

WHITEPINE JT. SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 288

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

February 17, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Deary School

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Chair, Beverly Clark, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. Attendance: Sarah Stanton, Brittany Griffin, Beverly Clark, Mandy Kirk, Marc Manni, Stephanie Fletcher, Misty Swanson (ISBA), Stacy Monk, various patrons.
3. Hiring Best Practices and Open Meeting Law Review with ISBA: Misty Swanson reviewed information with the trustees regarding Open Meeting Law & Hiring Best Practices. Information on Open Session vs. Executive Session was provided in addition to the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual link. The Confidentiality Agreement was reviewed and signed by each board member, Mr. Monk & Mrs. Fletcher. Equal Employment Opportunity laws were reviewed. Ms. Swanson also reviewed the Superintendent Certification process and what could be available if needed. Lastly, reference questions were provided for the board to review and briefly discussed who could complete the calls.
4. Executive Session: IC 74-206 (1) (a). To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated to fill a particular vacancy or need, unless a vacancy in an elective office is being filled.
 - Superintendent candidate applications will be discussed
 - Superintendent candidate qualifications will be discussed.

IN: 6:41 p.m.

OUT: 8:01 p.m.

Brittany Griffin moved to enter Executive Session under IC 74-206 (1) (a). Sarah Stanton seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Marc Manni – Aye, Mandy Kirk – Aye, Beverly Clark – Aye, Brittany Griffin – Aye, Sarah Stanton – Aye.

The board recessed for a short break at 8:01 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m.

5. Action Item:
 - Determine Superintendent Search Semi-Finalists/Finalists
 - Next Steps in the Superintendent Search Process

Mandy Kirk moved to direct ISBA to do additional research and gather more information for Amy Caessens. Brittany Giffin seconded, motion carried.

Brittany Griffin moved to direct ISBA to do additional research and gather more information for Dr. Scott Root. Mandy Kirk seconded, motion carried.

Sarah Stanton moved to direct ISBA to do additional research and gather more information for Dr. Shane Johnston. Mandy Kirk seconded, motion carried.

Brittany Griffin moved to direct ISBA to do additional research and gather more information for Dr. Eric McDowell. Mandy Kirk seconded, motion carried.

The board directed Mr. Stacy Monk and Mrs. Stephanie Fletcher to conduct reference checks on these four candidates.

The board set the next meeting for February 27th at 3:30 p.m. in the Deary School.

6. Adjourn: *By unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.*



Beverly Clark, Chair



Stephanie Fletcher, Clerk