



Leaders of Innovative Future-Focused Real World Learning

Board of Education Meeting Summary Nov. 8th * 6pm * WHS Choir Room

Below you will find highlights from the Nov. 8th 2021 Board of Education Meeting. The complete agenda can be found at [USD 353.com](http://USD353.com). A replay of the live stream of the meeting can be found on the USD 353 website. Please note that this is only a summary to provide a recap of each BOE meeting. Approved minutes posted by the Board Clerk can be found at USD353.com under the Board of Education tab.

Discussion Items:

- **Technology Presentation**

Dr. Jen Kern, Assistant Superintendent of Technology and Curriculum, and Ryan Ewing, Senior Network Administrator for the district, gave a presentation on the future of technology services in the district. Currently, the district outsources technology needs to K12, Inc. The district's five year contract with K12 is ending in March and the district needs to make a decision on re-signing with them or going another route. Dr. Kern and Mr. Ewing discussed the positives and negatives of working with K12. Dr. Kern also discussed the results of a district wide survey that was sent out to employees regarding their experiences with K12, noting that there were many frustrations with the ticketing system and a desire for in person technology help. They gave some options to the BOE including negotiating a shorter one year contract with K12 to see if they can address some of the issues or bringing technology completely inhouse. This topic will continue to be discussed.

- **E-Gaming Presentation**

Last month, Dr. Kristy Custer and Dr. Michael Russell from the High School ESports League, were present to give information on Esports to the BOE. The district is interested in starting an ESports League possibly in the fall of 2022. Dr. Kern sent out an interest survey to secondary students to gauge interest and reported that 250 respondents said they would be interested in participating. The BOE inquired about the cost to begin the league and space. Dr. Kern spoke about the ability to tailor the league

to fit any school budget. The BOE is interested in continuing to pursue the opportunity and asked that admin bring more info and details and will continue to discuss.

- **Energy Audit**

Last month, Energy Solution Professionals representatives were present to deliver their report on the preliminary energy audit done at WHS. ESP is a company that evaluates district facilities and assesses where energy saving measures can be implemented in order to save money. The preliminary report indicated a list of measures that could be taken to generate savings. The preliminary report was available for additional discussion. Mike Cliffman, HVAC technician for the district, was present to discuss the district's HVAC system. He talked about the current work being done to be able to control temperatures in the buildings more efficiently. The BOE took no action on pursuing the ESP audit but indicated that they wanted to keep on top of getting the high energy bills at WHS lowered.

- **Chromebook Bids**

The district is ready to move forward with their annual Chromebook purchase. The recommendation was made for the Chromebooks to be purchased using grant money awarded to the district from the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). The grant from ECF is for \$229,400.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the ECF grant.

Motion passed 7-0.

- **Water Fountains**

The district is interested in replacing all building water fountains to water bottle refilling stations indicating that this is a more sanitary option for our students. The bids were available for discussion. The BOE inquired about the cost of filters and how long the filter lasts and the install timeline. Kelly Adams, indicated that the current filling stations now have 3,000 gallon filters and that the install timeline would be 8 to 10 weeks. The bids were as follows:

-Massco-\$51,824.00

-TMS-\$53,259.00

-Grainger-\$51,993.74

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Massco quote for \$51,824.00.

Motion passed 7-0.

- **WRC Board Member Appointee**

The Wellington Recreation Commission board of directors voted to nominate Erma Ratcliff and Mary Frances Holefelder to serve 4 years on the WRC board. The nominations are approved by USD 353 BOE. The BOE indicated that they would like to pursue representation on the WRC board of directors.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Erma Ratcliff and Mary Frances Holefelder to serve on the WRC Board.

Motion passed 4-3.

- **USD 353 Safety and Operation Plan**

The Safety and Operation Plan was discussed. Mr. Hatfield indicated that the district was not recommending any changes to the plan at this time. The BOE discussed drop off times at the Elementary schools and when it could return to 7:30am. Mr. Hatfield reiterated the reason for the 7:50am drop off was a Covid precaution as not to have mass gatherings of students in the mornings. He indicated that once the district is out of Covid protocols, drop offs can return to normal times.

Action Items:

- **Ford Transit**

The district is interested in continuing the yearly upgrade of their vehicle fleet. They are interested in purchasing a Ford Transit to replace an older district vehicle. Three bids were presented to the BOE last month. They were as follows:

-Raber Ford: \$34,825.00

-Rusty Eck Ford: \$35,179.00

-Lubbers Ford: \$35,255.00

Last month, the BOE indicated they would like more information on the extra and accessories included on the Raber quote. Admin brought that information to the BOE.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Raber Ford quote for \$34,825.00.

Motion passed 7-0.

Executive Session:

A motion was made and seconded to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Open session resumed at 7:20pm.
Motion passed 7-0.

Consent Agenda:

- Approve the Minutes of the October 12th Meeting
- Approve Payroll and Bills:
 - Payroll: \$1,175,592.69
 - Bills: \$693,629.14
 - Transfers: Vocational- \$75,000
 - At Risk-\$200,000
- Approve Grand Piano Donation from Church Ignited
- Approve Adam Hatfield for Out of State travel to Nashville for AASA National Conference on Education- February 17-19.
- Approve New Hires:
 - Halynn Page- Para- WHS
- Approve Resignations
 - Wendy Goodrum- Director of Finance
 - Blake Bales- Assistant Wrestling and Golf Coach-WHS
 - Kailey Swann -Assistant Softball Coach-WHS

A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Motion passed 7-0