

October 24, 2022, West Ada School Board Meeting

Sue Darden

- I. Meeting called to order at 6 p.m.
 - a. Pledge
 - b. Agenda amended
 - i. Added executive session
- II. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Thank you to teachers for great conferences
 - b. Congratulations to all teams that qualified for state
 - c. District III band competition on Saturday
 - i. West Ada was well represented
 - d. Leadership Conference
 - i. Held this weekend
 - ii. Students from all high schools represented
 - e. Veronica Lightening – supervisor of student council at Meridian High
 - i. Introduced president & vice-president
 - ii. Return Warrior spirit back after COVID
 - 1. Warrior Day for incoming Freshman
 - 2. Build back communication for clubs and activities with administration
 - 3. Class of 1991- wanted to tour Meridian High
 - a. Enjoying meeting alumni
 - b. Heard about past Warrior traditions
 - c. Read email from coordinator of class of 1991 thanking them
 - 4. Had a retreat for student council
 - a. Leadership training & bbq
 - 5. Advisory is beneficial
 - a. Student council in one advisory
 - b. Tentative at first, talked to advisory
 - c. Worked on Homecoming
 - 6. Build big student session
 - a. Had a tailgate, free food & T-shirts
 - i. Game was held before school started
 - ii. Got sponsors, great community support
 - 7. Homecoming
 - a. Dress-ups – favorite was Adam Sandler day
 - b. Homecoming parade- involved community

- i. Meridian Mayor participated
 - c. Homecoming Tailgate- sense of community
 - d. Posters for varsity players
 - i. Burning of the M- tradition
 - 8. Community Service
 - a. Listed several things they do
 - iii. Dr. Bub- thanked principal and advisory
 - iv. Great culture
- f. Athletics & Activities Fundraiser – Jason Warr
 - 1. Schools sell tickets at \$100 each, limited number per school
 - 2. Money stays at the school
 - 3. 7 different raffle drawings, last one in April
 - ii. 7,600 total tickets
 - iii. Drawings for six \$250 gift certificates from Off The Training, a sports facility
 - 1. One winner was selected from each region
 - iv. Two tickets for bsu football game, 2 tickets for a bsu basketball game + \$200 gift card from Blue & Orange Store
 - 1. One winner was selected from each region
- III. No patron input
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approved
- V. Audit Presentation- Jonathan Gillen, Chief Operations Officer & Kristen Diggs from Eide Bailey, CPA & Business Advisor
 - a. Thanked district controller, Donna somebody
 - i. Starts July 1, goes through October
 - ii. Audit takes 2 weeks
 - b. What is an audit
 - i. Review transactions
 - ii. Provide opinion that financial statements are free of material misstatement
 - iii. Not a review of every transaction
 - iv. Not a forensic review
 - 1. Not looking for fraud, but will review inconsistencies
 - c. Kristen Diggs
 - i. Start in the spring
 - ii. Lots of communication through the year, especially with COVID funds
 - iii. Preliminary testing of federal funds in March
 - 1. \$30,000,000 in federal funds this year
 - iv. Risk-based approach
 - 1. Look for change in management & findings from previous year

- 2. Testing – significant cash balances, outstanding debt
 - 3. Pull samples – Capital building
- v. Looked at four programs
 - 1. Stipends given to teachers
 - 2. Special Education
 - 3. ESER funds (Coronavirus funds)
 - 4. Coronavirus emergency contingency fund – used for devices
- vi. Device program had a max amount that can be used
 - 1. District exceeded that
 - a. Had to use another fund
 - b. Had 2 findings from the same incident
- vii. Financial Statement audit
 - 1. Pension
 - 2. Insurance
 - 3. Pension is in the asset position
 - a. Will probably switch to liability due to economy
- viii. COVID related funding will wind down
- ix. New- implementation of GASB 87
 - 1. Cell-tower leases
 - 2. Lease liability
 - 3. Some other stuff
- x. Two pass adjustments from the past
 - 1. Fair market value of LGIP
 - a. Pass on it
 - 2. Recalculated lease receivable, came up with different amount
- d. AU260 Letter
 - i. Significant aspects of audit
 - 1. Adjustments
 - 2. Modifications
 - 3. New Standards
 - 4. Some other stuff
- e. Tr. Binette- estimate for pension liability
 - i. Adjusted by 2%, what should it be adjusted to?
 - 1. They compare, someone else makes the estimate
- f. Tr. Bacylon- were the findings major or minor
 - i. Material non-compliance is most severe
 - ii. Material weakness & interior control
 - iii. Significant deficiency – hiccup in control, but not conducive to entire program
 - 1. Lowest level, but had to be brought up to management
- g. Jonathan – financials for next year

