

# Minutes of Annual Meeting

## The Board of Education Waunakee Community School District

---

An Annual Meeting of the Board of Education of Waunakee Community School District was held Monday, October 18, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Waunakee Community School District, 905 Bethel Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597.

### I. Elect Chairperson to Conduct Budget Hearing and the Annual Meeting

Judith Engebretson called the district hearing and annual meeting to order at 6:59PM

Present: Mr. Boetcher, Ms. Ensign, Ms. Engebretson, Mr. Heinemann, Mr. Hetzel, Mr. Hoefler.

Ms. Engebretson asked for nominations for the selection of a chairperson to conduct the budget hearing and annual meeting. A motion was made by Hoefler, second by Engebretson, to nominate Heinemann to serve as chairperson for the meeting. Heinemann was elected chairperson of the 2021 Annual Meeting unanimously on a voice vote (7-0) 2021

### II. Reading of the Official Notice of the Budget Hearing and the Annual Meeting

School District Clerk, Engebretson, read the official notice of the budget hearing and annual meeting and noted its publication dates in the Waunakee Tribune.

### III. Budget Summary & District Goals Report - District Administrator and Executive Director of Operations

Steve Summers reviewed the budget summary. Randy Guttenberg reviewed the district goals of students back in school, maintain smaller class sizes, met needs of students, communications growth.

### IV. Discussion and Review of Budget

Summers shared information in review of the budget, explained the revenue cap, and the challenging State budget.

Tim Keifer, Village of Waunakee Community member and Dane county Board of supervisors explained his support of public schools and WCSD. Public schools are a great return on any investment. He is in support of the budget. He acknowledged the National Merit finalist.

### V. Review of Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting

Chairperson Heinemann noted the minutes from the October 19, 2020 Annual Meeting and asked if anyone in attendance had questions or comments. There were no questions or comments. A motion was made by Ensign, second by Engebretson to approve the minutes as posted. Motion carried.

VI. Receive and Accept Treasurer's Report - Jack Heinemann, School District Treasurer reviewed the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Ensign, second by Hoefer, to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

**VII. Resolution A - Authorize the School Board to Charge Student Fees**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Waunakee Community School District, Dane County, State of Wisconsin is hereby directed to charge student fees, and at such cost as shall be set by said school board.

Introduced by: Tim Schell

Seconded by: Tim Keifer

Dated: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**VIII. Resolution B - Salaries and Expenses for School Board Officers**

Be it resolved that the Board members of the Waunakee Community School District be paid a salary as stipulated below and be reimbursed for expenses incurred on district business when traveling outside of the district.

Salaries to be:

President, Clerk, Treasurer \$3,200 per year for regular/special/committee meetings.

All other Board Members \$2,800 per year for regular/special/committee meetings.

Introduced by: Dean Kaminski

Second by: Mary Heimbecker

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**IX. Resolution C - School Lunch Program Authorization**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Waunakee Community School District, Dane County, State of Wisconsin is hereby directed to furnish school lunches to any and all students of this district at such places and times, and at such cost as shall be set by said school board, and the school board is hereby authorized to pay any deficiency which may result from said lunch program. (Section 120.10 (16)).

Introduced by: Tim Schell

Second by: Kristin Runge

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**X. Resolution D – Authorize the School Board to Engage Legal Counsel if Needed**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Waunakee Community School District be authorized to engage legal counsel to represent the district and provide legal advice to the district.

Introduced by: Robert McPherson

Second by: Tim Kiefer

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**XI. Resolution E - Set Date and Hour for 2022 Annual Meeting or Authorize School Board to Set Date and Hour**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Waunakee community School District be authorized to set the date an hour for the 2022 Annual Meeting within the guidelines established by Wisconsin Statutes (Between the fourth Monday in July and the fourth Monday in October).

Introduced by: Dave Boetcher

Second by: Sheila Weihert

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**XII. Resolution F – Transportation**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Waunakee Community School District, Dane County, State of Wisconsin be authorized to purchase, operate and maintain transportation vehicles as well as contract for the transportation services to provide transportation to students, including but not limited to students whose residence is located within two miles of the school the student attends, as per Board Policy.

Introduced by: Dean Kaminski

Second by: Jeff Kenas

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**XIII. Resolution G - Adoption of Tax Levy**

Be it resolved that there be levied a school tax assessed against all taxable property within the Waunakee Community School District in the sum of \$31,541,225 necessary to operate and maintain the District School System and to finance the recommended budget for the 2019-2020 school year.

