

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
August 26, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

President Leigh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on August 26, 2024, at 1205 S. 70th Street, West Allis.

2. Joe Becker 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 (Excused), 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 announces a waiver application for elements of Act 95 (Guaranteed Admission):

DPI is opening a waiver application process for certain provisions of the UW Guaranteed Admissions program, specifically 2023 Act 95. The waiver will help districts address complexities due to discrepancies in the law and local policy. DPI will consider school board requests to waive requirements listed in Wis. Stat. s. 118.58(2), specifically the provision that students are ranked based on academic achievement. DPI aims to provide flexibility in how districts rank the top 5 and 10 percent of students to submit to UW-System under the Guaranteed Admissions Program.

6.2 District Recognitions:

Welcome New Teachers!:

On August 21, we welcomed new teachers to the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District. We are thankful that they are part of our community and looking forward to an exciting school year!

Battle of the Dogs:

Congratulations to our Huskies and Bulldogs as they faced one another Friday night under the lights in the annual Battle of the Dogs. Students, families, staff, and community members enjoyed a tailgate, followed by the game. Fun was had by all!

Opening Day

Thank you to everyone who made Opening Day possible! This event was filled with energy and helped start the 24-25 school year off on the right foot! A special thank you to Dr. Anthony Muhammad who gave the keynote speech.

6.3 Other Updates & Information Items

Dr. Robinson gave an update on his recent community visits and meetings since August 12, 2024. This included the following meetings: West Allis Rotary Club, Cabinet one-on-ones, coffee with a past Board member, dinner with the Schwartz Family, Documentation Guidance Training for all District Administrators, and the following community events: West Milwaukee Night Out, New Teacher Welcome, RAD Communication Board Ribbon Cutting, Battle of the Dogs (Congratulations to Central and Hale), Opening Day Celebration for all staff, and Cuts for Kids at the Rec Center. The vacancy report for August 26, 2024, is 1.47%, a 3.70% reduction from August 26, 2023, vacancy rate of 5.17%. Other information items included a reminder to attend the second annual Back to School Bash on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, and the generous donation of a \$7,500 check to the District and 420 heavyweight jackets to Horace Mann Elementary School from the Knights of Columbus in memory of Jerry Fetzer. A special thank you to the Fetzer Family, Jerry Falk, and Bill Beres. The Board will formally take action to accept the donation at the Monday, September 9, 2024, meeting.

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 Employee Engagement & Culture – Keller

Committee Vice Chair Burns reported on behalf of Keller that the Committee met on August 20, 2024. The Committee discussed the vacancy rate, which does not include substitutes; the New Teacher Welcome; the District having eleven interns for the 2024/25 school year (one for high school and ten for elementary school); and the substitute survey.

8.2.2 Financial Stability & Efficiency - Burns

Committee Chair Burns reported that the Committee met on August 19, 2024. The Committee discussed health insurance, early admission to kindergarten cutoff alternatives based on research and teacher feedback, identifying athletic and extracurricular patterns to ensure effective busing, and enrollment being in good standing.

8.2.3 Recreation & Community Services - Becker

Committee Chair Becker reported that the Committee met on August 19, 2024. The Committee reviewed the District’s strategic plan and noted a refined draft is anticipated this fall, which will be subject to modifications throughout the 2024/25 school year. The Committee discussed staffing at the Recreation Center, including fulltime and summer camp staffing, as well as construction updates for the Activity and Fitness Center (formerly Lane) and Irving Elementary.

8.3 Board Member Reports of Community Events:

- Becker, Keyser, and Leigh each attended the New Teacher Welcome and Battle of the Dogs. All expressed the positivity of and excitement of each event.
- Becker and Leigh each attended the Opening Day Celebration and appreciated the enthusiasm of all.
- Leigh encouraged all to attend the Back to School Bash on Wednesday, August 28, 2024.

8.4 Other Updates & Information Items – Leigh

None

9. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Carr, second by Becker to approve the following: 9.1, 9.2, and 9.4.

Motion by Keyser, second by Burns to approve the following: 9.3.

9.1 Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the August 12, 2024, regular board meeting and the minutes of the August 19, 2024, Board workshop meeting.

