

**Whiteside School District #115
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 13, 2023
7:00 pm
Whiteside Middle School**

Administrators: Mark Heuring, Monica Laurent, Nathan Rakers, Kim Bossler, Jaime Cotto (joined at 8:47 pm)

Visitors: as noted on the sign-in sheet

1.0) Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

President Rod Euchner called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0) Roll Call of Members

Board Members present: Jeremy Bochantin, Angela Dickerson, Rod Euchner, Derek Houston, Sean McKee, Christine Mitchell-Endsley, and Nancy Sanchez.

3.0) Accept / Amend Consent Agenda

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Sanchez to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

4.0) Public Comment

President Rod Euchner welcomed visitors and members of the WFT.

Kelcie Nelson, parent, addressed the board in regards to a student discipline matter.

5.0) Consent Items

5.1) Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting October 19, 2023

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Houston to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting October 19, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.2) Approval of Minutes from Closed Session October 19, 2023

Motion by Houston, second by Dickerson to approve the minutes from the Closed Session October 19, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.3) Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion by Houston, second by Mitchell-Endsley to approve the Treasurers Report as presented. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.4) Approval of Claims / Bills Payable

Motion by Houston, second by Bochantin to approve the claims / bills payable as presented. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

6.0) Board Secretary Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7.0) Administrative Reports

7.1) Elementary Report – Mr. Rakers' reviewed his written report.

7.2) Middle School Report – Mrs. Laurent reviewed her written report.

7.3) District Superintendent Report – Mr. Heuring reviewed his written report.

8.0) Committee Reports

8.1) Mascot Committee

The committee, Kim Bossler, Derek Houston, and Christine Mitchell-Endsley, met on November 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm. They are happy with the direction that is being taken and will meet again after the first of the year.

9.0) New Business

9.1) Appoint new law firm to represent the school district

Barney Mundorf introduced himself and Gene Hanses. He spoke to the board about his background and how he came to practice school law.

Motion by Sanchez, second by Mitchell-Endsley to approve that the Board terminate the legal services of Robbins Schwartz in all matters, except one case currently in litigation which they were appointed by the District's insurance company to represent the District, and appoint the law firm Guin Mundorf, LLC to represent the district in all other matters effective immediately. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

9.2) Approval of the Preliminary SY 23-24 Tax Levy

Mr. Heuring explained the thought processes in preparing the SY 23-24 tax levy and our need for truth in taxation.

Mr. Houston requested clarification on the next steps in the tax levy process.

Motion by Houston, second by Bochantin to approve the preliminary SY 23-24 tax levy. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – no, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

9.3) Approval of FY 24 Maintenance Grant

Motion by Houston, second by Mitchell-Endsley to approve application and HLS amendment for upcoming maintenance grant for the elementary roof top HVAC project. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – no, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

9.4) FY 24 Health Insurance Proposal

Mr. Houston asked for clarification if we were in a Co-op or on our own for insurance. Mr. Heuring gave some background on different co-ops in the area and the pros and cons.

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Bochantin to approve the upcoming insurance renewal through Assured Partners for Cigna which includes a 5% cost increase to the Whiteside School District cost. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – no, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

Christine Mitchell-Endsley left the meeting at 7:43 pm

9.5) HVAC Proposal Consideration

Mr. Heuring discussed with the board where the finances for the project would be coming from.

Motion by Sanchez, second by Bochantin to approve the contract addendum for GRP performance contractors for three hallway HVAC at the middle school and the primary unit at the elementary school using American Rescue Funds and working cash bonds for a total of \$1,772,479. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

10.0) Closed Session

Motion by Houston, second by Dickerson to enter closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of a specific employee(s), discussion of district legal matters / pending litigation and student discipline matters. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Board went into closed session at 7:47 pm.

Motion by Sanchez, second by Bochantin to return to open session. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Board returned to open session at 8:47 pm.

11.0) Action Items Following Closed Session

11.1) Approval of Tuition Reimbursements

None at this time

11.2) Approval of Stipend Positions

None at this time

11.3) Employment of Paraprofessionals and ICAs

11.3)1. Motion by Dickerson, second by Houston to employ Tina Langley (formally Café Supervisor) as an ES ICA. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

11.3)2. Move the previous roll for Jasmine Childers – MS Paraprofessional. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

11.3)3. Move the previous roll for Stephanie Stock – MS Paraprofessional. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

11.4) Approval of Maternity Leave

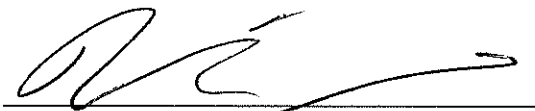
11.4)1. Motion by Sanchez, second by Bochantin to approve the maternity leave for Jessica Gain (MS Social worker) from March 4 through May 21, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

11.4)2. Move the previous roll for Erica Kerker (ES Para) from January 2 through February 9, 2024. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

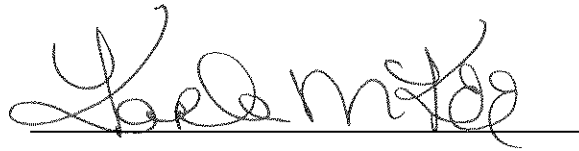
12.0) Adjournment

Having no further business motion by Houston, second by Bochantin to adjourn. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.



Rod Euchner, President



Karla McKee, Secretary