

**MINUTES**  
**SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT #2342**  
**WEST CENTRAL AREA SECONDARY SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**  
**October 23, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Sabolik. Members present per roll call: Sabolik, Strunk, Grosz, Ulrich, Christenson. Members Absent: Beuckens, Nessman Administration present: Hogie, Powers, Prasch, Knutson, Amundson, and Moerke. Administration Absent: McNamara and Foslien

Visitors: Nicole Hanson, Chris Ray, Claire VanBlarcom, Shelby Arroyo, Joan Sykora, Theresia Morth, and Kari Kreft

Ms. Beuckens arrived at 6:45 pm.

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Strunk to modify the agenda as per the agenda addendum. MCU

Motion by Strunk, seconded by Christenson, to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on September 18, 2019. MCU

Motion by Strunk seconded by Grosz, to approve the payment of claims in the amount of \$623,086.44. MCU

Mr. Hogie commented that our Special Education Department has been awarded a Certificate of Achievement from the Minnesota Department of Education for their effort to ensure individual student due process records meet or exceed requirements and are reflective of the dedication of the administration, school staff and community. Present for the recognition was Claire VanBlarcom, Shelby Arroyo, Joan Sykora, Theresia Morth. Absent were Maggie Dahl and Mary Hokanson.

Technology Coordinator: (Kevin McNamara) – Mr. McNamara reported that a new sound system is being added to the gym at South which will be used for music concerts, school wide assemblies and daily gym class. Mr. McNamara is working with Alextronics to find a solution for better paging coverage at North and South in the hallways, lunchroom and gymnasium. Work is being done to catch up on requests for new online content licensing since online instructional and supplemental material is currently the fastest growing want/need for the technology department. As always thanks to Stacy Desmet for keeping the district functioning on a high level. Technology is amazing when it works well!

Community Education: (Naomi Moerke) – Ms. Moerke reported on upcoming classes: AARP in Elbow Lake on November 19th, Co-Ed Volleyball is looking for teams, we currently have 9 teams registered. The league runs from November 30th through February 12th. League champions receive a t-shirt. Cost per team is \$235. We have 4 high school girls referee the league. Chef's Academy taught by Ms. Schoenbauer is at max capacity with 10 students with classes running October - December. New this year is Sewing Academy with the class already at max capacity of 8 students. The students have several different projects to choose from and runs for three weeks. STEAM classes are up and running at both North and South elementary. North had nearly 30 students attend the October classes. Mikaylah Stark is running south's again and has some really cool classes being offered in November. Sarah Nelson is running North's November classes with some fantastic opportunities for students. Other activities coming soon, Thursday Night skiing, again we would like to thank the Kensington Fire Department for their donation to cover transportation to Andes; 4-H adventures will be held 1st Thursday of the month at Secondary School and 3rd Thursday of the month at North Elementary for K-4 graders. Wrestling Club started on the 22nd with 18 students currently registered. This is a folkstyle wrestling style and is run by Scott Johnson. The next session for Play and Learn is November 19th from 10-11:30am for both North & South Elementary. Gearing up for Kindergarten will be held in Barrett on November 18th from 5:30-7 pm free of charge. Ms. Moerke gave an update on Wrap Around, there are sporadic children attending, and approximately 3 full time right now. Before school care begins at 7am and has had approximately three students utilizing the program. After school care continues to do well sitting at 25+ students per day and runs from 3:30 -5:30 pm. We have 2 high school students helping out with after school.

Activities Director: (Jacob Foslien) – Mr. Foslien reported that Cross Country section meet is at Pierz on Friday. The volleyball season ended on Monday with a loss to Underwood. WCA-A Football play Osakis on Saturday at 7 pm. Winter activities starting: JH BBB on 10/21, 9-12 GBB 11/11, 9-12 BBB 11/18, 7-12 Wrestling 11/18, and JH GBB 01/02. Also, the following events: WCA hosts subsection section 6A south volleyball semifinals and finals 10/25 and 10/29, FFA National Convention is 10/28-11/01, A Capella Choir will sing at West Acres Shopping Mall in Fargo on 12/3, Western Division Student Council Meeting in Detroit Lakes on 11/13, Grant County Wrestling

Invite on 12/7, Band Concert on 12/9 and Choir Concert on 12/16, and Boys Alpine Skiing Co-op. (discussion in November)

Buildings & Grounds Director: (Pete Amundson) – Mr. Amundson reported that we will begin organic recycling at both our elementary buildings. All containers and tables are provided through Pope/Douglas County solid waste and funded by a grant. The only cost to the District will be the bags. Update on the heating system, all boilers are up and running. Continued repairs are happening at all three sites and warranty work will begin next week on the heat pumps at the Secondary School.

Elementary School Principal: (Natalie Prasch) – Ms. Prasch commented that they would like to thank all the volunteers who made the Spirit Run such a huge success. The students raised over \$5,100 to be used to help pay for fun activities for our students. North holds a similar run in the spring. Thank you to the Elbow Lake Fire Department for coming to our school for Fire Prevention Week. The kids were able to climb through the tunnel, carry the hose and doused the windows with water. South will host the firefighters on Friday. Ms. Prasch reported that they will once again be doing Operation Gratitude. This project collects items to send to our troops serving overseas. The project fits in with the respect and kindness portions of our PBIS(Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program and was a huge success last year. Ms. Prasch is currently working with publishers of Go Math! to determine if we could pilot a program in two grade levels for second semester. The Company had no policy regarding a district pilot option, but are working with corporate offices to make a pilot a possibility for us. If the pilot is successful, we will make a recommendation to purchase the resource for grades K-8.

