

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2021 MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Rice at 7:06 p.m. in the South Campus Cafeteria.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Kent Rice, Sue Schultz, Craig Thompson, Darrell Beneker, Donna Beringer, Amy Hemmer, Chris Farris
Virtual Attendance: Tim Langer
Administration present: Laura Myrah, Jeff Gross

The meeting was properly posted.

Mr. Rice, School Board President, addressed the board and the community and asked that we keep our issues in perspective in relations to events happening throughout the world. This meeting has been called to clear up some procedural matters due to a previously made error. Mr. Rice recapped that Hemmer had made a motion at a previous meeting that was out of order as it was not on the agenda. The board chose to postpone the motion to a future meeting which should have been tabled and not postponed.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Beneker to suspend Policy 151.5 agenda format for this meeting and accept the agenda order as posted to the public. Motion Carried. (Farris – No)

Moved by Thompson, seconded by Schultz to suspend the attorney-client privilege during this meeting in order to obtain legal guidance from Attorney Bob Butler. Motion Carried. (No – Hemmer, Farris)

Moved by Langer, seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2021 regular school board meeting subject to modification, July 14, 2021 special school board meeting, and the August 11, 2021 special school board meeting subject to modification. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 special school board meeting as presented. Motion Carried.

No bill list for approval.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT -

Ms. Myrah informed the board that she consulted Attorneys Bob Butler and Dan Mallin for assistance in clarifying the legal process for the motions included in this meeting's agenda. Ms. Myrah summarized the agenda motions in order to provide additional information and understanding of the purpose of the motions.

Ms. Myrah thanked the teachers, staff and 70 students who helped plan and facilitate the 3-day Freshman Wings program. We had over 500 incoming freshmen participate.

Mr. Rice noted that for this meeting we will modify the 3-minute rule and allow for 5-minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –

Members of the public made comments regarding concerns that the school board has not put into place adequate COVID safety measures for the 2021 school reopening plan. Ms. Myrah reviewed the current COVID procedure. Community members also voiced concerns regarding the topic of Critical Race Theory. Many comments were made related to the error in the application deadline date of the vacant Swallow school board seat as a result of the retirement of Bob Rosch. Concerns were voiced related to the COVID vaccine and if there will be school mandates for students at Arrowhead. The board's transparency was called into question by some community members.

CURRICULUM – No report.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – No report

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – No report

PERSONNEL – No report

POLICY – Chairperson Beringer summarized the August 19, 2021 meeting at which the topic of Critical Race Theory was discussed. School board vacancies and the official newspaper were discussed and will be addressed in the motions to be presented. Mr. Butler advised that if the following motion fail, the school board will follow the current procedure and Mr. Rice, Board President will need to break the tie vote for the Swallow Seat and choose the new school board member.

Moved by Beringer, seconded by Langer to suspend the application of Policy 113 Filling Board Vacancies, specifically the phrase, “The process of appointment will be accomplished as soon as possible within sixty (60) days of the vacancy, provided a policy and procedure are determined. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Beneker to suspend the application of Procedure 113 filling Board Vacancies, specifically the phrase, “... Board president shall determine which candidate wins in the tie as it pertains to the August 11, 2021 tie vote on candidates, provided a policy and procedure are determined. Farris disputed this motion as he felt there was only 1 valid candidate. Hemmer withdrew her motion.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Beneker to suspend the application of Procedure 113 filling Board Vacancies, specifically the phrase, “... Board president shall determine which candidate wins in the tie as it pertains to the August 11, 2021 disputed tie vote on candidates, provided a policy and procedure are determined. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to modify Procedure 113 Filling Board Vacancies, as applied to the Board vacancy that arose in June 2021 and to serve as the policy for filling such vacancy, as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to direct the implementation of Procedure 113 Filling Board Vacancies in order to fill the vacancy that arose in June 2021, as amended. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to appoint Julie Wold to fill the Board vacancy that arose in June 2021.
Roll Call: Rice - No, Beringer - No, Beneker - Aye, Langer - Aye, Thompson - No, Hemmer - Aye, Schultz - No, Farris - Aye.
Motion Failed. (9:16 P.M.)

Moved by Thompson, seconded by Rice to amend Policy 113 Filling Board Vacancies and Procedure 113 Filling Board Vacancies, effective prospectively and as applied to vacancies first arising after August 23, 2021, as amended to include all agreed upon changes including but not limited to the addition of the following verbiage regarding any changes in the process “the modifications shall be noticed to all school board members via email communications”. Motion Carried. (Farris – No, Hemmer – No).

The board reviewed a new potential Policy 333, Nondiscrimination in Curriculum. After some discussion, the board agreed to send this policy back to the Policy Committee for further discussion.

Moved by Beringer, seconded by Thompson to change the district’s board-approved official newspaper to the Waukesha Freeman. Motion Carried.

The next meeting of the Policy Committee is TBD.

NEW BUSINESS –

Beneker would like the board to consider a potential parent survey, after the first quarter. Administration will put together a draft for consideration. Farris would like to discuss an option for the board packets with links to be available to the public. Ms. Myrah asked the board to discuss the current procedure of videotaping meetings. These issues will be moved to the Policy committee for discussion.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – None presented.

Moved by Beneker, seconded by Schultz to adjourn. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate McGraw

Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk