



MEETING MINUTES OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
WEST40 INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER #2

The West40 ISC #2 Governing Board Meeting was held on Friday, January 20, 2023, at 8:00 a.m., at 4413 W. Roosevelt Rd Suite 104, Hillside, IL 60162. President, Dr. Jennifer Kelsall called the meeting into order at 8:00 a.m.

Board President, Dr. Kelsall declared a quorum of West 40 ISC #2 Governing Board was present at 8:01 a.m.

I. **Roll Call:**

Present: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Ms. Kylie Lindquist, Mr. Stuart Brown, Dr. Stanley Fields, Dr. Leah Gauthier, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, and Ms. Kathleen Tomei

Not Present: Mr. Darryl Richardson and Dr. Tim Truesdale

Also present: Assistant Executive Jayme Tighe, Senior Director of Executive Support, Dr. Mike Popp, Chief School Business Official, Ms. Christi Tyler, and Executive Administrative Assistant Ms. Tammy Marrero.

II. **Approval of October 21, 2022 Minutes:**

It was moved by Dr. Kirstin Kopta and seconded by Dr. Stanley Fields that the West40 ISC#2 Governing Board approved the agenda as presented. On call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Ms. Kylie Lindquist, Mr. Stuart Brown, Dr. Stanley Fields, Dr. Leah Gauthier, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, and Ms. Kathleen Tomei

Nays: None

- The motion carried without dissent.

III. Public Comment:

No one chose to speak.

IV. Presentations:

Financial Report:

Chief School Business Official, Ms. Christi Tyler reported on incoming funds in December; though the month was not closed yet. Things are moving along at Lexington, however, the largest expense (HVAC work) is approaching. Ms. Tyler also reported that Trane has been very cooperative in allowing West40 to determine a payment schedule that best suits the organization. The schedule is equal payments of \$329,000 over the next eleven months through November, with the exception of the month of July given that the organization receives no Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) dollars that month; Trane was very accepting of that.

During the ISBE December board meeting, it was made official, West40 will continue to manage EANS I, and II, and now they have been awarded EANS III to manage. Thus far, 550 non-public schools in Illinois have signed up to receive these funds.

Ms. Tyler was excited to report that West40 will be receiving approximately \$2.2 million dollars, every year for the next five years from the Cradle to Career grant. This funding will allow West40 the opportunity to build capacity by placing student advocates within our region and help our staff achieve personal mastery by providing tuition reimbursement for those seeking to pursue a master's level education in the social-emotional field.

Her office continues to follow the budget process closely and will be tuning into the Governor's budget address in February. With much regret, Ms. Tyler announced ISBE did not submit a recommendation to increase to EBF this year however, she is optimistic advocacy groups will continue to work to see this come to fruition.

Assistant Executive Director Report:

Dr. Jayme Tighe reported on behalf of Dr. Klaisner. Dr. Klaisner was invited by Qatar Educational Foundation to consult with them around best practices in education. There he would visit the Administration in Education, tour various schools, and visit both, the American and International schools, and the

University City, the one public university. A little camel riding may also be included.

Dr. Tighe conveyed a message from Dr. Klaisner that West40 continues to explore the possibility of purchasing another building through the support of DCFS and DHS to expand our continuum of services. West40 understands that in its region there are gaps in educational access for youth-in-care; conversations with DCFS, DHS, and the Department of Juvenile Justice, however, continue to be optimistic.

Dr. Tighe reported West40 will be working in partnership around mental health and expanding that capacity. West40 has also been awarded the Reach Out grant funding of approximately \$250, 000, yearly, for the next four years. Reach Out grant allows the development of an operational site, to provide trauma-informed and school-based support and mental health services, like CareSolace, an agency that provides mental health support and connects students with mental health providers, and West40 is looking to integrate that into its region. Under the same grant, West40 is also working with Laurie's Children's Hospital Childhood Resilience Center to create a system for identifying, screening, referrals, and provisions of treatments, so as to identify barriers and plan for support. These services will be made available to school districts in the West40 region.

Dr. Tighe reported on the AWARE grant, which awarded West40 additional funding of \$200,000, a year, for the next four years, in partnership with Proviso School District # 209; around the tier system of support for students, and helping the district partner with Riveredge Hospital.

Dr. Tighe closed, celebrating Lexington's latest update; the gym floors have been redone and designed with the support of Safe School students. Risers will be replaced to protect the floors. Walls will be painted, banners will be purchased for the safe school and around the organization's mission. Adjustments for the HVAC system are being made. New security cameras have been installed and adjusted, both in the interior and exterior. Outside lights are bright enough to keep the staff safe.

Senior Director of Executive Support Report:

Dr. Mike Popp reported on the continued work around the organization's strategic plan. Dr. Popp also reported that North Cook ISC has awarded West40 the opportunity to facilitate its strategic plan writing; this will be

done in collaboration with Ms. Suzy Dees, Senior Director of Professional Learning. The Illinois Coalition for Education At-Risk Youth (ICEARY) has also requested West40 support in the development of its strategic plan writing; this will be done in collaboration with Dr. Tighe.

Dr. Popp started to work with legislators to fix the funding formula for regional safe schools.

Comments from the Board:

Closed Session: Personnel

Dr. Kelsall moved to a close session to discuss the amendment to Dr. Mark Klaisner's contract extension and evaluation.

The motion was moved by Dr. Ed Condon and seconded by Dr. Kristin Kopta

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Ms. Kylie Lindquist, Mr. Stuart Brown, Dr. Stanley Fields, Dr. Leah Gauthier, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, and Ms. Kathleen Tomei

Nays: None

The motion carried without dissent. The session was recorded.

Open Session:

Action item #1:

Dr. Kelsall moved to an open session to discuss the decision on Dr. Mark Klaisner's contract extension.

The motion was moved by Dr. Kristin Kopta and seconded by Dr. Ed Condon.

The President reported the Board is in support of approving the contract extension for Dr. Klaisner, knowing that he is in the process of making solid progress on his goals, key for being able to renew and extend.

It was moved by Dr. Ed Condon that the Board affirms Dr. Klaisner has made and is making satisfactory progress toward his determined goals for the FY'23 school year.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Stuart Brown.

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Ms. Kylie Lindquist, Mr. Stuart Brown, Dr. Stanley Fields, Dr. Leah Gauthier, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, and Ms. Kathleen Tomei

Nays: None

The motion carried without dissent.

Action Item 2:

The motion was moved by Dr. Kristin Kopta to approve Dr. Klaisner's extension to continue from now through FY 2028.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Kylie Lindquist.

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Ms. Kylie Lindquist, Mr. Stuart Brown, Dr. Stanley Fields, Dr. Leah Gauthier, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, and Ms. Kathleen Tomei

Nays: None

The motion carried without dissent.

V. Adjourned:

Dr. Kristin Kopta moved; seconded by Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson. Be it resolved the West40 ISC# 2 Governing Board hereby adjourns at 8:48 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 19, 2023.