Secondary School Principal: (Susan Knutson) - Ms. Knutson reported on homecoming activities. Having coronation, powder puff and the bonfire on one night ran smoothly. We had a great turn-out for the volleyball game on Tuesday. It was all hands on deck for the Football game that was played on Thursday but we pulled it off. Taste of WCA was wet and cold but delicious. A special thanks goes out to the Krefts and the Education Foundation for making it a unique and special experience. Also, we have 40 students signed up to attend the DC trip in 2021. Band and choir programs are prepping for their NY trip in June. A parent meeting, where final costs and an itinerary will be shared, will be held on October 28th. Mr. Swatazke will be recognized at the National FFA Conference in Indianapolis on November 1st. Mr. Johnson and nine FFA students will join him. FFA is also graciously covering the costs of my trip so I will be attending Wednesday, Oct 30th - Friday, Nov. 1st. Ninth graders were literally flying high today in Elbow Lake. Thanks to VK and Joe LaRue for providing this unique experience to our students. Ms. Knutson reported starting 2nd quarter we will be enforcing a new “No Pass” policy. Students that are on the failure list will have no pass privileges for leaving the classroom until they are removed from the failure list. A team of teachers will be meeting to review the eight period day and explore other options. I am considering establishing a no backpack policy starting the 2020-2021 school year. All students have a locker assigned to them and time to travel between classes. The American Chiropractic Association recommends that students carry no more than 5%-10% of their weight in a backpack. Backpacks also create other safety risks and make it difficult for teachers to move around the classroom and admin to move around the lunchroom. This will most likely be an unpopular decision with most students but we will provide time for the learning curve. Ms. Knutson commented on a new policy proposal, at this time WCA has no policy in regards to student eligibility to earn a WCA diploma other than credit requirements. Many districts have requirements that may include enrollment in the district or minimum number of credits required (50%) from the district to earn that districts diploma. At a time in education where students are completing their high school credits in a variety of ways it may be in the best interest of WCA to uphold the integrity of our diploma by adding some type of policy that enables us to accept or deny a request for a WCA diploma based on more than just credits earned.

Business Manager: (Diane Powers) - Ms. Powers reported that the audit went well and we are currently working with auditors to tie up loose ends. The plan is to have the report for the November 20th meeting. Title I, Title II, and IV applications have been approved for the 19-20 school year. Title I funds \$231,313.77, Title II of \$21,537.54, and Title IV of \$22,778.73. Both Title I & II funds are down this year and Title IV is new this year. WCA also received a rebate check from Ottertail Power in the amount of \$199,400 for the new heat pumps. Ms. Powers also reported on budget vs. actual.

Superintendent: (Dale Hogie) -.Mr. Hogie mentioned that he will be talking with Sue Peterson from School Perceptions regarding the survey and hope to have the final draft ready next week with the survey being mailed in early December. Mr. Hogie commented he is working with Grant County ISD Superintendents regarding the Tobacco & Vaping county-wide initiative to raise the legal limit to 21 to purchase tobacco. Mr. Grosz made a previous suggestion that our Board submit a recommendation to the Grant County Commissioners. An update

was given on the timeline for RFP submission and interview dates and community informational meeting schedule. The Veteran's Day program is being held on November 11th with the theme of "Humor in Uniform".

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Ulrich to approve the following unfinished business (MCU):

1. Final reading of the following policies:
  - a. Policy #427 - Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers
  - b. Policy #801 & Form - Equal Access to Facilities of Secondary Schools
  - c. Policy #802 - Disposition of Obsolete Equipment & Material
  - d. Policy #805 - Waste Reduction & Recycling
  - e. Policy #901 - Community Education

New Business:

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Ulrich to approve the following FTE Changes: Ben Johnson from .8 to 1 FTE and Jeremy Rapp from .5 to .78 FTE. MCU

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Beuckens to approve approve the advertising for a 6.5 paraprofessional instead of a 3.5 paraprofessional. MCU

Motion by Beuckens, Seconded by Grosz to approve the resolution accepting donations. Roll call vote: Yay 6, Nay 0. MCU

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Strunk to approve the superintendent Evaluation for SY 2019-2020. MCU

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Strunk to approve Dale Hogie as the Human Rights Officer. MCU

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Strunk to approve Jake Foslien as the Title IX Officer. MCU

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Beuckens to approve Susan Knutson as the 504 Coordinator. MCU

Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Beuckens to remove eLearning days from the school calendar. MCU

Motion by Christenson, seconded by Beuckens to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- a. Policy #414 - Mandated Reporting
- b. Policy #419 - Tobacco-Free Environment
- c. Policy #421 - Gifts to Employees and School Board Members
- d. Policy #510 - School Activities
- e. Policy #516 - Student Medication
- f. Policy #524 - Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
- g. Policy #532 - Use of Peace Officer
- h. Policy #534 - Unpaid Meal Charges
- i. Policy #601 - curriculum and Instruction
- j. Policy #603 - Curriculum Development
- k. Policy #611 - Home Schooling

Mr. Hogie mentioned the MSBA Leadership Conference is scheduled for January 16 & 17 if any of the board members would like to attend.

Motion by Grosz, seconded by Ulrich, to adjourn. MCU

Michelle Nessman – Clerk