

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST ALLIS-WEST MILWAUKEE, ET AL.
1205 S. 70th Street, West Allis, WI 53214 (Board Meeting Room 6th Floor)
9333 W. Lincoln Ave., West Allis, WI 53227 (District Administration Office)

**Regular Board of Education Meeting
December 9, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

President Leigh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on December 9, 2024, at 1205 S. 70th Street, West Allis.

2. Amy Deal led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Roll was called with the following members present: Joe Becker, Brendan Burns, Jane Carr, Amy Deal, Brian Keller, Kristen Keyser, Rebecca Lee, Noah Leigh, and Jeff Sikich.

4. Declaration of Public Notice

5. Modifications to Agenda

None

6. Horace Mann Elementary Student Showcase

Horace Mann Elementary Principal Dr. Minzlaff detailed how teachers are using phonics data to recognize how students are progressing and to determine next steps using the new phonics skill in the scope and sequence. Ms. Hishmeh led 4K students Lacey, Liam, Molly, and Jarelle through a phonics lesson. Ms. Dey and Ms. Hofsess led first grade students Adeline, Nina, Cora, Oliver, Khalayah, and Jah'myah through mapping words. The first grade students also demonstrated their independent practice in literacy centers. Academic Dean Ms. Houston also assisted with both demonstrations. President Leigh and Dr. Robinson thanked parents, students, and staff for attending.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.1 Legislative Update:

Dane County judge rules elements of 2011 Act 10 unconstitutional:

A Dane County judge has restored collective bargaining powers for public employees who lost them under 2011's Act 10. Judge Jacob Frost ruled sections of the law unconstitutional because the statute treated some public safety employees differently from others in law enforcement. The 2011 law barred general employees from negotiating for anything other than base wage increases capped by changes in the consumer price index. Frost struck down 87 provisions from Act 10 and another three from a 2015 law that modified the original statute.

7.2 District Recognitions:

Audit Celebration:

Based on our preliminary audit report, and for the second consecutive year, our auditors at Baker Tilly have informed us that we had no material audit findings in our financial review. This is reflective of the work from many stakeholders who have developed, implemented, and/or followed robust processes to maintain financial stewardship.

Special thank you to the Head Secretaries at each school. Also, a thank you to: Jeff Borland - Finance Manager, Mike Lukomski - Assistant Finance Manager, Joan Rankin - Senior Accountant and Comptroller, Sarah Pond - Accountant, Lindsey Kaye - Payroll, Jessica Johnson and Jill Rekowski - Benefits, Connie Bergmann and the School Services Department - Transportation / Membership, and Mike Thrun - Student Database Specialist.

WAWM Recreation Department:

We would like to recognize Ty Stahl and Maggie Obst for their leadership in executing the West Allis Christmas parade on behalf of our department. Thank you to the choirs for performing at "Christmas on the Avenue" and at the tree lighting ceremony, as well as the high school band who marched in the parade. We would also like to recognize Ms. Obst for hosting our first ever Kindermarket, which allowed our youth entrepreneurs to display and sell their personally made goods.

Zeman Family Foundation/ Target Shopping Spree:

Thank you to Mr. Greg Zeman and the Zeman Family Foundation for their generous donation to the Annual Children's Holiday Shopping Experience at Target, which provided gifts to over 700 WAWM families. A special thanks to Shelly Strasser and the Recreation team, Mary Pat Michels and the Shining Strings, school administration/ staff, student volunteer groups, and ALL who came out to support this magical event!

7.3 Other Updates & Information Items

Report Card Follow-up:

District Comparisons- Comparable enrollment and Demographics: (1) West Allis- West Milwaukee SD- 64.2, (2) Greenfield SD- 63.2 (3) Sheboygan SD- 61.2 (4) Janesville SD- 55.7 (5) Beloit SD- 53.1.

