

**ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
APRIL 12, 2023 MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Kim Schubert at 7:00 p.m. in the South Campus Library.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Darrell Beneker, Tim Evers, Chris Farris, Kim Schubert, Craig Thompson, Lynn Vogeltanz, Amy Hemmer, Tim Langer, Brandon Miller

Administration present: Laura Myrah, Jeff Gross, Sue Casetta, Adam Kurth, Adam Boldt

The meeting was properly posted.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Myrah introduced Choral Instructors Grace Bielski and Gustavo Chaviano who brought choir students for a brief performance. Student performances included a 4-member girls barbershop quartet and a portion of the North Campus Choir, which currently consists of approximately 80 students.

Board President Ms. Schubert provided a verbal statement addressing the recent ongoing and escalating rhetoric in the community, especially on social media platforms. These behaviors are occurring amongst the adults, who should be role models for our students. She encouraged everyone to treat each with respect and discontinue these behaviors.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Three members of the public spoke. One community member made a statement of solidarity with a Waukesha School District school board who is currently facing challenges regarding their LGBT student population. A request was heard to strengthen Policies 222 - Professional Staff Hiring, Policy 333 - Nondiscrimination in Curriculum, Policy 511 - Nondiscrimination Statement and Sex Discrimination Complaint Process, Policy 513 - Equal Opportunity Employment and Nondiscrimination, and Policy 660 - Student Scholarships and Awards, as well as a request to rescind Policies 333 - Nondiscrimination in Curriculum and Policy 651- Procedures for Handling Student Name Changes and Pronoun Usage. Comments from a student included the importance of a school board being nonpartisan and shared concerns that the board has lost the trust of the community, teachers, students and taxpayers. Other comments included concern regarding the overwhelming social media discourse that has been occurring for some time and the current discourse is a result of the community pushing back.

Acknowledgement and thanks to the donors including; Bonnie L. Laugerman (George Laugerman Memorial), the Lake Country Optimist Club, Erv's Service, Inc., R&R Insurance Services, Inc., Bostik, Inc., and Nathaniel and Amy Marshall.

Moved by Miller, seconded by Beneker to approve the Consent agenda as listed. Motion Carried.

CURRICULUM - Chairperson Hemmer provided a report from the March 16, 2023 meeting. The committee heard a proposal from Social Studies Teacher Mr. Herriot regarding a student field trip to Greece for a vast cultural experience. Mr. Boldt presented a proposal for mental health training. Ms. Cassetta explained how Skyward and Canvas work together and also don't work together, based on their differing purposes. Also presented was a summary of achievement data from the 2022 9th graders. This information looks at achievement based on each K-8 feeder school and allows feedback for possible improvements.

The next Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 6:45 a.m.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Langer to approve the student trip to Greece in the summer of 2024. Motion Carried.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – Mr. Thompson thanked board member Lynn Vogeltanz for attending the WASB day at the capital. Ms. Schubert, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Farris and Mr. Gross attended the joint finance committee hearing and presented information to legislators regarding the needs of our school system and school funding concerns.

The next Finance and Legislation meeting date is to be determined.

Mr. Gross conveyed three main advocacy points in the testimony to the Joint Finance Committee. 1. Arrowhead operates with one of the lowest per pupil revenue limits in Waukesha County. 2. Requested the legislature to commit to a \$1,510 per pupil increase in order to just keep up with inflation as we have had zero increases in the past two years. 3. Request to increase the state categorical aid for special ed eligible expenses as each year we need to transfer approximately \$2 million dollars from the general fund to the special education fund in order to make the special education budget whole. We are heading into a fiscal cliff due to the lack of funding increases in the past few years. The state instructed schools to use their ESSER funds (Covid relief funding), which Arrowhead did not receive much as compared to other schools in our state.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – No report. The next Building and Grounds meeting is May 4th at 6:45 am. An update was provided that Mr. Lipscomb is collecting bids for electrical repairs on the swimming pool as there was an addendum which caused a delay. The bids will be reviewed at the May 4th meeting.

PERSONNEL – Chairperson Langer gave a report from the March 14, 2023 meeting which was held mostly in closed session. The committee then discussed staffing projections for the coming school year and also discussed a possible methodology for the superintendent evaluation.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to approve the withdrawal from the the Waukesha County Area Schools Health Insurance Purchasing Cooperative and move to self-insuring for health insurance using a third party administrator for claims operations. Motion Carried.

Prior to the vote being taken regarding the self-insuring of health insurance, Mr. Gross provided some background information. After being part of the Waukesha County Area Schools Health Insurance Purchasing Cooperative (WCASC) and having had healthy claims experience the past two years, the renewal rate was not reflective of our claims experience and was only able to be negotiated down to a 9% increase. Therefore, alternate options were explored. Starting in

July 2023, Arrowhead will be moving to a plan that is self funded with a captive layer of stop-loss protection. There are many details to work out once we have board approval. Mr. Gross explained how a self funded plan works and explained the expected and potential risks. Employees are anticipated to not have any significant visible difference in their current health insurance plan. HIPAA laws will continue to protect employees' health care privacy. Mr. Gross was thanked for his hard work on this.

The next Personnel meeting will be on April 19th at 6:45 a.m.

POLICY – Chairperson Farris provided a report from the April 6, 2023 meeting. The committee discussed a proposed change to Policy 851 - Sponsorships to include language that the board will approve any sponsorships greater than \$10,000. Any sponsorships of \$5,000 will be brought as information only. The committee also discussed the request by some board members to have full access to Canvas. Administration is looking into possible temporary access and will have that information available at the next Policy Committee meeting. Ms. Myrah presented the quarterly review of policy complaints for Policy 333 - Nondiscrimination Within Curriculum. The committee discussed approving the handbook for the upcoming school year. Finally the committee postponed the discussion of the agenda item related to Policy 649 - Possession of Personal Wireless Electronic Devices regarding cell phones to the next committee meeting.

Moved by Farris, seconded by Hemmer to approve the changes to Policy 851 - Sponsorships as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Hemmer, seconded by Farris to approve the District Policy Handbook for 2023-2024. Motion Carried.

The next Policy meeting is May 16th at 6:45 a.m.

WASB – No report

CESA #1 - No report

Ms. Vogeltanz shared her experience at the School Advocacy Day at the Capitol. There was good attendance at this event and participants had the opportunity to visit the offices of local legislators.

The Joint Finance Committee budget hearing item has already been discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Gross explained that we have received four (4) bids to operate our food service program. Chartwells, our current vendor, provided the best financial offer. Chartwells made a commitment to improve on their current offerings and update the space. The food service fund is self-sufficient in operating with any profits going back into the program. Chartwells has guaranteed a \$75,000 profit in year one.

Moved by Langer, seconded by Hemmer to approve the Food Service Management Company contract beginning July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 with up to four (4) one (1) year renewals between Arrowhead and Chartwells (Compass Group). Motion Carried.

Future agenda items - None

Moved by Farris, seconded by Hemmer to adjourn. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate McGraw
Recording Secretary

Amy Hemmer, Clerk