

WEBBERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting
February 16, 2004
Minutes

President Clifford Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Webberville High School Library on Monday, February 16, 2004.

Present: Present: Clifford Simmons II, Patricia Shanabrook, Teri Chamberlain, Kristine Brenner, Kathleen Westbrook, Dorris Crandall.

Also present Dr. William Skilling, Ms. Mary Larson, Mr. Jerome Learman, Ms. Barbara Weathers, Ms. Eileen Slider, Mr. Ken Keyes, Ms. Cathy Fitzgerald, Miss Angie Wilson, student representative, Mr. Ted Ryskamp and Mr. Ed Lorenz from Clark Construction and Mr. Paul Shay from Fanning/Howey.

Absent: Tina Beauvais

Approval of Agenda:

Ms. Westbrook moved, Ms. Crandall seconded to approve the Agenda of the Regular Board of Education Meeting being held Monday, February 16, 2004 as amended. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Ms. Chamberlain moved, Ms. Crandall seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

Presentations:

Mr. Ken Keyes gave a presentation on the grant that he won for the palm pilot program. WHS was one of only two high schools selected to participate. Each of his chemistry students will receive a palm pilot that they will be able to use in class and also to take home. In addition to the palm pilot, each student will also receive a wireless keyboard. There will be a parent/student meeting on Thursday, February 19th to explain the program to the parents and make them aware of their responsibilities to the program. The program will focus on utilizing technology in the classroom. INGHAM ISD will provide maintenance for the palm pilot.

Ms. Cathy Fitzgerald gave a presentation regarding the work being done by the Elementary Teacher Leaders. She shared what is being done in accordance to NCA and NCLB guidelines. The teacher leaders are going through each segment of the curriculum and looking at what is being done right and what areas need improvement in order to reach goals and improve student achievement. They are utilizing the ISD for help in interpreting the MEAP scores and identifying problem areas. Ms. Shanabrook asked what other data is used. Ms. Larson stated that they also use safety, environment, discipline, gender along with the other data collected. Mr. Simmons would like to see data that is following a class from year to year and not just the 5th grade each year.

Mr. Ted Ryskamp gave an update on the elementary bids that were submitted. We had 80 companies submit bids. Mr. Ed Lorenz gave an update on the current construction project at the Middle/High School.

Mr. Paul Shay gave a presentation on the site plan and proposal for the June 8.5-million bond vote. Phase one will be the community center, parking, bleachers at the track and the AG building. A meeting with the Treasury Department is set for March 3rd. Ms. Brenner asked if we are going to do anything to contain the wetlands in the future. Mr. Shay commented that work on the drain would be included in phase two.

Communications and Petitions:-

None

Reports:

Policy Committee – No report

Finance Committee – Ms. Brenner reported that they are working on the budget. The March agenda should contain an approval for the amended budget.

Building and Grounds Committee – Ms. Chamberlain reported that in all probability the new media center would not be ready for use until the 2004/2005 school year due to the issues with the furniture. The furniture is of poor quality and will be returned to the manufacturer and replaced with something different.

Personnel Committee – Ms. Shanabrook reported that the committee met to review the superintendent's evaluation tool. They also reviewed the Band Director and Choir Director job descriptions.

Legislation – Ms. Westbrook reported on the upcoming enhancement millage. She also asked board members to utilize the State of Michigan website (mich.gov\MDE) to review the school report cards and AYP. The statistics are not reliable and you need to look at the website to get the full picture. FIA is looking at having satellite sites. The merit award scholarship may have a community service requirement. There is a bargaining seminar being offered by MASB and MSBO in March.

ISOA – Ms. Chamberlain reported on the Regional Enhancement Millage. It will not cover the shortfall that the schools are facing. MASB is looking at awarding certificates of achievement at one centralized meeting. She talked about America Schools, which donates money to schools who are part of their program. She also talked about the changes in school elections that are coming next year.

