

**WATERFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Monday, January 20, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by President Schoenfeld at 6:30 p.m. Board members present at the meeting were: Gary Beck, Kelly Datka, Dennis Purtell, Mike Schoenfeld, and Doug Schwartz.

Official notice of the meeting was made by way of publication in the *Waterford Post* on Thursday, January 16, 2025, was posted at the District Office (Door #7) and at Entrance #19, and was published on the District's website. Minutes from the regular board meeting of November 25, 2024 and from the special meetings on December 2, 2024 and December 6, 2024 are posted on the District's website.

President Schoenfeld led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented to the Board for approval under the consent agenda:

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Minutes - Regular Monthly Meeting of December 16, 2024
- C. Annual Notice of Educational Options
- D. New Hire – Cheyann Thunberg, Community Grant Writer & Marketing Specialist

There was a motion by Beck, seconded by Purtell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote taken; all ayes. The motion carried.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

Resident Karen Alexander encouraged the Board to swiftly remove Title IX language from policies that were updated in 2024, following the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision that return Title IX to its 2020 regulations.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Student Council Report

Owen Hoffman reported that Student Council is planning a winter spirit week scheduled for the week of February 10. CHASE members have accrued over 1,600 service hours since the start of the school year. Several members have volunteered as teacher assistants at WGS schools. FFA is planning their annual FFA Week celebration, which will take place the week of February 17, as well as their annual Ag. Adventure day that will be held for area elementary students later this spring. CLAW student athletes recently wrote thank you notes and made videos to recognize WIAA officials during Winter Sports Officials Appreciation Week. Best Buddies met in January and made cards and paper snowflakes. Seven Trim-M members were selected to represent Waterford at the All-State Wisconsin Choral Directors Association Convention. NHS raised over \$2,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation through a poinsettia sale and "miracle minute" collections held at home basketball games. The annual "Waterford's Got Talent" will take place January 29.

Career Day Presentation

Associate Principal Adam Bell and School Counselor Niki Werner shared an overview of the career day held in November. A total of 55 speakers from a variety of career pathways were on hand that morning to speak with WUHS students about their professions. Several of the speakers were WUHS alumni or are parents of current WUHS students or alumni. Overall the event was well-received by both the students as well as by the speakers themselves. It is anticipated this will become an annual event.

February 18, 2025 Referendum Update

Superintendent Francois reported that he has held two informal discussion sessions at DW Coffee to inform interested community members about the upcoming referendum. The first building tour is taking place this evening; two additional building tour dates have been scheduled for January 30 and February 13. Individual tours may also be scheduled by contacting the District Office. A citizens' action committee will be meeting at Bruno's on January 21; their door knocking campaign will also begin later this month. Dr.

Francois noted that this referendum will have a zero tax impact on community residents, yet will address a number of necessary facility updates and improvements. Residents are reminded to vote on February 18.

ACTION ITEMS

The following items were presented for Board action.

A. WASB Delegate Assembly Resolutions

Superintendent Francois noted that he will be attending the WASB State Education Convention on Wednesday, January 22 along with Kate Brown, Director of Communications and Marketing. On Thursday, January 23, Dr. Francois is scheduled to present at the convention on data-driven strategic compensation. Board member Purtell reviewed the list of proposed resolutions to be discussed and voted on at the Delegate Assembly at the convention. No board action taken.

B. Board Policy Review: Protocol for Agenda Item Additions (Bylaw Policy 0166)

Board member Datka has requested that the current policy bylaw for adding items onto the board agenda be changed to allow individual board members to suggest agenda items for inclusion with the concurrence of one additional board member. The proposed language change will be brought to the board for action at the next regular meeting.

C. Approval of Open Enrollment Available Seats for 2025-26

Motion by Beck, seconded by Datka that for purposes of open enrollment that (1) no regular education students applying under open enrollment for the 2025-26 school year would be denied due to space, and (2) based on current caseloads being at or above capacity, no additional special education open enrollment seats would be opened for the 2025-26 school year, with the exception of the current special education enrollments coming in from the Waterford Union High School feeder school districts. All ayes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Francois reported that WUHS graduate Nathan Schmidt recently reached out to express his interest in local government. Nathan is attending U.W. Whitewater and is studying political sciences. Dr. Francois has invited Nathan to sit in on the next Neola policies review session to provide an opportunity for Nathan to gain insight into school operations and policies.

Cheyann Thunberg, the District’s newest hire approved under tonight’s consent agenda, will be starting in the position as Community Grant Writer and Marketing Specialist on February 17. Community member Jay Noble was included in the interview process for this position, which will not only support the Waterford schools but also local civic organizations and municipal entities in researching and writing grant proposals to secure funding for community-based projects.

ADJOURN FROM OPEN MEETING

There was a motion by Purtell, seconded by Beck adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried. This done at 7:14 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held Monday, February 17, 2025. The meeting will be held in the LGI beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas P. Schwartz, Board Clerk