Community Visits and Meetings:

Dr. Robinson gave an update on his recent meetings and community visits since November 25, 2024. This included the following meetings: Board Member and Cabinet one-on-ones, Data Coding Committee, "The Voice"- Student Advisory Committee, and the High School Counselor monthly meeting. Dr. Robinson also noted attending the following community events: Dottke Thanksgiving Feast, RAD/Recreation Department Thanksgiving Luncheon, Central and Nathan Hale basketball games, Mary Poppins Jr., Nathan Hale Career Fair, the Annual Children's Holiday Shopping Spree at Target - sponsored by the Zeman Family Foundation - and the City of West Allis tree lighting ceremony and Christmas parade.

Mary Poppins Jr.:

The following Mary Poppins Jr. cast members introduced themselves: Elijah Mueller (Bert), Zharick Manrique (Mary Poppins), and Damiyah Murray (Miss Andrews). Click [here](#) for a full list of cast and crew. Additionally, Musical Director Scott Grimscheid expressed excitement and appreciation for the District's theatrical talent pool.

"The Voice"- Student Advisory Committee:

Dr. Robinson introduced Student Advisory Committee "The Voice" representative Tobias Jesse, a junior at West Allis Central, who is captain of the football team, has a 4.0 GPA, and is a member of the WAC Leadership team. Mr. Jesse noted next week Central has Spirit Week and is hosting a Winter Wonderfest for students who have good grades and attendance.

8. Public Comment(s):

None

9. Board Reports:

9.1 Review of Board Calendar

President Leigh reviewed the Board calendar.

9.2 Board Committee Reports:

9.2.1 College & Career Readiness – Keyser

Committee Chair Keyser reported that the Committee met on December 9, 2024. The Committee met with Ethan, a student, who advocated for more AP course options for freshman and sophomore. The Committee was in favor of the suggestion and will discuss next steps after the New Year. The Committee thanked Ethan for bringing it to their attention.

9.2.2 Communication & Community Relations – Deal

Committee Chair Deal reported that the Committee met on November 25, 2024. The Committee discussed open enroll out and agreed to reach out to families as to why they chose this option, as well as consider a postcard mailing to district families in February 2025 when open enrollment starts. The Committee also discussed the possibility of outdoor graduations for the 2024-2025 school year and determined that it was not cost effective at this time.

9.3 Board Member Reports of Community Events:

- Ms. Keyser attended “Mary Poppins Jr.” and marched in the parade.
- Ms. Carr attended Kindermarket and appreciated that the event was cash only so students could apply their math skills. Ms. Carr also marched in the parade.
- Ms. Deal attended “Mary Poppins Jr.”, marched in the parade, and attended the Annual Children's Holiday Shopping Experience at Target. Ms. Deal thanked the Zeman Family Foundation for sponsoring the event at Target.
- Mr. Becker attended two basketball games at Frank Lloyd Wright, “Mary Poppins Jr.”, and the Annual Children's Holiday Shopping Experience at Target.
- President Leigh marched in the parade and his family attended “Mary Poppins Jr.”.

9.4 Other Updates & Information Items – Leigh

None

10. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Keller, second by Ms. Carr to approve the following:

10.1 Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the November 25, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

10.2 Employment Summary:

Appointments:

| Full Name | Title | Location | Hire Status | Contract Type | Effective Date |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Messer, Christopher | Teacher (SPED/CC) | Horace Mann | New | Renewing | 12/10/2024 |

Resignations/Retirements:

| Full Name | Title | Location | Type | Effective Date |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| Hussein, Madina | EA (SPED) | H. Mann | Resignation | 11/22/2024 |
| Tuttle, Jessica | Comms & Engagement Spec | Admin | Resignation | 12/23/2024 |

10.3 Supplementary Contracts

Supplementary contracts as listed on the December 9, 2024, report.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Action Item(s):

11.1 2025-2026 Budget Calendar – Norris

The Administration requested that the West Allis-West Milwaukee School Board approve the budget development calendar for the 2025-2026 budget cycle.

Motion by Ms. Carr, second by Ms. Lee to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Calendar.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. End of Recording/5 Minute Break

Motion at 6:57 p.m. by Ms. Keyser, second by Mr. Burns, to convene into executive session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute §19.85(1)(d) to review written evaluations of school safety drills as required under 2017 Wisconsin Act 143. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Carr, Board Clerk