

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-5913

Minutes November 9, 2020

The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 4:48 p.m. in the JSHS Library with Mrs. Ziolkowski, Board Vice President, presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. Ziolkowski asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. Mr. Arnst indicated he will be recording the meeting.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips (by phone), Mr. Pottieger, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, and Mrs. Ziolkowski.

Board Members Absent: Mr. Redner

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Boyer, Mr. Cafoncelli, Mr. Arnst, and Dr. Jones.

Attendees: Meghan Tierney, JSHS Teacher
B.J. Dramby, JSHS Teacher
Barb DeMoss, Recording Secretary

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Ziolkowski announced upcoming meetings

- School Board Business Meeting – November 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m. JSHS Library
- Facilities Committee Workshop – November 18, 2020, 3:30 p.m. JSHS Library
- School Board Business Meeting (Re-Organization) – December 7, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

All listed meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mrs. Waxler, second by Mrs. McAvoy the Board approved the following minutes:

- October 12, 2020, Committee of the Whole Minutes

Yeas: Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Pottieger, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, and Mrs. Ziolkowski.

Absent: Mr. Redner.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES

Dr. Woodard greeted the Board and explained they were continuing the tour of school presentations. Tonight would be the last of the schools

Minutes November 9, 2020

with the presentation of the JSHS teachers. Dr. Woodard introduced Dr. Jones, JSHS Principal.

**A. CURRICULUM
AND TECHNOLOGY**

1. **Instructional Model Highlight JSHS** - Dr. Jones thanked the Board for having them and shared that Mr. Dramby and Ms. Tierney did a fantastic job of reflecting on their own craft, as well as reaching out to other colleagues to be able to give the Board a holistic view with tonight's presentation.

Ms. Tierney began by reviewing implementation and pacing in marking period one, explaining the synchronous and asynchronous learning, and highlighting the different learning environments created by teachers. Ms. Tierney reviewed the impact of the new learning environments on pacing and rigor. She explained the value of joint Wednesday check-in's and the difficulty to manage schedules for additional 1:1 time.

Mr. Dramby spoke about Marking Period 2, Hybrid 2.0, and the additional synchronous learning being provided to Hybrid and WAVE students. He spoke about how this impacted implementation and pacing. Mr. Dramby highlighted increased face time with teachers, more collaboration with peers, and breakout rooms. He shared this also allows more consistent routine and helps with work completion. He spoke about the demand on technology and the obstacles, but stated that students were doing a great job. He also spoke about Wednesdays, reserved office hours, optional learning, and individual one to one teacher support.

Mr. Dramby spoke about the successes, and shared that teachers were happy to be teaching and found it to be a sustainable educational model. He shared the students are grateful to be in school and are following health and safety guidelines. He spoke about integration of technology, the return of sports and clubs, and the social/emotional benefit to students. He spoke about learning new things and the collaboration that was happening to make things such as lunch, run smoothly.

Speaking about challenges that have been overcome, Mr. Dramby shared this was the hardest year for him in his 22 years of teaching. He explained about the difficulty getting to know students in a virtual learning environment. He spoke about the challenges of teacher to teacher collaboration, difficulties juggling the needs of all the learning models as well as WebEx classes. He is hopeful this is something they have overcome in Hybrid 2.0.

Minutes November 9, 2020

Ms. Tierney spoke about challenges they continue to address, such as student work completion, consistency of mandatory virtual attendance, technology issues/limitations, needed teacher support, such as instructional coaches, as well as assessment validity with online tests, and the abilities and limitations of certain apps and third-party websites.

Mr. Dramby concluded by thanking the Board and stating he hopes the Board leaves tonight with a better understanding of what is going on at the JSHS.

2. **JSHS 2021-22 Program of Studies Overview – Dr. Woodard**

Dr. Woodard spoke about the Program of Studies saying it was relatively similar to last year with a few adjustments. Dr. Woodard reviewed the key highlights in Science, with Honors Anatomy and Physiology and Grade 8 Earth & Space Science/Advanced. Dr. Woodard also reviewed Tech. Ed/Computer Science with the introduction of Honors STEM Robotics II, and concluded by providing information about the JROTC Cooperation Agreement.

B. FINANCE

1. **2021/2022 Budget-First Look and ACT 1 - Mr. Boyer**

Mr. Boyer stated the discussion this evening was for administration to get Board direction for ACT 1 and exceptions. Mr. Boyer gave a review of the ACT 1 Index and how it is computed. He explained Wyomissing qualifies for 3% Act 1 Index, meaning our ability to raise taxes is set at 3%. Mr. Boyer reviewed the additional tax revenue generated by raising taxes to the 3% index. Mr. Boyer explained that Wyomissing qualifies for Special Education Exceptions which gives the Board the ability to raise taxes up to 4.02%. Mr. Boyer reviewed what the millage rates and additional tax revenue dollars would be in that scenario, which equates to \$144/yr. for the average home owner.

Mr. Boyer reviewed the current revenues and expenditures, and shared the resultant deficit. Mr. Boyer noted, revenue does not include tax increases, and expenditures do not include any new positions, but that it does include the full amount of debt service and \$250K of contingency funds. Mr. Boyer explained possible options the Board has with the debt service.

Minutes November 9, 2020

Mr. Boyer reviewed the fund balance for 2021, explaining the assigned deficit of \$732, 872 and the reasons he does not believe the District will hit that deficit this year. Mr. Boyer noted assigned fund balance is a placeholder for next year's budget deficit. He explained the surplus and deficits from 19/20, 20/21 and 21/22 and how they work within the General Fund.

Mr. Boyer shared some slides reviewing Earned Income tax and Business Privilege tax explaining the Actuals and Forecasts budgeted, and stated the district will likely come out to the good. Mr. Boyer also reviewed slides for the Local Service Tax and the Real Estate Transfer Tax and shared that the District should come in close to the budgeted amount on both of those. Mr. Boyer said the District overall should end up better than they budgeted for 20/21.

Mr. Boyer reviewed the next steps, stating the Board needs to choose to either adopt a resolution authorizing the preliminary budget and advertise, or adopt the resolution to opt out of exceptions. Mr. Boyer explained the timelines based on the Board decisions.

Mr. Scoboria explained, administration realizes this presentation is a little early, but he had asked Mr. Boyer to put together a presentation to give the board an early look.

Mr. Boyer shared, the administration would recommend the Board to stay with the 3%, stating the District historically does not choose to exceed the ACT 1 index.

The Board advised Mr. Boyer to place the resolution to opt out of exceptions on the November 16, 2020 Board Agenda.

C. FACILITIES

1. **Construction Update – Mr. Cafoncelli**

Mr. Cafoncelli shared a brief update, stating he and Mr. Vukmanic, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Boyer, and all of cabinet have been working hard to get the stakeholder groups together. He shared some of the meeting dates and the groups to be represented. He stated the Board Facilities Workshop would be held on the 18th and they would provide updates to the Board. He stated they are currently well within the established timeline and explained the goal is to get all stakeholder input including teachers, food services, I.T., etc. between now and the beginning of December. They plan to form a student committee to get input in an area of student interest and they are scheduled to get specifications out in early spring. Mr.

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-5917

Minutes November 9, 2020

Cafoncelli will keep the Board a part of the process moving forward and said it will be a busy couple of months, but it is a realistic timeline to be breaking ground this coming summer.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Waxler second by Mrs. McAvoy to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Board Secretary