

Hastings Area Public Schools - ISD 200
School Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Special Meeting of the Hastings School Board
Middle School Media Center

- I. **Call Meeting to Order**
 - a. Attendance
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Motion to approve the agenda/table file**
 - a. Approval of the minutes from the February 23, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- IV. **Items for Individual Action**
 - a. Approval of vendor and Trust for VEBA and Flexible Spending Accounts administration
- V. **Adjournment**

**Board of Education
Independent School District 200
Hastings, Minnesota**

A Regular Meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 200, Hastings, Minnesota, was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at the Hastings Middle School Media Center.

The meeting was called to order by School Board Chairperson Brian Davis at 6:00 PM.

The following board members were present: Becky Beissel, Brian Davis, Jessica Dressely, Lisa Hedin, Stephanie Malm, Mike Reis, and Carrie Tate. Superintendent McDowell was also present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a motion to amend the agenda to add a discussion item to discuss the Scholastic Book Fair incident on 02/22/2022 was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Becky Beissel. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Lisa Hedin and seconded by Stephanie Malm. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Davis took a moment to recognize and welcome all those who were present at the meeting in person as well as those viewing remotely.

The time was turned over to a representative from Schmitt Music who presented the Hastings School District Music Department with the NAMM Best Community for Music Education Award, which it has won for the fourth year in a row. Superintendent McDowell then took a moment to recognize the Hastings ISD 200 School Board for Board recognition week.

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2022, Special Board Meeting was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Becky Beissel. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

The first item of discussion was about legislative funding. A motion to move this discussion item to an action item was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Carrie Tate. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the Scholastic Book Fair incident from 02/22/2022 after which a motion to recess for five minutes was made by Becky Beissel and seconded by Mike Reis. With this motion made Chairperson Davis called a 5-minute recess.

The meeting was called back to order at 6:56 PM at which point the Board resumed with the first reading of Policy 213 School Board Committees. The final discussion item was a presentation of the 2022-2023 revised school calendar, the 2023-2024 draft school calendar and school, and the school calendar creation process.

Superintendent McDowell then presented the Superintendent's report which was an update on the School District strategic planning process.

Jennifer Seubert, the Director of Finance and Operations, presented the Board with the building construction fund project update and current student enrollment.

Becky Beissel gave the board an update on the Community Engagement Committee meeting. Lisa Hedin provided an update from the Finance Committee meeting. Stephanie Malm provided the board with an update from the Policy Committee meeting.

With no further reports or items of discussion, the Board moved on to the consent agenda for approval. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Lisa Hedin. Due to a number of items that were requested to be pulled from the consent agenda to discuss as individual action items, a motion to rescind the motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Brian Davis and seconded by Jessica Dressely.

A motion was made to remove the bills payable report from the consent agenda to an individual action item by Carrie Tate and was seconded by Stephanie Malm. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously. A motion to remove policies 520 and 609 from the consent agenda to individual action items was made by Mike Reis and seconded by Jessica Dressely. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously. A motion to approve the amended consent agenda was made by Brian Davis and seconded by Becky Beissel. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve bills payable was made by Carrie Tate and seconded by Lisa Hedin. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the revisions to Policy 520 Student Surveys was made by Carrie Tate and seconded by Mike Reis. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the revisions to Policy 609 Religion was made by Lisa Hedin and seconded by Stephanie Malm. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed revisions to the Health and Safety Resolution. A motion to approve striking the "except for pre-k programming" verbiage from the resolution was made by Brian Davis and seconded by Mike Reis. The vote was: 6 ayes, 1 nay. With Carrie Tate, Mike Reis, Brian Davis, Stephanie Malm, Becky Beissel, and Jessica Dressely voting in favor. Lisa Hedin voted against the motion. A motion to approve the Health, Safety, and Learning Plan 2021-2022 Resolution with the indicated changes was made by Carrie Tate and seconded by Mike Reis. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the AIPAC Resolution of Concurrence as written was made by Carrie Tate and seconded by Jessica Dressely. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the purchase of the 45% interest in the Joint Park Maintenance Facility was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Carrie Tate. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the recommended fund transfer for the storage Garage Project was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Becky Beissel. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the water tower project and the \$3,500.00 for the project to come out of the capital budget was made by Lisa Hedin and seconded by Stephanie Malm. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the writing and distribution of the legislative letter proposed by Lisa Hedin was made by Becky Beissel and seconded by Stephanie Malm. The vote was: 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Stephanie Malm and seconded by Jessica Dressely. The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Davis at 9:07 PM.



APPROVAL OF VENDOR AND TRUST VEBA AND FLEXIBLE SPENDING ADMINISTRATION MARCH 9, 2022

BACKGROUND

During the fall of 2021, the District was notified that Further, our Flex and VEBA plan administrator, was sold to HealthEquity. On January 27, 2022, we were one of many districts who received notice that HealthEquity was unable to secure a successor trust for the VEBA plan, and as a result, they would be terminating our plan as of September 30, 2022, requiring us to seek a new administrator and trustee.

Upon receiving the information, our benefits consultant, OneDigital, performed an RFP on behalf of Hastings Public Schools and eight other school districts. Proposals were received from four vendors. In mid/late February, the proposals were reviewed and demonstrations completed with all four vendors. After completing this process, OneDigital brought all nine of the districts they represent, that needed to make this same decision, together to consider the options available. As a result of this collaboration, were able to negotiate rates and terms that were favorable to all of the districts involved, including:

- Elimination of the setup fee and annual document/compliance fee (savings of \$850)
- A reduction in the per member per month administrative costs from \$4.50 to \$3.50 for employees enrolled in the flexible spending accounts only; they agreed to match our current rate of \$4.50 for employees who are in the VEBA only or in both the VEBA and flexible spending accounts
- Expanded customer service hours to 7:00 pm central (originally only available until 5:00 p.m.)

The implementation process to move to a new vendor takes 60 to 90 days. The District's annual open enrollment period for benefits begins on April 11, 2022, for the plan year starting July 1, 2022. Given the short time to complete the necessary administrative process for implementation of this change with as little disruption to our employees as possible, it is critical that we expedite the approval of the vendor.

RECOMMENDATION

Administration is recommending approval of OneBridge (and their associated Trust) as the vendor for the VEBA and Flex Plan Administration and requests approval to take all necessary steps to effectively implement the change.

Submitted by: Cathy Moen, Director of Human Resources
Date: March 4, 2022