Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Waverly Community Schools

Opening of Meeting
The regular monthly meeting of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education was held on Monday, September 16, 2024 in the Waverly Board of Education Meeting Room, located at 515 Snow Rd., Lansing, MI 48917. President Guevara Warren called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The pledge to the flag was led by Member Ty Liggons.

Members Present:	Alicia Guevara Warren Deborah Lopez Vince Perkins Cathy Pike Ty Liggons
Members Absent:	Holly Nester
Student Representative:	Wallace Malone
Staff Present:	Kelly Blake, Superintendent Shawn Lewis, Director of School Culture Micky Savage, Director of Human Resources Jon Harpst, Director of Technology Evan Nuffer, Director of Finance & Operations Chris Huff, Director of Teaching & Learning Anthony Terranova Bernard Colton Becky Hager Chris Smith Doreatha Rusher Jekeia Murphy Ann Marie Lindsay Waverly WEA & WESPA Staff Waverly Community Members

Correspondence:
Secretary Perkins referenced the emails the Board of Education received.

Public Comment for Agenda Items:
WEA staff member Todd Simon – reviewed current teacher overage in High School classrooms and voiced concern WEA staff is not able to teach effectively and that the special ed population is not receiving the supports as need. The WEA staff are not being supported by the Special Education Department.

Board Member Comment:

Member Liggons:

- Looking forward to homecoming in October and participating in different opportunities with students.

Member Lopez:

- Reminded the Board of Education that MASB is offering a discounted rate for numerous trainings and would like to have the BOE take advantage of the opportunity.
- MASB Leadership Conference will be at the Lansing Center from October 24 – 27, 2024.

Member Perkins:

- Welcomed new Student Representative, Wallace Malone.
- Enjoyed being at Winans on the first day of school to welcome the students back from break and to meet the new staff. Very impressed with the ease of student drop off.

Member Pike:

- Welcomed Wallace Malone, new Student Representative.
- Was at Elmwood on the first day of school and was very enjoyable.
- Continuing to work with the bond committee to ensure the funds are well spent and completed to the highest benefit of the district.

Student Representative Wallace Malone:

- The construction at the High School is progressing, and when completed, will look great.

Member Guevara Warren:

- Welcome to Wallace and glad there will be a student representative to report.
- Attended the High School first day.
- ISOA Legislative Breakfast is October 2nd and all board members are encouraged to attend.
- Will be reaching out to the township to discuss the inaccessibility to Safe Routes to School due to ongoing township construction projects near our buildings.

Approval of Agenda and Acceptance of Reports

President Guevara Warren requested the addition a personnel issue to the closed session.

A motion was presented by Member Liggons and supported by Member Perkins to approve the September 16, 2024 agenda as presented, with the addition requested by President Guevara Warren, and accept all reports into discussion.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

Approval Consent Agenda Items

A motion was presented by Member Pike and supported by Member Perkins to approve the consent agenda.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

Committee Meetings

Special Education Committee Meeting:

Member Perkins reviewed the August committee meeting, highlighting:

- Celebrated district-wide events
- Parent forum went well
- Reviewed staffing updates
- Discussed current open positions
- ISD general supervision report
    - initial evaluations all in compliance
    - 23% of students have IEPs which is higher than the 14% state average
    - Suspensions of students with IEPs is below the state guidelines
    - Compliance on most items, and had no state complaints

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

For Action – Report #24-18, Ratification of Master Agreement – Waverly Education Support Professional Association (WESPA).

HR Director, Micky Savage, highlighted some of the changes to the WESPA contract.

A motion was presented by Member Lopez and supported by Member Perkins to approve the tentative agreement with WESPA as presented.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

For Action – Report #24-19, Insulin Litigation Resolution

A motion was presented by Member Liggons and supported by Member Lopez to approve the resolution to join the Insulin Litigation lawsuit as presented.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

For Action – Report #24-20, Certification of Winter Tax Levy

A motion was presented by Member Perkins and supported by Member Lopez to approve the proposed tax levy for the City of Lansing, Delta Township, Lansing Township and Windsor Township, a presented.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

For Action – Report #24-21, High School Overnight Field Trip

A motion was presented by Member Liggons and supported by Member Perkins to approve the High School overnight field trip to Ebersole Center.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Blake reported:

- Fall sports are underway
- Director of School Culture, Shawn Lewis, started a district-wide equity challenge, which is sent weekly to all staff. Highlights are:
  - Different areas of diversity are highlighted, with the hopes of starting dialogue
  - The exercises are small team-based
  - Increase cultural competence
  - Continue to create an environment where our staff and students feel safe.
- Construction punch-list items were created at the High School .
  - Carpet flaws
  - H-Vac system corrections
  - Touch up paint
- Sextortion presentations on October 7, 8 and 9 by the FBI at the High School and Middle School. A parent presentation will be on October 8 at 6:30 pm in the Middle School theater
- Presented historical date on class overages
- The District proposed financial incentives to the WEA, which were not accepted by the WEA.
  - Adjustment to current WEA salary schedule
  - Retention bonuses

Public Comment – Open Comment for District Issues

Public comments were made by:

- High School teacher Tiernan O'Rourke:
  - Students have requested to be removed from his class as it was too loud to hear instruction.
  - Has 34 freshman students in one class, which high quantity of students with IEPs
  - 14 certified open positions, 4 of which are special education teachers, 1 psychologist, 1 social worker and 1 speech & language pathologist. Students are not receiving the special services they need.
  - It is very difficult for certified staff to teach students right now.
  - Did not accept the offer as it was an adjustment to attract new teachers but did not provide for staff who have been at district longer.
- High School Assistant Principal Chris Smith reviewed the Highlands program that will be starting at the Middle School.
- Community Member Lisa Parsons voiced concern regarding the lack of inclusion training Waverly athletic coaches have and would like all to receive.

Other Board Business:

None

A motion was presented by Member Perkins and supported by Member Lopez to enter into closed session for the purpose of a student issue, contract negotiations update and a personnel matter.

Motion PASSED
Roll Call Vote: **Member Pike – Yes**
Member Perkins – Yes
Member Lopez – Yes
Member Liggons – Yes
Member Guevara Warren – Yes
Absent – 2; Member Nester and Member Krause

The board exited open session at 6:34 pm.

The board returned to open session at 7:16 pm.

A motion was presented by Member Perkins and supported by Member Pike to approve the early graduation resolution for Student A.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Absent – 2, Member Nester & Member Krause

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vince Perkins, Board Secretary
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