

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2155 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 21, 2023 MS/HS Media Center

The regular meeting of the Independent School District #2155 was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Dan Lawson. Other Board members present: Melissa Seelhammer, Barb Tumberg, Brandon Kern, Julie Bushinger, Kent Schmidt and Supt. Lee Westrum.

Also present: Tanya Collins, Martha Ray, Isaac Ray, Greg Welch, Amos Self, Steph Yungbauer, Lisa Perkins, Amy Roller, Kathy Anderson, Paula Geiger, George Deiss, Lisa Weniger, Brian Jacobson, Tyler Church, Louis Rutten, Katie Polman, Dean Uselman, Mikaela Huot.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supt. Westrum proposed two changes to the agenda:

- a. Move item #6 to Student, Staff Community Recognition.
- b. Move One Act Play participant recognition to the March agenda.

A motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Seelhammer, to approve the Agenda with the proposed changes. Motion approved unanimously.

The Board recognized the Ambitious 4-H Club Community Pride Project Donation. Macy and Charlie Roller donated \$150 worth of supplies to WDC Elementary as part of their Community Pride Project.

A motion was made by Tumberg, seconded by Bushinger, to approve the January 17, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Kern, seconded by Seelhammer, to approve the February 1, 2023 Special Board Meeting minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Kern, to approve the February 13, 2023 Special Board Meeting minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Tumberg, seconded by Seelhammer, to approve the hires of Chelsea Leddon, Elementary Paraprofessional; Ryan Damlo, JH Track and Field Coach; Amanda Suchy, Long-Term Elementary Art Substitute. Motion passed 5-1.

A motion was made by Seelhammer, seconded by Bushinger, to approve the resignations of Richard Muckala, Ag Instructor and FFA Advisor; Jeremy Moonen, IT Help Desk Technician. Motion approved unanimously.

The Board recognized Richard Muckala for his 21 years of service to WDC.

A motion was made by Kern, seconded by Seelhammer, to approve the Business Manager's report. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Tumberg, seconded by Bushinger, to approve the following Disbursements:



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Vendor Check #'s 43043 - 43222 Credit Card (BMO Harris Bank): Student Activity Check #'s 22995 - 23029 \$331,776.63 \$7,192.91 \$26,509.33

Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Seelhammer, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the following donations to the district:

| Donor  | Purpose                                     | Amount     |
|--|---|------------|
| Tri-County Health Care   | ECFE Holiday Event                          | \$100.00   |
| Sourcewell   | Catalyst Training                           | \$3,000.00 |
| First Congregational United<br>Church of Christ - Lamson Family<br>Trust | 1st Grade Ski Trip                          | \$800.00   |
| First Congregational United<br>Church of Christ - Lamson Family<br>Trust | Books - Joan Goeden                         | \$600.00   |
| Various  | ECFE Donations                              | \$87.00    |
| Five Wings Art Council   | Community Ed: Wadena Area Community<br>Band | \$4,000.00 |
| Anonymous  | Football                                    | \$2,000.00 |
| Deer Creek Lions   | National Honor Society                      | \$200.00   |

Motion approved unanimously.

Several parents attended the meeting to address the Board:

Amos Self shared concerns regarding bathroom use in schools and referenced the Minnesota Department of Education's toolkit as guidance rather than policy. Supt. Westrum cited the Executive Order and legal advice provided by Pemberton in regards to Title IX anti-discrimination law as the reason behind how WDC currently handles bathroom and locker room usage among nonconforming and transgender students and community members.

Tanya Collins and Greg Welch shared concerns in regards to student viewing of the One Act Play, specifically surrounding a scene that they and their children were uncomfortable with. Ms. Collins



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requested that parents be made aware of potentially mature and/or sensitive content in performances moving forward.

The Public Hearing on City of Wadena Tax Abatement was declared Open at 6:24 p.m.

Dean Uselman from the Wadena Development Authority and Mikaela Huot from Bakertilly presented the financial analysis and revenue projections for the proposed housing project in Southeast Wadena.

The Public Hearing was Closed at 7:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Kern, seconded by Bushinger, to approve a resolution approving property tax abatements related to a new housing development in the City of Wadena. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Tumberg, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the budget reduction resolution. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Seelhammer, seconded by Tumberg, to approve the Audit Proposal for FY23 by Eide Bailly. Motion approved unanimously.

Supt. Westrum recognized members of the Board for their service to WDC, in observance of School Board Recognition Month.

The Board recognized Supt. Westrum as the Region 5 recipient of the MASA Regional Administrators of Excellence Award.

A motion was made by Bushinger, seconded by Seelhammer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.

The next special meeting of the WDC School Board is Monday, March 6, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robertson Theatre.

The next regular meeting of the WDC School Board is Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the MS/HS Media Center

Respectfully submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Barb Tumberg, Board Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dan Lawson, Board Chair