

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 23, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 23, 2023 at the Waterville Building. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Michael at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Michael, Jon Bakken, Brenda Heuss, June Rezac, Troy Tolzman, and Jay Schneider attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent John Regan and Business Manager Margaret Jewison.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Tolzman to approve the agenda. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Heuss to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2023. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Schneider to approve the October Financial Report. The bills and payroll from the report were \$978,725.13, deposits were \$1,160,800.10, and transfers were \$950,000.00. Comments on the report included a payment of \$30,424.50 to Renaissance Learning, Inc. for elementary instructional software. Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Michael to approve a related-party transaction of \$400. Five members voted in favor - Tolzman abstained - motion declared passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Chad Alladin spoke to the board about the incident which occurred at his home during Homecoming Week. He stated the school has not taken this incident seriously and the school district failed to live up to their Bucs Pride motto. He said to have two football players suspended from a football game is insulting. He also said he could provide the name of six football players who were involved in the incident.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Tolzman to approve the consent agenda which included the following items:

Approve the following hires:

Chelsea Ingham, Substitute Bus Route Driver - \$54.43/route

Mark Weiske, Substitute Activities Bus Driver - \$19.70/route

Jeffery Wagner, Industrial Tech - BS 20/Step 38 - \$60,015

Claire Elness, Peer Tutor - \$12/hour

Megan Miller, SACC - \$9.59/hour

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

RECOGNITION

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Heuss to approve the following monetary donations:

A donation of \$1,725 from Waterville Lions Club for Eagle Bluff Trip.

A donation of \$800 from After Prom Party to the Class of 2024.

A donation of \$700 from Le Sueur County Farm Bureau to the WEM FFA.

A donation of bird feed from Whitewater Creek Grain and Feed for Junior High Science Classes.

A donation of Ag Flatstock Steel from Hiniker Company.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

REPORTS

WEM Principal Bobbie Jo Bastian and WEM Principal Dr. Jennifer Wilson submitted the following report:

All District

LifeTouch visited WEM throughout late September and October for pictures.

PreK-6

Fifth/Sixth Grade Conferences will be held Nov. 6 and 9, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. and K-4 Conference will be held Nov. 16 and 21 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. We are excited to visit with families about their student's progress so far this year.

Oct. 8-15 was Fire Prevention Week, students grades 1-4 participated in a presentation by Morristown Fire and Rescue about fire safety in the kitchen. Thank you Mrs. Saemrow and Mr. Splett for your time and talent sharing this important information with our students. Kindergarten students will be visiting the Waterville Fire Department for a tour and talk. Our

preschool students had a visit from the fire department who brought along their fire truck for our students to get an up close look. Thank you Waterville Fire Department.

On October 5, 5th grade students attended the Kindness Retreat alongside 5th graders from Faribault. This is a great opportunity for the students to learn from their peers about the impact of kindness.

Oct. 5 5th grade teachers hosted a parents meeting about the upcoming Eagle Bluff field trip in February. This meeting allowed teachers to explain in detail about this great trip and gave parents an opportunity to ask questions. Thanks to all who attended.

Students have been honoring Bully Awareness Month by wearing orange on Wednesdays as well as participating in Bully Awareness activities by counselors and classroom teachers.

Oct. 17 the 6th grade students attended a "Learning Through Baseball" tour of Target Field in Minneapolis.

7-12

Josten's will be in later this week to meet with sophomores for their class rings. The following week Josten's will meet with seniors to discuss details for graduation announcements.

WEM has partnered with MSU graduate council department to host a graduate student in the school counseling program. Mrs. Reuvers is working closely with Cassidy Holtzleicher.

Mr. Cooley and Mrs. Reuvers took 32 students on a manufacturing career field trip. For the trip they visited multiple manufacturing industries such as Industrial Fabrication Services Inc of Lake Crystal, Hewitt Docks, Lifts, and Pontoon Legs in Nicollet, and South Central College in North Mankato.

