

WAWASEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
Wawasee High School Warrior Room
August 8, 2023 6:30pm

An Executive Session was held in the Wawasee High School Commons at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) To discuss job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(2)(B) Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. As used in this clause, "litigation" includes any judicial action or administrative law proceeding under federal or state law. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(1)(D) For discussion of strategy with respect to a real property transaction including: (i) a purchase; (ii) a lease as lessor; (iii) a lease as lessee; (iv) a transfer; (v) an exchange; or (vi) a sale by the governing body up to the time a contract or option is executed by the parties. This clause does not affect a political subdivision's duty to comply with any other statute that governs the conduct of the real property transaction, including I.C. 36-1-10 or I.C. 36-1-11.

The board by its signatures affixed below does affirm that the purpose of the Session was for the discussion of a job performance evaluation of individual employees. It was used to discuss the initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. As used in this clause, "litigation" includes any judicial action or administrative law proceeding under federal or state law. It was also used to discuss a real property transaction.

Those board members and central office staff present:

Mike Wilson, Vice President

Steve Troyer, Superintendent

Steven Baut, Board Member

Shelly Wilfong, Assistant Superintendent

Neil Likens, Board Member

Mr. Mike Wilson welcomed everyone and called the Preliminary Determination Hearing to order at 6:31 p.m.

Dr. Shelly Wilfong led the Pledge of Allegiance and The Vision Statement.

Mr. Steven Baut led the Invocation.

Mr. Mike Wilson opened the Preliminary Determination Hearing. Dr. Troyer explained under Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to construct or renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one million dollars it must first hold a public hearing. Additionally, another purpose of the meeting is whenever a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease agreement and/or issue bonds for the construction or renovation of a school building resulting in total costs in excess of certain thresholds, the school corporation is required to hold two public hearings on its preliminary determination to issue such bonds and enter into such lease agreement. The first hearing on the preliminary determination for the Project was held on August 1, 2023. Notice of both public hearings was published in the Mail Journal and the Times Union on July 19, 2023 and was mailed to the Kosciusko County Clerk.

Dr. Troyer spoke of the educational need for the project. Milford Elementary dates back to 1954 and is in much need of a renovation or new building. There is ample land and space for this to happen. The other part of the project would add a Performing Arts Center to Wawasee High School, moving choir, music, band and theater classes to the new center and adding a new auditorium. This renovation and addition would be two-fold. CTE/Pathways classes and offices and the alternative education classes, could be moved into the space left by the music and auditorium spaces.

Architects and construction management companies presented options for the Milford renovation and a new building option. Building a new building would be the best option, in their opinion. A second architectural firm presented options on the Performing Arts Center. There are many different options to consider.

Dr. Brandon Penrod gave the financial impact of the Project. Stating that these projects are tax neutral projects, keeping our tax rates the same.

Mr. Mike Wilson asked if there were any Patron Comments regarding the Project. There were none. The Determination Hearing was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Mr. Mike Wilson welcomed everyone and called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Wilson reminded everyone of the board policy regarding public participation during patron comments. There is a 3-minute limit per person, and we ask that if there are multiple people to speak on the same topic, that you have one person to speak for all. Mr. Wilson then asked if there were any Patron Comments. There were no Patron Comments.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to accept the Good News Items, along with a Lay Down. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion was carried 3-0. Good News Items included the following and a Lay Down.

- a. Donations:
 1. K21 Foundation - North Webster Elementary - \$6,000 donation
 2. Shoop Sports and Youth Foundation - Wawasee Band Department - \$27,500 grant
- b. Perfect Bus Inspection. All 58 buses are ready for the school year
- c. Donation Lay Downs
 1. Shoop Sports and Youth Foundation - Wawasee Super Mileage - \$10,000 grant
 2. TNT Performance - Wawasee FFA - \$75 donation
 3. Kosciusko Co. 4H DCFS - Wawasee FFA - \$300 donation
 4. Doug and Jeannine Schrock - Angel Fund - \$10,000 donation

Mr. Steven Baut moved to accept Grouped Action Items, along with a Lay Down. Mr. Neil Likens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Grouped Action Items included the following and a Lay Down.

