

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting  
July 8, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order**

President Leigh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on July 8, 2024, at 1205 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street, West Allis.

**2. Jeff Sikich 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. Superintendent's Report**

**6.1 Legislative Update:**

**DPI Releases July 1 Preliminary General Aid Estimates:**

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has released an estimate of the equalization aid public school districts will receive in the 2024-25 school year. Equalization aid is the largest form of state aid for public schools in Wisconsin, designed to reduce reliance on local property taxes and ensure basic educational opportunities for all pupils. The July 1 aid estimate is based on 2023-24 budgeted expenditures for all 421 school districts, with the October 15 aid estimate using audited actual expenditures. The DPI recommends caution when using this data due to the likelihood of figure changes as the situation continues. The estimated general school aids for 2024-25 total \$5.58 billion, an increase of 4.2% from 2023-24. Payments to districts will increase an estimated \$234.3 million due to two factors: an increase of \$224.9 million per the state budget and a decrease in the required Milwaukee Public Schools funding for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program due to statutory changes.

**6.2 District Recognitions:**

**Juneteenth Celebration:**

Thank you to everyone who helped organize and participated in the Juneteenth Celebration in Milwaukee. The celebration provided an opportunity to engage with countless members of the greater Milwaukee community and the WAWM community.

**6.3 Other Updates & Information Items**

Dr. Robinson gave an update on his recent community visits and meetings since June 24, 2024. This included the Independence Day Parade on July 2, the City of West Allis 4th of July Fireworks Display, the agenda review meeting with the Board President and Vice President, and referendum meetings with staff and contractors. Dr. Robinson also noted as of July 8, 2024, District-wide vacancies for the 2024-25 school year were at 3.12%, versus 9.31% as of July 8, 2023, for the 2023-24 school year.

**7. Public Comment(s):**

None

## 8. Board Reports:

### 8.1 Review of Board Calendar

President Leigh reviewed the Board calendar.

### 8.2 Board Committee Reports:

#### 8.2.1 College & Career Readiness - Keyser

Committee Chair Kristen Keyser reported that the committee met earlier tonight. An overview of the Early Literacy Plan was presented to the committee by Becky Gries, Manager of Student Supports. The committee noted the District is in great shape in response to Act 20. Dr. Robinson noted that all the Districts' Deeper Learning Coaches (DLCs) have completed LETRS training.

#### 8.2.2 Communication & Community Relations - Deal

Committee Chair Amy Deal reported that the committee met on June 24, 2024. The committee discussed and reviewed newsletter best-practices and data, the 2024-25 student showcase, and the draft 2023-24 annual report.

### 8.3 Board Member Reports of Community Events:

- Amy Deal, Kristen Keyser, and Noah Leigh all enjoyed attending the Independence Day Parade and fireworks at West Allis Athletic Complex at Nathan Hale High School. Each gave a special thank you to Shelly Strasser for assisting with the parade.
- Amy Deal noted Pershing Elementary School was hosting a "Popsicles at the Playground" event on July 9, 2024, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

### 8.4 Other Updates & Information Items – Leigh

None

## 9. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Keller, second by Sikich to approve the following:

### 9.1 Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the June 24, 2024, regular board meeting.

### 9.2 Employment Summary:

#### Appointments:

Full Name	Title	Location	Hire Status	Contract Type	Effective Date
Blume, Kyli	Teacher (Science)	NHL	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Calzada, Suzette	EA (Reg Ed 4K)	Pershing	New	EA	8/27/2024
Crespo-Ortiz, Mary	Secretary II (202 day)	FLW	New	Clerical	8/20/2024
Durham, Gregory	Custodian II	Central	New	Maintenance	7/01/2024
Jackson, Romell	Custodian II	Central	New	Maintenance	6/24/2024
Phillips, Lindsay	Custodian II	NHL	New	Maintenance	6/26/2024
Piselli, Melissa	EA (Reg Ed 4K)	Walker	New	EA	8/27/2024
Ruffolo, Keith	Coord of Elem Education	District	New	Admin	7/15/2024
Sadowski, Jason	Assistant Principal	Central	New	Admin	7/22/2024

Resignations/Retirements:

<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Gabrielson, Anna	Custodian II	NHL	Resignation	6/25/2024
Hengel, Adam	Assistant Principal	Hoover	Resignation	6/30/2024
Ziegler-Davel, Bonnie	Teacher (FCS)	NHL	Resignation	6/21/2024

**9.3 Supplementary Contracts**

Supplementary contracts as listed on the July 8, 2024, report.

Motion carried unanimously.

**10. Action Item(s):**

**10.1 2024-2025 Additional Open Enrollment Seats – Norris**

After reviewing current enrollment and the calculation for open enrollment, the administration recommends that the WAWM School Board approve the following as additional regular education open enrollment seats for the 2024-2025 school year: four seats in 3rd grade, three seats in 4th grade, one seat in 9th grade, and one seat in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. These nine additional seats are all for students on current-year tuition waivers who are currently on the waitlist.

Motion by Keller, second by Carr to approve the 2024-2025 Additional Open Enrollment Seats. Motion carried unanimously.

**10.2 2024-2025 Academic Standards Adoption - Dr. Robinson & Sage**

The Board of Education is asked to adopt the attached list of internationally benchmarked standards with which WAWM has aligned its curriculum for 2024-2025.

Motion by Sikich, second by Carr to approve the 2024-2025 Academic Standards Adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

**10.3 Neola Policy Update 33-1 - Dr. Robinson**

The Board of Education is asked to approve the revised, renumbered, and new Board Policies released December 2023 as detailed in Neola Policy Update 33-1. In addition, we are asking the Board to waive the one-month period of consideration as listed in Board Policy 0131.1 “Bylaws and Policies.”

Motion by Keyser, second by Burns to approve the Neola Policy Update 33-1. Motion carried unanimously.

**11. Workshop(s):**

**11.1 Health Insurance - Norris & Brown & Brown Consulting**

Aaron Norris, Assistant Superintendent, and Chris Smessaert and Lorenzo Di Matteo, both of Brown & Brown Insurance Services, Inc., presented information regarding the District’s health insurance. This included the current state of the the District’s health insurance, market considerations, funding strategies, and key future considerations. Several options were explored and discussed. The renewal timeframe will be in August or September 2024 with a January 1, 2025 start.

**11.2 Referendum 2024 Workshop #5 (Facilities) - Dr. Robinson, Norris, Hahn & Eichman**

Dr. Robinson; Aaron Norris; Carolyn Hahn, Director of Communications and Engagement; and Steve Eichman, Manager of Facilities, presented information about the [2024 Referendum](#). Representatives from CG Schmidt, including Ryan Schmidt, Managing Director, were also present to answer questions regarding facility questions. The Board developed consensus and direction on the operating

and capital amounts and the Facility Project Plan, which include safety and HVAC updates, in addition to compensation for teachers and staff. The Board reviewed and discussed criteria and objectives as well as agreed upon draft ballot language for both the operating and capital questions. The Board will take action at the July 22, 2024, Board meeting to finalize the [2024 Referendum](#).

**12. End of Recording/5 Minute Break**

Motion at 9:13 p.m. by Brian Keller, second by Jane Carr to convene into executive session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute §19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering a student disciplinary expulsion order, which if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial effect upon the reputation of the student involved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Carr, Board Clerk