Introduced by: Deanne Lensert

Second by: Tim Schell

Date: October 18, 2021

Motion Carried.

**XIV. Persons Attending Meeting May Request Information on Any Topic Relative to Current Policies and Proceedings of the Schools.**

Chairperson Heinemann offered an opportunity to the persons in attendance to request information on any topic relative to current policies and proceedings of the schools.

Comments were brought forward by the following:

**Joel Lewis** - Concerned parent DEI effort. When will a committee be formed? Will any board members get training?

Ensign answered: It was decided at this time DEI would be a board committee and will be made up of Ensign, Hetzel, Heinemann. We support DEI very much will look for

participation as we form. We will be looking at training opportunities for Board, Staff and students.

**Christa Schmeelk**- If students are on this committee, will adults be held accountable and trained to work with needs to students?

Hoefer answered that they will be looking at how to train the staff and board. We need to pause and restructure how we can be better and stronger.

**Phil Keegan** – What is the estimated timeline for this committee? Ensign answered that they will meet before the November meeting and will discuss how to have more involvement.

**Kristin Runge** -What will happen between now and when a committee is formed? Hoefer answered that Administration should be contacted if there is an incident. The committee is in an area to gather information and bring things together to the administration. In addition to going directly to administration there is a reporting tool that students and staff have been informed about.

**Amy Lewis** - DEI will continue with the community members with diversity of thought. What does that mean - an actual definition – Hoefer answered - we can't define how at this time. We need time to meet and to discuss.

**Robert McPherson** - AES is over capacity - how will that impact new neighborhoods by Savannah Villlage. and how it will impact district. Guttenberg answered -Overcrowding is an issue we are dealing with and will look at. W may have to move kids and even may have to look at the boundaries.

**Dave Boetcher** - Does the MS have more capacity - Summers gave an example of how the capacity is being creatively used.

**Robert McPherson** –The board’s position on TIF. Heinemann answered that the Board looks at how it affects the district and discuss it. Guttenberg added the board gives guidance to the board representative to the plan commission regarding TIF.

**Tim Kiefer** – Why was the district’s bond rating downgraded as indicated on slide 39? How does this affect our interest rating? Are there any other bond ratings?

Heinemann answered -Moody’s didn't recognize our fund 40 - maintenance budget –to improve this rating the district will spend down fund 40 and maintenance, going forward, will come out of the general fund. Summers added that the overall health of the district did not change. The action taken tonight was directly related to this question. This bond rating was Moody’s and we have been asked that we seek other ratings. Boetcher added we will get another rating in April or May.

**Milana Lutes - HS student** - Make sure there is a safe place for students to share concerns regarding DEI. I would be afraid that would change. Ensign answered - thank you – We would hate to see that happen. We want to focus on students and how students are treated.

**Mary Heimbecker** – Regarding the TIF - 10 Mil - suggest the board push back to deny it. - Hope that DEI will listen to what the students need to say.

**Cass Punsel** – There is a lack of trust that the climate will be addressed by the DEI committee. What should we tell our children? Hetzel answered – The 9/27 Community Engagement meeting shed a lot of light on the student’s sense of safety, belonging and access to resources. This is a key misson of ours. By making this a board committee, we are extending the role of the committee.

**Diane Treis Rusk** - served on ad hoc committee - Commented that it took time to develop a working relationship on the ad hoc committee but the richness of the group developed because of the broadness of it. Ensign added they want to include all voices.

**Melissa Mehaouer** - How will trust be met with the students?

**Joel Lewis** – The ad hoc committee had 3 students on it and didn't have students come to that committee – and there is the reporting tool. Students need place to go. Hoefler responded – we are here for the students and our number 1 priority is that they have trust and know where to go. Boetcher added that we need to go to them – to their meetings. Heinemenan added we have to build a community.

**Cass Punsel** - Who does that students trust? Climate in school currently needs to be addressed. Kids and families back down because of the hostel environment

**Mary Heimbecker** - Kids are going through a lot right now and do not know who to turn to. Guttenberg responded – Yes we need to go to the students in their space. If there is something happening we need to know about it. We can only do something about incidents if we know about it. If not the district administration then the police.

**Robert McPherson:** It is vitally important that you support but standing adds strength.

#### XV. Adjournment

Motion was made by Brian Hoefler, second by Joan Ensign to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by

---

Clerk

---

Date