

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting 28-17

SPECIAL MEETING

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

OCTOBER 21,

20 17

The Special Meeting of the Warrensville Heights Board of Education was held on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at Tri-C Eastern Campus, Student Services Building, Room ESS 2528, 4250 Richmond Road, Highland Hills, Ohio.

President Freeman called the meeting to order and asked the Treasurer, Dr. Michael A. Rock, to call the roll. The roll call revealed the following members present: Mrs. Michele Elba, Mr. Ray A. Freeman, Mrs. Millicent Gaiter, Ms. Traci Mitchell, Mrs. Barbara A. Mumin

Facilitator: Steve Farnsworth, Educational Service Center.

Mission: Creating an education environment that promotes curiosity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration while empowering scholars to be responsible contributing members of our community, nation and world.

- The Basics of Boardmanship
 - Roles of the Board and the Superintendent
 - Code of Ethics
- How do we promote communication and collaboration? (mission) Is it important?
- Do we model it? Is it ok to disagree with fellow board members? How do we do that in the spirit of collaboration?
- Board Goals for the 17-18 school year.
 - One of the Board's goals should be to improve communication and collaboration among its members. The Board will conduct it's business in a collaborative and caring manner. Respect and civility will be hallmarks of the way we do business. All of our decision will be based, ultimately, on what is best for our students.
- Another Board goal should be to assess how it is doing in that regard.
 - Formative (mid-year) and Summative (end of year).
- Another Board goal or two aligned with the Strategic Plan.
- Superintendent Goals for the 17-18 school year – aligned with Board goals
 - Treasurer Goals for the 17-18 school year – aligned with Board goals
 - Formative Assessment December or January
 - Summative Evaluation June or July
- Facilitator recommends using an unbiased and unattached Facilitator to ensure integrity to the evaluation process.

Protocols: How we intend to do Board's business

- To respect and honor one another, by fully considering their points of view and providing them with our honest and forthright feedback.
- To support the majority decisions of the Board of Education, even when we are in the minority.
- To maintain a unity of purpose in which we collaborate with each other to identify, clearly articulate, and further the vision, goals and policies of the district. We will be a symbol of unity in the community.
- We will exercise civility in our conversations during board of education meetings and any time we are doing Board's business.
- All decision will be made based on what is in the best interest of our students.

Facilitator Steve Farnsworth provided exercises for the Board to review covering the topics of: unanimous and split votes, the OSBA Code of Ethics, broken trust, Superintendent and School Board Roles and Responsibilities, and a role play of a board meeting scene.

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In regards to unanimous and split votes, Steve Farnsworth stated that clear minded governing teams formulate specific written standards stating that a 4-1 or 3-2 vote is just as binding as a unanimous vote that build trust with the community and staff. High performing boards are proactive by expecting split votes to be just as vigorously implemented as unanimous votes, work aggressively to resolve problems giving rise to dissention, and clarify that only the majority of the board can give direction to the superintendent or treasurer. High performing boards revisit their intended voting beliefs and commitments at least semi-annually to ensure consistency of practice.

Facilitator Farnsworth continued with a review of the roles of the superintendent and board, stating that the board sets the tone that establishes the culture of the school district with the way that the board governs the entity. The board's responsibility is to establish and review all policies, work effectively with the superintendent of the schools, seek the superintendent's recommendation before taking action, communicate and interpret the district's mission to the public while listening to community perspectives, and to ensure that the leadership team advocates for both children and the community. The superintendent roles include implementing policies approved by the board, serve as the board's chief executive officer and educational leader, provide the board with information for data based decisions, advocate and implement the annual budget that addresses district goals, and oversee the day to day operations of the district.

Facilitator Farnsworth assisted the Board in assessing and establishing Board goals for the WHCSD Board of Education. The Board discussed eight goals: academic achievement, state of the art facilities, stronger collaboration, highly qualified teaching staff, strategic plan to permeate throughout the District, enhanced culture and reputation, more engagement with parents and community, and accountability as a means to accomplish all of the goals discussed. Facilitator Farnsworth encouraged the Board to narrow the goals down to three and to concentrate on the means to set the culture to accomplish academic achievement, build state of the art facilities, have highly qualified staff, and increase engagement with the school community.

The Board analyzed the topics listed above in order to narrow the scope of the 2017-2018 Board goals. The Board concluded with aligning the goals to the mission statement of the District. In an effort to be more effective school board members, working to create an educational environment that promotes Curiosity, Critical Thinking, Communication and Collaboration, while empowering scholars to be responsible contributing members of our community, nation, and world; the Board concluded with four 2017-2018 School Year Board of Education Goals. The first goal is to emphasize the importance of building and maintaining accountability for ourselves as a board, and ensure its emphasis throughout the WHCSD. Secondly, to improve and strengthen our communication and collaboration amongst board members, superintendent, and treasurer; creating an environment of respect in and out of the board room. Craft positive messaging, accountability measures, and activities focused on shifting negative cultural and reputational influences to a more positive perception by students, parents, educators, staff, and the community at large. The fourth goal is to develop programs, activities, and communications focused on improving parent and community engagement, creating open communication forums between stakeholders, the Board of Education, and the District. The Board concluded by stating they will work together developing measures for success for each of the four goals listed above.

Adjournment: 1:00 p.m.

12/18/17
DATE

ATTEST:


PRESIDENT


TREASURER