- i. Gathering more data, will report in December
 - ii. Not approving or accepting an audit
 - 1. Needs to be approved by November 10th
- VI. Fall 2022 Academic Benchmark Data Review - Marcus Meyers, Chief Academic Officer
 - a. ISAT results presented Aug 4, link in agenda
 - b. West Ada – 40,000 students
 - i. Ranked #1 in the state with traditional students of schools over 15,000
 - ii. Best valued education
 - iii. Process over product
 - iv. Formative rather than summative
 - v. Intentional data dip
 - 1. Reflects our instructional efficacy & planning
 - vi. One measure in time, use multiple measurements
 - vii. Face behind the number, kid by kid, skill by skill
 - c. ISIP (K-3)
 - i. Progress monitor monthly
 - ii. Incoming students were higher than in the past (from 63% to 79%)
 - iii. Data is a week and a half-old
 - 1. Kindergarten students were more prepared for learning
 - 2. Full-day kindergarten showed it makes a difference
 - iv. First through third grades – retaining information
 - 1. Upward trends at all grade levels
 - d. 4-5 ELA (I-Ready)
 - i. Computer based now available from fourth through high school
 - 1. Green students need enrichment
 - 2. Yellow- grow to grade level
 - 3. Red – intervention
 - ii. Alignment from I-Ready to ISAT
 - iii. Showed 6-8 ELA
 - iv. Showed 9-12 ELA
 - e. Celebrations
 - i. Growth in reading standards at every grade level
 - ii. Higher proficiencies in early literacy & building on it
 - iii. Full Day kinder is building early literacy skills
 - iv. Common 4-12 tool for monitoring
 - f. K-5 I-Ready
 - i. Green, enrich
 - ii. Yellow at instructional level
 - g. 6-8 same system
 - h. 9-12

- i. Students tested through high school math 3
- i. Celebrations
 - i. Percentage of students who took assessment – mid 90%
 - 1. Accurate picture
 - ii. Correlation of end of year results
 - iii. Common tool for K-12
 - iv. Comparable and/or above national norms in all grade levels
- j. Areas of Focus
 - i. Systemic PLC process
 - 1. Where are we, setting goals
 - 2. School success plans
 - a. Focus goals, site by site plans
 - b. Happens through the course of the year
 - 3. Collaborative leadership teams meet monthly
 - a. Eliminate barriers to meet goals
 - 4. Benchmark data available for all teachers
 - 5. Progress reports – parent friendly language
 - ii. Leadership Institute
 - 1. System of schools working together
 - 2. Analyze data
 - iii. Oct. 5th – professional learning day
- k. Leadership Notebook
 - i. Dashboard
 - 1. Menu of Oct. 5th
 - ii. Dedication of staff at West Ada to get the job done well for students
- l. Tr. Bacylon- article on impact of COVID on academic standards
 - i. Refreshing to see how well West Ada is doing
 - ii. Good to see growth levels in reading – what is the goal or target for those in red & how often is it reviewed?
 - iii. Question about high school math standards, is student is taking advanced math, do we assume they have met all standards
 - 1. Marcus- reply systematically for red
 - a. Core instruction & then labs & interventions in advisories
 - b. Wants to see 0% red
 - 2. Math standards – most schools do not assess in high school
 - a. Students test out when they are in higher level math
- m. Tr. Ozuna- how do you share great successes with other schools?
 - i. Multiple reports of data
 - 1. School-wide & district-wide successes
 - 2. Identify goals for each school or level
 - 3. **What? – he didn't really answer the question**

- n. Tr. Redford – did you see participation in PLC by moving day from Friday to Wednesday
 - i. Sessions were so full, attendance was taken
 - ii. Did look at absentees
 - iii. Value of the Wednesday was tremendous
 - 1. Harder on families
- o. Tr. Binetti- adaptive assessment for I-Ready
 - i. Extremely detailed reports
 - ii. Focus on specific areas
 - 1. Could go to Tutor.com for help
 - iii. Trend line looks great
 - iv. Education value for dollar spent is extraordinary
 - v. Great teachers & parents
 - vi. Lot of work to do
- VII. Policy 302.02, Order of Business, (third reading) Nick Smith, Deputy Superintendent
 - a. Policy committee wanted to remove order
 - i. Addressed how public comments would be received
- VIII. Policy 602.21- Selection of Library Resources (first reading) Marcus Meyers, Chief Academic Officer
- IX. Policy 602.22- Reconsideration of Library Resources (first reading) Marcus Meyers
 - a. Talking about both together
 - b. Thanked librarians
 - i. Access books & resources
 - ii. Thanked those who provided input
 - iii. Examined procurement of library resources
 - 1. Libraries examined process of purchasing & review
 - iv. March 22- allowed public review for classroom library & school libraries
 - 1. Must not delay purchase by more than 10 days
 - v. Used guidance of Amy White, general counsel
 - vi. Took public input
 - vii. Removed processes from policies with purpose of increasing clarity for staff & patrons
 - c. First reading 602.22 – processes were removed, vague terms were clarified
 - i. Respond as a system to concerns
 - ii. Revisions will be considered for 2nd reading
 - d. Tr. O – question on reconsideration document
 - i. May only have as many district staff as parents?
 - 1. What happens if we are short on the parent side
 - 2. There is a standing staff committee
 - ii. Operational days definition, does it belong in policy?
 - 1. Will run it by general counsel