9.2 Employment Summary:

Appointments:

Full Name	Title	Location	Hire Status	Contract Type	Effective Date
Ali, Alia	EA (SPED)	Central	New	EA	8/27/2024
Carleton, Sydney	Teacher (Gr 4/5)	Walker	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Depka, Christopher	Carpenter	District	New	Facilities	8/26/2024
Dykstra, Christina	EA (SPED)	Irving	New	EA	8/27/2024
Frusher, David	Teacher (CTE/Woods)	Central	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Grabarczyk, Joy	EA (SPED)	Hoover	New	EA	8/27/2024
Grant, Kayla	EA (SPED)	West Milw	New	EA	8/27/2024
Guckenberger, Jennifer	Innovation Coach	West Milw	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Jennings, Benjamin	Teacher (BL)	West Milw	New	Renewing	8/26/2024

Klockow, Jennie	EA (Reg Ed 4K)	Mitchell	New	EA	8/27/2024
Miller, Kimberly	Secretary II (Part Time)	SJ/DLVA	New	Clerical - part time	9/03/2024
O'Neal, Tyler	EA (SPED)	H. Mann	New	EA	8/27/2024
Peters, Mackenzie	SLP	Wilson/Hoover	New	Renewing	9/03/2024
Pond, Sarah	Accountant II	Admin	New	At Will	8/30/2024
Ponzi, Leah	EA (SPED)	Hoover	New	EA	9/03/2024
Pyzyk, Jean	Teacher (English)	NHL	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Stran, Matthew	Teacher (Soc Studies)	Central	New	Renewing	8/26/2024
Thomas, Kayla	EA (4K)	H. Mann	New	EA	8/27/2024

Resignations/Retirements:

Full Name	Title	Location	Type	Effective Date
Brammer, Catherine	SLP	H. Mann	Resignation	8/20/2024
DeBeukelar, Kaylee	Teacher (Gr 4/5)	Walker	Resignation	7/29/2024
Hanson, Caroline	Teacher (Soc Studies)	Central	Resignation	8/07/2024
Herrell, Joshua	Teacher (Spanish)	Hale	Resignation	8/20/2024
King, Alexander	EA	H. Mann	Resignation	8/19/2024
Luhr, Kaeley	School Counselor	Central	Resignation	8/14/2024
Marino, Matthew	Teacher (English)	NHL	Resignation	8/05/2024
Moon, Tiffany	Teacher (SPED)	CTS	Resignation	7/31/2024
Otto, Kristin	Teacher (Reading)	Hoover	Resignation	8/13/2024
Weaver, Hayley	Teacher (Gr 4/5)	Walker	Rescinded	8/13/2024
Williams, Aryonna	EA (SPED)	W Milw	Resignation	8/19/2024

9.3 Supplementary Contracts

Supplementary contracts as listed on the August 26, 2024, report.

9.4 Financial Summary

Approval of the Financial Report Summary for the Month of July 2024 including Receipts #6943 through #6983 in the amount of \$971,488.83 and Vouchers Payable #371729 through #372544, wire transfers, and payroll disbursements in the amount of \$8,595,967.48 and Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for twelve Months Ending July 31, 2024.

Motions 9.1, 9.2, and 9.4 carried unanimously.

Motion 9.3 carried by majority vote. Let the minutes reflect Sikich recused from voting.

10. Workshop(s):

10.1 FSE - Health Insurance Workshop #2 – Norris and Brown & Brown Insurance

Aaron Norris, Assistant Superintendent, and Lorenzo Di Matteo and Chris Smessaert, both of Brown & Brown Insurance Services, Inc., presented the FSE – Health Insurance Workshop #2. The presentation included timeline and background, review of all employee benefits, loss ratio by group, renewal from UHC (if nothing changes), request for proposal, UHC NexusACO Network and disruption rate, and a final review of considerations and recommendations based on maximizing employee benefits, employee and District costs, minimal disruption (if change is needed), and employee retention. The majority of the Board agreed UHC NexusACO was the best long-term option for all to proceed with. Let the minutes reflect Sikich felt okay about the option. The Board unanimously agreed to split the actives from the retirees.

11. End of Recording/5 Minute Break

Motion by Carr, second by Lee, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Carr, Board Clerk