

Official Minutes
Wednesday, January 11, 2023
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Work Session

1. **Call to Order** by President Baumgartner at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** Directors Baumgartner, Haffner, Hayes, and Jensen were present. All directors participated remotely. Director Gustafson was absent from the meeting.

3. **Review of Agenda**

4. **Discussion Items**

4.1 Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 Financial Audit Report

Melissa Bigler of Anderson Witney joined the meeting remotely to discuss the audit report. District administration met with Ms. Bigler prior to this meeting regarding the audit findings. An extension by CDE was granted which is why the audit was not reviewed and approved prior to December 31.

Ms. Bigler pointed out the district's liability related to OPEB and Pension and how this amount changes based on state level changes and contributions to the pension.

The statement of net position was reviewed also noting the change in pension affecting the net position from the prior year.

The balance sheet was reviewed which includes all major operating/major funds. The restricted and unrestricted fund balances were reviewed and explained.

Revenue was reviewed and Ms. Bigler explained why the state revenue shifted lower compared to local revenue.

Long term debt was reviewed showing what was due in the fiscal year and the balance of outstanding bonds.

The budget to actual for FY22 was reviewed. This included the revenue and expenditures showing the district received more revenue than what was budgeted and lower expenditures due to the appropriated reserves. Ms. Bigler reviewed the report with greater details regarding revenue and expenditures. She again explained the on-behalf payment made by the state. She also shared how CCA's fund balance increased due to greater revenue than expenditures.

The findings indicated continued work to ensure all credit receipts are obtained. A recommendation was also made to write the procedure that exists for true journal entries which are limited in number.

Board members thanked Ms. Bigler for her time and work with the district. Director Baumgartner asked her to be available for the January 25 meeting in case Board members have questions after more thorough review of the audit report. A final version of the audit will be presented for approval at that time.

4.2 FY23 Draft Adjusted Budget (1st Reading)

The FY22-23 Budget must be adjusted at the January regular meeting. Ms. Clark reviewed a summary of the major funds as adjusted. She reviewed major revenue changes and assumptions as well as adjustments to the expenditures. Revenue reflects actual enrollment data provided under the School Finance Act based on the district's assessed valuation. The state share decreased significantly with the local share increasing because of assessed valuation. The negative factor also increased. Enrollment, including preschool students, was 2785 which is down six students from projections. Adjustments have also been made based on the latest information regarding revenue and expenditures for federal pandemic relief funds. Expenditures will be based on some assumptions after discussion and recommendation from the Joint Committee. There is one more fiscal year for ESSER funds expenditures and the deadline is unlikely to be extended. The full adjusted budget along with final revisions will be reviewed at the January regular meeting.

4.3 Agreement for School Sites Land Dedication between Weld Re-3J School District and Pioneer Holdco, LLC (1st Reading)

The Board reviewed the Land Dedication Agreement with Pioneer Holdings regarding the Fruition Development in Keenesburg. The district's contracted demographer, Shannon Bingham, worked extensively with a Pioneer representative to ensure sufficient school sites would be allocated if housing projections came to reality at full build out. All site dedications meet or exceed the recommended minimum net usage acreage standards set forth in district policy, although some of the sites are combined which offers some level of flexibility for the district. Director Haffner asked if the number of acres is large enough for a high school, and Dr. Rabenhorst noted that not only does the policy call for that amount, the current high school site has fewer acres. He also pointed out to the Board that districts do not usually receive land for a high school. The legal agreement has been reviewed and revised by legal counsel for both the district and the developer. The current agreement ensures that the developer would pay for infrastructure around school sites which is of significant advantage to the district. The Board also discussed the land will not be automatically allocated to the Town of Keenesburg like in some other agreements with developers. Dr. Rabenhorst pointed out the first right of refusal portion if the district decides at some point it does not need the land. He also indicated that there would be no cash-in-lieu fees due to the land dedication. Administration will recommend approval of the agreement at the January Regular Meeting as Pioneer Holdings annexation agreements with the Town of Keenesburg are on hold until an agreement is formally reached with the district. The Board also discussed their desire to be the signers on the document.

4.4 Administrative Policy Revisions/Additions (1st Reading)

One policy was recommended by administration for revision.

(a) Policy J-5 (JEB) Entrance Age Requirements

In reviewing the new requirements and eligibility cutoff dates established by the State Department of Early Childhood, districts must work to align entrance dates for kindergarten and preschool. If not, districts would potentially have to admit children into preschool and receive no state funding. Administration is considering a recommendation to change in the kindergarten entrance cutoff date to align with the October 1 date established for preschool. The current district date for kindergarten is September 15. CASB recommends a cutoff date between August 1 and October 1. Because of the district's late cutoff date, the district does not allow early entrance (i.e., exceptions for parents requesting entrance into kindergarten for their children who turn 5 after October 1). Dr. Rabenhorst and Mr. Palmer discussed how the district may assist children who fall within the September 15 and October 1 dates in the first year of implementation. The policy may undergo further revision depending on additional information regarding the Universal Preschool Program.

4.5 Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation Review and Executive Team Goal Review

Last year, Dr. Rabenhorst and President Baumgartner discussed the mid-year evaluation and determined the most productive use of time would be to have the executive team join the meeting and review progress on the superintendent goals for the year. Dr. Rabenhorst had no concerns with the goal areas being discussed in open session.

Dr. Rabenhorst gave a brief overview of the team's time spent on a site visit to Weld Re-7. There were no apparent instructional differences noted from the day spent in the district. While the district is not demographically similar to Re-3J, the team hopes to learn from Re-7 regarding their high teacher retention rate as this is likely a predictor of higher achievement. Dr. Rabenhorst also notified the Board that the Expert Credential program was not met with support from WCEA and has been withdrawn at the Joint Committee level.

Executive Director of Assessment and Innovation, Becky Langlois, reviewed the progress of the CCR advisory team regarding updating infographics and the sophomore registration form to add clarity to both. There is also a middle school presentation upcoming regarding the pathways. Dr. Rabenhorst noted that the course book might look different in terms of format from the 1st Reading due to this work. Director Hayes indicated that clarity would be appreciated as a parent.

After reviewing the superintendent goals, Dr. Rabenhorst asked Board members if they had a desire to continue the mid-year evaluation in executive session at the January regular meeting. By consensus, the Board indicated no need for further discussion or the need for an executive session at the next meeting.

Dr. Rabenhorst reminded Board members that they previously expressed a desire to review and potentially revise the superintendent annual evaluation form. The Board briefly discussed their

desire for more thorough discussion. Revision of the evaluation tool will be placed on the February Work Session agenda.

6. **Adjournment** at 7:37 p.m.



Cynthia Baumgartner



Paul Jensen