax extension: \$10,213,333
- 2020 SPO/PTAB refunds: \$(132,960)
- 2020 Certificate of Error refunds: \$(111,253)
- Total refunds: \$(244,213) eligible for recapture in 2021 levy

Options for Worth 127:

- Keep all of the Recapture Levy (approximately \$50 for the average homeowner will be passed on to the taxpayer)
- Abate all of the Recapture Levy (entire amount is lost to district and not charged back to the taxpayer)
- Keep a portion of the Recapture Levy/Abate a portion of the Recapture Levy (mix of both options listed above)

Next Steps:

- If keeping all of the Recapture Levy, do nothing. This is the default per SB 508
- If abating some or all of the Recapture Levy, must file a Resolution approved by the Board of Education by March and file with Cook County Clerk by the end of March 2022.

D. WORTH ELEMENTARY RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Dr. Fleming recognized each board member and the years of service in Worth School District:

Drew Sernus - 17 years

Danette Keeler - 13 years

Vince Flores - 11 years

David Blanks - 9 years

Meghan Sisk - 8 years

Michelle Egan - 7 years

Stephanie Peltzer - 3 years

Dr. Fleming recognized former Board Member, Rebecca Roti, who served approximately 6 years on the Board.

Dr. Fleming stated he met Carol Stewart who is a 1955 graduate of the junior high. Thank you, Carol, for taking the time to come out tonight.

Dr. Fleming recognized DLA Architects and Troop Construction along with Cindy Dykas, David Dvorchak and the entire staff as each person has played a role in making this evening possible.

Board Member thanked all parents for their ongoing support.

President, Drew Sernus stated that when he became a Board Member 17 years ago, the district was very close to having the state take over their finances. Mr. Sernus spoke about how each building received an upgrade over the years and it's so exciting to see

these changes as this has been a long journey for the district. We've come a long way with no additional bonds and no referendums. We still have about three to four years to pay off the previous bonds.

Dr. Fleming stated that Phase 4 of the Worth Elementary addition will be complete in August 2023.

A short video was played that displayed pictures of students and staff entering the new addition.

Ribbon cutting ceremony took place.

E. FOIA REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated that the district received three FOIA requests and the district responded to each one in a timely manner.

F. PRESS PLUS POLICY #107 - SECOND READ & ADOPTION

Dr. Fleming stated that Press Plus Policy #107 is the districts first revision since June 2021 and is listed in the motions to adopt.

Board Members will take action on Policy #108 as a first read in February.

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

Mrs. Hajnos - Parents are angry/Mask mandate/Springfield court case/Clarification regarding if the district is paying two lawyers.

Mrs. Sikora - Springfield court case/Mask mandate/IPDH authority over local authority/Will district require vaccinating children.

Mr. Rowell - Expressed appreciation over keeping schools open/Worth Elementary addition/Government control/students not standing for the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Dresdan - Clarification regarding the Property Tax Relief Grant/Clarification regarding how the district received and what was required to get ESSER Funds.

Mary Zirngibl thanked the Board of Education for all their work and dedication to the Worth School District community.

4. 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 Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, 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 \$346,419.43 (EDUCATIONAL); \$339,329.04 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); \$23,705.31 (TRANSPORTATION); and \$12,925.00 (TORT IMMUNITY) for a total of \$722,378.78."

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, 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 \$966,603.79, the Building Fund in the amount of \$60,818.33, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of \$70,431.46."

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action (Consent): D. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - SARAH GLOGLOWSKI - SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER - WORTHWOODS - EFFECTIVE JANUARY 12, 2021

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action (Consent): E. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICY

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the second reading and adoption of the policies as listed 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 Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

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

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

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Danette Keeler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

5. MOTIONS

Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the December 8, 2021 regular meeting."

Motion by Stephanie Peltzer, second by Meghan Sisk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: B. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the December 8, 2021 closed session minutes."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: C. APPROVAL BID WORK AT THE DR. ROSEMARY LUCAS BUILDING 2022 WORK, AS DESIGNED BY DLA, LTD.

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education authorize the remodeling work at the Dr. Rosemary Lucas Building to the lowest qualified bidder, Troop Contracting, for a base bid total of \$2,393,000."

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, Stephanie Peltzer

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 Stephanie Peltzer, second by Michelle Egan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

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

Board Members thanked Dr. Fleming and staff for all their efforts in moving things along to make the Worth Elementary addition possible.

7. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA ITEMS

Vicki Ramirez - Asked Board Members to think about the Worth tax payers when considering the recapture levy. Mrs. Ramirez stated that she has challenged her taxes several times and have found that cook county has made mistakes in the past.

Mrs. Sikora - Clarification regarding expenses/recapture levy.

Dr. Fleming commented that no decision has been made regarding the recapture levy.

8. CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 7:26 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; 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 student disciplinary cases.

Motion by Vince Flores, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, 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 8:30 p.m."

Motion by David Blanks, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

9. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m."

Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education



Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education