2. Was there to clarify if a concern was raised before a holiday or break
- X. Policy 501.90- Student transfers (first reading) Nick Smith
- a. Remove three policies to combine to make a new policy
 - b. Current policies were more procedural
 - c. New policy concerns transfers, school or choice, etc.
 - i. Choosing a school outside your attendance boundary may mean no district transportation will be provided
 - d. Tr. Bacylon – does not clarify that schools of choice students receive transportation
 - e. Tr. O- parent wants in-district transfer, is this where they would go?
 - i. Do they need a parent form?
 - ii. Nick- parent references procedure, and then fills out forms
 1. Forms will be online
 2. Tr. O – do forms have deadlines on them?
 - a. Concerned that policy leaves it off
 - b. Nick – deadlines are in procedures & are on forms
- XI. Action – approve Policy 203.02
- a. Approved
- XII. Work Session
- a. Dr. Bub= Strategic Plan
 - i. Surveyed patrons
 1. Over 7,000 responded
 - ii. Focused groups
 1. Different levels
 2. Admin, certified, classified, students, parents
 - iii. Shadowed students & faculty
 - iv. Short- & long-term goals
 - b. Tr. Binetti- what do you hope to accomplish?
 - i. Get your feedback
 - c. Mission statement – stayed the same
 - i. Preparing today's students for tomorrow's challenges
 - ii. Board likes mission statement
 - d. Tr. Binetti – What are tomorrow's challenges?
 - i. Need to understand those
 1. How to mitigate them & prepare for them
 - ii. Mission statement is awesome, but where do we take it from there?
 1. David Roberts – how do we know tomorrow's challenges
 - a. Students are prepared for whatever comes in the future
 2. Tr. Binetti – look at trends
 - a. Broader trends of focus off higher education

- b. Prepare for higher education or CTE
 - 3. The way education is received has changed
 - a. Challenge is not finding information, it is filtering it
 - b. Bombarded with information, intelligently process what is valid and what is not
 - c. Some trends are fairly established and seem to be growing
- e. Tr. Redford – needs a philosophy class for the mission statement
- f. Tr. Bacylon- wide pool of vision to pool from
 - i. Wants it professional and consistent
 - ii. Does the district have a standard for writing & visual standards
 - 1. Do we use an Oxford comma? (**A what?**)
 - 2. He saw several grammatical errors
- g. Tr. O – likes the word “member” because it includes everyone
 - i. Likes the core values
- h. Dr. Bub – 40% of the jobs that students will have do not exist yet
 - i. Do not prepare for a job, but provide skills that can be used
 - ii. In his day, no one would have said they were going to be a web designer
 - iii. **(In my day, home computers did not exist, we used slide rules in high school and manual typewriters)**
 - iv. Tr. Binetti- he is used to mission & vision statements that look different
 - 1. Financial literacy – academic success, but also being a good responsible citizen
 - 2. This generation is facing different challenges
- i. Chairman Frasure – everyone is good with first page?
 - i. Dr. Bub – vision is hidden behind several other documents
 - 1. Wants it easy to find & use
 - ii. Tr. Binetti- will we remove the philosophy statement?
 - 1. Nick, yes
 - 2. Tr. B – philosophy statement is clear for all constituents
 - a. Would like to see it continued in some form
 - b. Gives great context for role of each, maybe do not call it philosophy
 - i. Dr. Bubb- do you see that staying in?
 - ii. Tr. B – does not fit as philosophy, but is part of what makes the district great
 - iii. Dr. Bubb – are you stuck on the word philosophy, would you like it be guiding principles
 - iv. Nick, now it goes philosophy, mission, vision, Continuous Improvement, Beliefs
 - 1. Reads philosophy
 - 2. Tr. R – repeats core values

- v. Tr. O – “we are committed” is now, but we are talking about the vision statement

XIII. Board moves into executive session at 8:17 p.m.