Student Representative – Miss Wilson reported that it was FFA week, which included several different activities for the students. She gave an update on the various sports teams that were to play this week. She also gave an update on Valentines Day activities, which included the Freshman Class selling candy, the Junior class selling flowers and the exchange students selling songs.

Elementary Principal's Report – Ms. Larson thanked Cathy Fitzgerald for her presentation on what the Teacher Leaders are working on in the elementary. She also mentioned last years Teacher Leaders: Laura Bartel, Maureen Monroe and Beth Glover. She mentioned that they have four years of data to use in evaluating students and that it will be exciting to eventually use the digitized data from NCA. In January and February the focus was on preparing for the MEAP. The kids were very focused on the MEAP and she credited Mr. Glover for his ability to inspire and motivate the kids to do well. Mr. Larson mentioned the trip she took to Otto Middle School to view their health center setup. March is reading awareness month. The kids may have the opportunity to read at Angel's or during recess. The elementary school was only 1 point below the state average in one category in regard to the report cards and that is how they received a "C". The good news is that they can fix that one category.

High School Principal Report – Not present

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Skilling discussed the school based health clinic in the new community center. It will focus on both physical and mental health issues.

He stated that he has written an article regarding the enhancement millage. He would like to make sure that the voters understand what the millage is and what it means to the school district. There will be a heavy focus on both the enhancement millage and the upcoming bond vote.

Dr. Skilling discussed the bond proposal in June and the sinking fund. The sinking fund will be used to maintain facilities only.

March 4th, 8th and 9th will be the interviews for the secondary principle position. Second interviews will be March 11th.

Enrollment is holding steady with new families moving into the district. He believes we will see an increase in enrollment next year.

The district will become more proactive in marketing the preschool and daycare programs. In addition, we will look at providing our own PPI program.

New letterhead and business cards are being ordered. The board will have access to business cards. He is also planning on doing "Superintendent Coffee Meetings" at local restaurants in an effort to give community members the opportunity to talk about issues related to the school.

We will be developing a district newsletter that will go out to everyone in the community 10 per year. The first issue will be in May/June.

Dr. Skilling commented on a superintendent evaluation done by Proscan that he passed out to the board.

Department Updates:

Technology - Mr. Learman updated the board on the recent technology issues related to the upgrade of the system. The 85 computers were delivered and are being prepped. Some will be stored until the media center and computer rooms are ready. The switch to the new network and phone should happen on Friday, February 20th. He has completed the work on the USF grant, which would provide some funding for the school.

Marketing – Ms. Weathers gave an update on the current articles that have appeared in the local papers.

Role Call Vote Issues:

Ms. Westbrook moved, and Ms. Brenner seconded to adopt the resolution calling for the annual school election on Monday, June 14, 2004. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Brenner moved, and Ms. Crandall seconded for the Webberville Community Schools to go forward with the bond issue planning and meet with the department of treasury. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Westbrook moved, and Ms. Shanabrook seconded to approve the changes to the boiler system at the secondary school as presented for a total cost of \$134,180.00. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Chamberlain moved, and Ms. Brenner seconded to approve the creation of the band director job description. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Shanabrook moved, and Ms. Chamberlain seconded to approve the creation of the director of choral music position. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Westbrook moved, and Ms. Shanabrook seconded to post and fill the position of director of choral music. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Shanabrook moved, and Ms. Brenner seconded to approve the superintendent evaluation instrument as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

Questions or comments from the audience

Mr. David Shirley, 5014 Oak Street, presented a request to the Board regarding the Varsity Boys' Baseball Team traveling to Florida for spring training. The board will respond to the request within two weeks.

Questions or comments from the Board of Education

Ms. Westbrook asked if it was true that Ms. Joyce Felzke would not be returning until the 2004/2005 school year. She would like Ms. Felzke's replacement to continue with the Library Club in her absence.

Adjournment

Ms. Westbrook moved, Ms. Shanabrook seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.

The Webberville Board of Education Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Teri Chamberlain, Secretary
Webberville Board of Education