

**WESTERN DUBUQUE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Board of Education Minutes

Regular Meeting

September 14, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:**

Board President Mark Knuth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room – District Administration Office, Farley, Iowa, with a moment of silence.

**Roll Call:**

Present were President Mark Knuth, Vice-President Chad Vaske, Jeanne Coppola, John Lembezeder and Superintendent Rick Colpitts. Absent was Board member Mark Tilson.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Lembezeder, second by Coppola to approve the agenda as published with the following additions. Motion passed 4-0.

- VI. Consent Agenda
  2. Personnel
    - b. Employments
      11. Carrie Edgin, Cross Country Assistant, WDHS, \$1,581.20 (pro-rated from \$2,635.20 for 36 work days of 60 day contract)
- VIII. New Business
  3. Approve Change Order #5 WDHS Vocational Building

**Welcome to Visitors, Press, Staff, etc.:**

- Retired Superintendent Jeff Corkery thanked Board member Jeanne Coppola for her service on the Board. Mr. Corkery acknowledged Ms. Coppola's devotion to education and students by serving thirty-five years as a top notch educator in the District and eight years on the Board as a spokesperson for the Dyersville community who wasn't afraid to ask the difficult questions.
- Retired Board President Bob McCabe thanked Ms. Coppola for her service on the Board and acknowledged her as a good communicator who always kept kids first in her decision making.
- Board President Mark Knuth presented Jeanne Coppola with a plaque and thanked her for her dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to the District.
- Jeanne Coppola indicated her decision to step down from the Board was bittersweet and she was happy Jessica Pape showed an interest in replacing her. Ms. Coppola stated she was proud to have been a part of the District since 1970 and recalled the excitement of the new Dyersville Elementary School construction, new WDHS auditorium, and CHS gymnasium. Ms. Coppola thanked the Administration Office staff for their assistance over the years.

**Approval of Minutes and Bills:**

1. Minutes of August: Motion by Vaske, second by Lembezeder to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2015 regular Board meeting as presented. Motion passed 4-0.
2. Bills and Claims for August: Motion by Lembezeder, second by Coppola to approve the bills for August as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

## Reports:

1. Principals' Reports: School year is off to a smooth start; implementation of DMIS Writer's Workshop; thank you to members of New Hope Lutheran Church for community service landscaping at DMIS; thank you to Farm Bureau Insurance for offering 5th/6th grade Ag. Club Thursdays in October; RTI multi-tiered system of support has increased reading proficiency at DES; PTO planning meetings underway; use of SMART movement based activities; smooth transition to trimester schedule; WDHS Wingfest fundraiser success; WDHS student Theresa Brehm selected Dubuque Area Youth Leadership Council scholarship recipient and Dubuque area representative at national conference; WDHS vocational building progress; thank you to Jeanne Coppola; optional PD day attendance 91%.
2. Superintendent Report: Superintendent Colpitts reported: 1) School year is off to a good start albeit a few early dismissals due to heat; 2) Enrollment is up and funding follows; 3) Mr. Colpitts has completed his move to within District; 4) Mr. Colpitts toured the western two-thirds of the District; 5) Mr. Colpitts thanked Kelly Simon, Dave Hoeger, and Mark Frasher for their support at CHS in the absence of Principal Greg VanderLugt; 6) Superintendent Colpitts announced Western Dubuque has been named a *Des Moines Register* 2015 Iowa Top Workplace via results of an employee poll conducted by Workplace Dynamics. Western Dubuque placed sixth out of the top 25 recognized.
3. Bernard and Cascade Elementary Building Highlights: Principal Tesha Ruley, Paraprofessional Jan McCarthy, and Instructors Kelly Gibbs, Melissa Roller, Mindy Kamp, Amanda Klaas, Tara Noonan, Amy McElmeel, Kay Hoffman, Gloria McLaughlin, and School Counselor Jane Boffeli, presented 'Cougar, Cougar, What Do You See', a story told by elementary staff of the positive climate and growth mindset that led to CES being removed from the SINA list, a huge accomplishment. The elementary staff members surprised Principal Ruley with a tribute to her for her positive leadership.
4. Director of Student Services Title I Report: The Title I Report will be presented at a future date.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Vaske, second by Lembezeder to approve the consent agenda as published with addition noted. Motion passed 4-0.

1. Financial Reports of District
2. Personnel
  - a. Resignations
    1. Brandon Gibbs, Fall Weight Room Supervisor, WDHS
    2. Lynn Heitkamp, Freshmen Softball, WDHS
    3. Roamn Hummel, Freshmen Boys Basketball, CHS
    4. Adam Kedley, Instructional Coach, CHS
  - b. Employment
    1. Kathryn Balster, CES Pre-K, FTE increase from .6 to .8, \$8,000.00
    2. Alyssa Dalsing, DES 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, FTE increase from .8 to 1.0, \$7,058.88
    3. Nick Elsinger, FBLA Co-sponsor, WDHS, \$1,024.80
    4. Carol Freeze, JCL, FTE increase from .8 to 1.0, \$10,125.10
    5. Jenny Griner, PES Kindergarten, FTE increase from .6 to 1.0, \$25,784.52
    6. Lynn Heitkamp, Sophomore Girls Softball, WDHS, \$2,342.40
    7. Tom Jasper, Fall Weight Room Supervisor, WDHS, \$878.40
    8. Adam Kedley, Acting Principal, CHS, \$60,654.00
    9. Ronald Kramer, Freshmen Football Assistant, WDHS, \$2,928.00
    10. Marjorie Martel, change in 2015-16 Teacher Salary Schedule step placement from MA, Step 6, to BA+30, step 7, \$47,251.84
    11. Carrie Edgin, Cross Country Assistant, WDHS, \$1,581.12 (pro-rated from \$2,635.20 for 36 work days of 60 day contract)

3. Out of State Travel
  - a. CHS FFA Leadership Conference, Washington, DC, June 2016
  - b. CHS trip (open to grades 9-12) to Italy and Spain, June 2018
  - c. WDHS Spanish trip to Spain, June 2016
4. Policy Revisions 2nd Readings: None
5. Equipment/Fund Raising Project Requests: None
6. Resolutions: None

**Old Business:**

1. Approval of Amendment to 28e Agreement with Dubuque County Library. Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to approve amendment to the 28e Agreement between the District and the Dubuque County Library. Business Manager Mark Frasher explained the agreement outlines staffing and cost responsibilities agreed upon to hire an additional librarian. Motion passed 4-0.

**New Business:**

1. Approval of Abstract of School Board Election: Motion by Lembezeder, second by Coppola to approve the certified Abstract of Votes from the September 8, 2015 School Board Election. Motion passed 4-0.
2. Examine Financial Accounting books for preceding year: Motion by Vaske, second by Lembezeder to approve financial accounting books for preceding year, including statements showing balances on account at each depository and list of outstanding checks. Motion passed 4-0.
3. Approve Change Order #5 WDHS Vocational Building: Motion by Vaske, second by Coppola to approve change order #5 for the WDHS Vocational Building, an increase of \$6,009.20, for additional pavement removal and replacement, addition of metal roof over gas tank fencing enclosure, and enclosure to hide plumbing pipe in restroom. Motion passed 4-0.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Coppola, second by Vaske to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm on September 14, 2015.

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Jeni Schindler  
Board Secretary

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Mark Knuth  
President, Board of Education