

Wisconsin Virtual Learning, Inc. Board of Education Meeting Minutes Regular Session Thursday, May 9, 2024 – 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m. by William Hintz. Roll call taken; quorum established. **Members Present:** William Hintz, Sandy Lundberg, Eric Dimmitt, Theresa Schmechel, Dana LaPointe **Others Present:** Michael Leach, Josh McDaniel, Kelley Janowski, Ann Baumann, Janel Mielke, Branden Doucette, Dan Schreurs **Recognitions:** M. Leach shared his monthly recognitions with the board. If you would like to read the details, please see page 1 of the board packet. Marketing Report: The April marketing update was presented via Loom. This month, **Reports:** website traffic was strong. People spent an average of over 2 ½ minutes exploring our website. Ads will be back on in June before alternative enrollment begins. The team is also working on a marketing campaign strategy directed towards families who have students currently enrolled in virtual schools that are scheduled to close at the end of this school year. Enrollment Update: A. Baumann presented the enrollment projection report. As of Monday, May 6th, we have 171 students who have confirmed they are returning for the 2024-25 school year. As of today, we have 210 students enrolled in summer school. To date, it is the largest number of students who have enrolled in our summer school program. **Budget Update:** J. McDaniel presented the monthly 2023-24 Enrollment Projections vs. Budget chart and the Approved Alternative Enrollments chart. J. McDaniel presented April's Monthly Check Register. E. Dimmitt motioned to approve the April 2024 Check Register, seconded by D. LaPointe. Motion carried unanimously. J. McDaniel presented the Budget vs. Actual Summary. **Old Business:** S. Lundberg made a motion to approve the following: April 11, 2024 Regular Session Meeting Minutes April 11, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes April 20, 2024 Special Closed Session Meeting Minutes May 1, 2024 Special Closed Session Meeting Minutes Motion was seconded by D. LaPointe. *Motion carried unanimously*. **New Business:** Testing Process Feedback: Janel Mielke, Director of Curriculum and Assessment presented a slideshow explaining how mandatory testing is coordinated at WVL. Chromebook Proposal & Technology Update/Forecast: Branden Doucette and Dan Schreurs from the IT Department provided an update on the Chromebook pilot at the elementary level. The purpose was to collect data from families on the use of 2-in1 touch screen technology. They wanted to ensure quality access to all WVL content and materials while using a Chromebook. Lastly, they gathered feedback from users as to what areas could be improved or enhanced if WVL went with another device.



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Overall, the response to the touch screen devices was positive. Parents reported that students were engaging with the curriculum and class provided manipulatives by interacting with the content through touch, rather than clicking and dragging. Parents and teachers reported that students were more engaged and active during live class. Students found no loss of tools or access to instructional materials by using a Chromebook. The Chromebooks worked through Canvas, instructional materials and state testing with no issues or technical problems.

Families did note that the piloted Chromebook screen was smaller than the 15-inch screen laptops that families are currently issued. Another issue mentioned was the audio speakers were quieter compared to the speakers on the laptops. Branden and Dan were able to find the same model device with a 15-inch screen. To address the audio issues, they paired each Chromebook with a Lenovo headset and microphone. Based on the results of the pilot, the IT Department recommends moving forward with the purchase of Chromebooks for future use with our newly developed elementary curriculum.

W. Hintz expressed his concerns with this change. T. Schmechel and D. LaPointe also expressed their opinions. After listening to the discussion, M. Leach tabled the issue.

Health Insurance Update: Over the past few months, the District has been working with our insurance advisor, National Insurance Services (NIS) to find the best overall health insurance option at an affordable price. United Health Care (UHC) provided the District's annual insurance renewal with a 27.9% increase to maintain the current plan. After already having explored various options, it was determined that another insurance set-up may be the best option going forward.

After all the options were explored, it was determined that we should move forward with an Individual Contribution Health Reimbursement Account (ICHRA) model through OneBridge. While this option will require employees to be more involved with their health insurance, it will allow for insurance plans to be individually selected by employees to meet their individual needs. The plan will be brought to the NOSD Board of Education at their May 13th meeting.

Approval of Contracts for Teachers/Professional Staff: A standard dollar amount was used to apply annual increases if staff were to meet evaluation criteria. This was used when determining the increases for all contracts for the 2024-25 fiscal year. E. Dimmitt made a motion to set compensation increase amounts and approve aggregate contracts for all professional and exempt staff in the amount of \$48,600 for 2024-25, seconded by S. Lundberg. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of 403b Matching Contribution for 2024-25: In 2018-19, the WVL School Board approved the start of a 403b match program. An employee must earn a year of service before they are eligible to participate in the match program. All employees are eligible to voluntarily contribute to the plan after their date of hire. Every year the board reviews the current 403b match program to see if it should continue and to set the effective match



percentage. T. Schmechel made a motion to continue the 403b match program offered to employees for the 2024-25 fiscal year and maintain the current match percentage of 6.0%, seconded by D. LaPointe. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Next Meeting: The next WVL Board Meeting will be held on June 13, 2024 via Zoom.

Adjournment:D. LaPointe made a motion at 8:41 p.m. to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting and go into
Closed Session, seconded by S. Lundberg.Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Dimmitt, Secretary

William Hintz, Board President