Quarter 1 will wrap up on November 3. 7th-12th grade conferences will be held November 6 and 9 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Jeff Boran, Community Education & Activities Director submitted the following report:

ATHLETICS

WEM/JWP Cross Country: The Section Meet will be held this Thursday, October 26 in Norwood Young America at Baylor Park. The Grizzly Boys and Girls participated in the Gopher Conference CC meet in Blooming Prairie on Monday 10/16. The Girls placed 2nd in the meet led by Mackenzie Westphal (8th Grade - 4th Place), Kwynn Krause (10th Grade - 7th Place) & Madalyn Miller (8th Grade - 14th Place). The Grizzly Boys team placed 2nd as well. The boys were led by Wyatt Jans (9th Grade – 5th^Place), Gavin Brown (Junior – 9th Place), Teagan Mulder (7th Grade – 10th Place) & Alexander Kleve (Junior – 13th Place). Congratulations to the Grizzly CC teams and Coaches Skyler Petry & Liz Kvebak!

- The WEM Varsity Volleyball team finished up the regular season last Tuesday 10/17 at Hayfield. The team finished with an 8-3 Conference Record and 22-8 overall record. Monday 10/23 the #1 seeded Bucs will play Blue Earth Area or St. Clair in the Section 2AA South Subsection Quarterfinals at 7:00 pm. The Bucs are the #1 seed in the South Subsection. If they advance the Subsection and Section dates are as follows. October 26 (at Mankato West HS), October 31 (at New Prague HS) and Nov. 2 (at St. Peter HS). State Volleyball will be Nov. 8-11 (at ExCEL Center, St. Paul) Good Luck Bucs!
- The WEM Varsity Football team ended their regular season Wednesday Oct. 18 at St. Clair. The Bucs will play Tuesday October 24 in Section play yet TBD. Good Luck Bucs! I would also like to thank Coach Tiffany Schmidtke and the WEM Football Cheer Team for support and sportsmanship throughout the season!
- Winter Seasons – Registration is open for Winter Activities. Girls Basketball begins Nov. 13 along with JH Boys and Girls Basketball. Boys Basketball and Wrestling begin Nov. 20. Co-op Sports with Waseca will also begin soon.
- Girls Hockey (Oct. 30), Boys Hockey & Girls Gymnastics (Nov. 13)
- This Friday Oct. 27, I will accompany 8 WEM students to the Annual Gopher Conference Team Up event at Maple River HS. Students in grades 7-10 will gather for an interesting day of learning about teamwork, leadership, and making positive healthy choices. Rick Rassier will again be the leader for the day!

COMMUNITY SERVICES

WEM Driver Education Class will begin Oct. 23. Currently 13 students are registered for the in-person classroom in Morristown.

AARP Safe Driving Courses will be held at the school Oct. 25 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and at the Morristown American Legion Oct. 26 from noon to 4 p.m.

Storybook Theatre production of "Rapunzel" was held Oct. 29 and 30 with more than 180 people attending the two performances with 35 WEM students participating.

WEM Board Member Reports

Rezac attended the Waterville Park Board meeting and said they were currently fundraising for pickleball courts.

Bakken said he has gone to teacher's classrooms to see what is happening in those rooms and he felt the teachers would like to see more board members make visits.

WEM Board Committee Reports

Heuss and Michael will be working with a new Diversity Committee.

WEM Superintendent John Regan presented the following:

- Superintendent Regan talked about NEXXUS and the progress they have made looking over the school facilities. Regan also said the audit was this week, he hosted the Waterville Chamber and gave them a tour of the buildings, and informed the board the SPED Director Heather Harms has resigned.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

The board had the first readings of the following policies (See attachments):

206 Public Participation in School Board Meetings/Complaints about Persons at School Board Meetings, and Data Privacy Considerations.

206A Protocol Language for Addressing the School Board

707 Transportation of Public School Students

707A Transportation of Students Placed in In-Day Treatment Programs

708 Transportation of Nonpublic School Students.

The Board will discuss these policies during a special Work Session Nov. 9.

ACTION

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Heuss to approve the annual resolution establishing combined polling places (see attachment)

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bakken and seconded by Tolzman to approve a resolution of school board supporting Form A application to Minnesota State High School League Foundation.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Rezac and seconded by Schneider to approved the following policies:

424 License Status

425 Staff Development

605 Alternative Educational Services

801 Equal Access to School Facilities

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bakken to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Six members voted in favor - motion declared passed.

Gary Michael, Attest

Jay Schneider, Attest