- a. Approval of Minutes
 1. Regular Board Meeting - July 11, 2023
 2. Special Board Meeting - August 1, 2023
- b. Support Service Personnel Recommendations
- c. Certified Personnel Recommendations
- d. Extra Curricular Personnel Recommendations
- e. New Position/Title Changes
- f. Claims

Support Service Personnel Recommendations

Employment:

- Jessica Murray is recommending Erica Benitez as a Wawasee High School Cafeteria Manager. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jennifer Phillips is recommending Amanda Erb as a 5.75 Hour SLP Paraprofessional for Syracuse Elementary. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jessica Murray is recommending Scinda Hamman as a 4 Hour Wawasee Middle School Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Steve Perek is recommending Kelly Horn as a Wawasee High School Attendance Administrative Assistant. This position is effective August 2, 2023.
- Jessica Murray is recommending Stephanie Karr as a 4 Hour North Webster Elementary Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jessica Murray is recommending Darlena Kauffman as a 5 Hour Wawasee Middle School Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jennifer Phillips is recommending Valarie Lozano as a 5.75 Hour SLP Paraprofessional for North Webster Elementary and Milford Elementary Schools. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jennifer Phillips is recommending Elliette Pulley as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Student Intern. This position is effective August 9, 2023.
- Brandon Kiser is recommending Trey Runyon as a Wawasee Middle School Custodian. This position is effective August 2, 2023.
- Michael Casey is recommending Ida Schmucker as a 5.75 Hour Milford Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional. This position is effective August 9, 2023.
- Eric Speicher is recommending Crystal Smith as a 5.75 Hour Syracuse Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional. This position is effective August 9, 2023.

- Jessica Murray is recommending Tasha Stabler as a 5 Hour Syracuse Elementary Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Brent Berkeypile is recommending Myranda Stewart as a Wawasee Middle School Guidance Administrative Assistant. This position is effective August 9, 2023.
- Jennifer Phillips is recommending Adriana Trimble as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jennifer Phillips is recommending Katelyn Trimble as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jessica Murray is recommending Laura Wiggs as a 3 Hour Wawasee High School Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Jessica Murray is recommending Renee Wood as a 4 Hour North Webster Elementary Cafeteria Worker. This position is effective as of August 7, 2023.

Transfer:

- Eric Speicher is recommending the Transfer of Heather Myers from a Syracuse Elementary Special Education Para, to an ELL Paraprofessional. This Transfer is effective as of August 9, 2023.

Resignation:

- Delaney Brooks has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Syracuse Elementary Title 1 Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective July 25, 2023.
- Marcia Hill has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Community Schools Bus Driver. This Resignation is effective July 11, 2023.
- Amy Judy has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective August 1, 2023.
- Madeline Kosins has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a North Webster Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective July 31, 2023.
- Rodney Kuhn has submitted his Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee High School Custodian. This Resignation is effective July 26, 2023.
- Brianna Mundo has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Milford Elementary Remediation Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective July 18, 2023.
- Kachelle Robinson has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective August 3, 2023.
- Katina Robinson has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective August 2, 2023.
- Cindy Taylor has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Middle School Cafeteria Worker. This Resignation is effective July 25, 2023.
- Ashley Torres has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee Early Learning Center Paraprofessional. This Resignation is effective as of August 11, 2023.

Change of Status:

- Jessica Murray has submitted a Change of Status for Gretchen Liston from a Syracuse Elementary Cafeteria Worker, to a Substitute Cafeteria Worker.
- Jessica Murray has submitted a Change of Status for Amy Sloan from a Wawasee High School Cafeteria Worker, to a Substitute Cafeteria Worker.

Certified Service Personnel Recommendations

Employment:

- Geoff Walmer is recommending Benjamin Merriman as a WHS Foreign Language Teacher. This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Eric Speicher is recommending Tammy Plastow as a Syracuse Elementary Special Education Teacher. This position is effective August 7, 2023.

- Jon Everingham is recommending Grant Ruch as a WHS CTE Automotive Technology Teacher (33%). This position is effective August 7, 2023.
- Dr. Shelly Wilfong is recommending Nathaniel Wessels as a Behavior Support Specialist for the 2023-2024 School Year. This is a 1-Year contract position.

Position/Title Change:

- Geoff Walmer is recommending Kyle Garner move from a Secondary Spanish Teacher, to a WHS Foreign Language Teacher. Kyle will be teaching German. This position change is effective August 7, 2023.

Resignation:

- Sarah Fredericks has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Wawasee High School German Teacher. This Resignation is effective as of July 27, 2023.
- Julie Hursey has submitted her Letter of Resignation as a Milford Elementary Special Education Teacher. This Resignation is effective as of August 4, 2023.

Extra Curricular Personnel Recommendations

Employment

- Steven Caudill is recommending Jackie Baine as a Wawasee Middle School Volleyball Coach. This position is effective as of July 17, 2023.
- Steven Caudill is recommending Chad Brennaman as a Wawasee Middle School Assistant Football Coach. This position is effective August 3, 2023.
- Brent Doty is recommending Haley Stephenson as a Wawasee High School Boys Soccer Assistant Coach. This position is effective as of July 24, 2023.

Resignation

- David Shipley has submitted his Letter of Resignation as one of the Wawasee High School Unified Flag Football Coaches. This Resignation is effective July 21, 2023.

Support Service Personnel Recommendation Lay Down

Employment:

- Eric Speicher is recommending Sarah Wallenbeck as a Syracuse Elementary 5.5 Hour Title 1 Paraprofessional. This position is effective August 9, 2023.

Certified Personnel Recommendation Lay Down

Employment:

- Eric Speicher is recommending Nicole Beasley as a Syracuse Elementary Teacher. This position is effective August 8, 2023.

Mr. Steven Baut moved to accept Additional Action Item a. Mr. Neil Likens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item a included:

- a. Financial Report - Dr. Brandon Penrod presented the Financial Report

Additional Action Item b. Dr. Brandon Penrod presented the Budget Workshop, explaining how the upcoming Budget process works. We don't have our ADM count yet or the Tax Rate. Our budget must be advertised before September 2 in Gateway and on our website. We will adopt the budget by November 1, 2023, and have time to adjust it in December. No motion is required on this Additional Action Item b.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to accept Additional Action Item c. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item c included:

- c. Permission to advertise the CPF, Bus Replacement and Budget.

Mr. Steven Baut moved to accept Additional Action Item d. Mr. Neil Likens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item d included:

d. Adopt Project Resolution 2023.8.8.23.a. This covers the cost, tax impact and timing of the Project.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to accept Additional Action Item e. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item e included:

e. Adopt the Preliminary Determination Resolution 2023-8.8.23.b. This states that the School Corporation preliminarily determines to issue bonds and enter into one or more lease agreements for the Project.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to accept Additional Action Item f. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item f included:

f. Adopt Reimbursement Resolution 2023-8.8.23.c This resolution reasonably expects WCSC to reimburse certain costs of the Project with proceeds of obligations to be incurred on behalf of the School Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$77,150,000.

Mr. Steven Baut moved to accept Additional Action Item g. Mr. Neil Likens seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Item g included:

g. Banking Services Recommendation. Dr. Penrod is recommending Interra Credit Union for Wawasee Community School Corporation's banking services. Lake City Bank has served our corporation well, but Interra presented a stronger package with federal funds and points. Interra also included a \$200,000 sponsorship, that Dr. Troyer suggested that we could possibly use for the Performing Arts Center. Use of the sponsorship money will be determined at a later date.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to accept Additional Action Items h-j. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Additional Action Items h-j included:

h. NEOLA second and final reading

i. Update of the 2023-2024 WCSC Calendar. This update includes the 3 waiver days that were granted by the IDOE. Waiver days will be September 18, 2023, November 6, 2023 and March 8, 2023.

j. Approval of the Teacher Appreciation Grant Policy.

Dr. Shelly Wilfong presented her Learning Report. The PLC Live Event that Wawasee Community Schools hosted was deemed a success. Over 100 of our teachers participated. Almost all of North Webster Elementary Staff attended the event. Normally we send 10-11 staff members to Lincolnshire, Illinois for this event, but this year, we brought the event to us, virtually. We also opened this intense 2-½ day event to staff from surrounding school corporations. ESSER funds were used for this event and registration fees from outer schools helped with expenses.

Dr. Steve Troyer updated the board on the ESSER Budgets. ESSER I has been awarded and 100% expended as of December 2022. ESSER II still has a remaining balance of approximately \$70,000. And, ESSER III has approximately \$200,000. Plans are in place for these remaining funds in the form of staffing, Milford SRO, just to name a few.

Dr. Troyer commended Dr. Wilfong, Mrs. Paula Fiscus and Mrs. Mary Brower, on a very well organized PLC Live Event. Dr. James Halik was the Opening Day speaker. Back to School Night was tonight in all of our schools. Lots of exciting things are going on in the buildings, getting kids and parents ready for the first day of school. Milford Elementary had food trucks available during Back to School Night. Due to the number of students in Kindergarten, a teacher was added to Syracuse Elementary.

There were no Other Items.

Mr. Neil Likens moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Mr. Steven Baut seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Don Bokhart, President

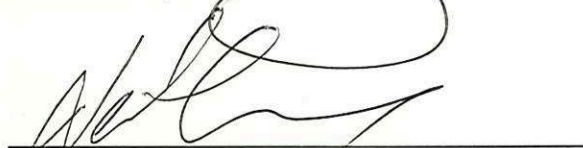


Mike Wilson, Vice President

Andy Cripe, Secretary



Steven Baut, Board Member



Neil Likens, Board Member