

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017
Learning Media Center**

MINUTES

School Board Members Present: Michael Decarreau-President, Matthew MacNeil, Tori Cleiland, Jen Corrigan-Secretary, Alexander Yin, Destiny Syharaj-Student Representative

School Board Members Absent: Alexander Do-Student Representative

Administration Present: Sean McMannon-Superintendent, Leon Wheeler-WMHS Co-Principal, Kate Grodin- WMHS Co-Principal

Others Present: See Attendance Sheet: On File

1. Meeting called to order by Michael Decarreau-President at 6:35 pm followed by the Pledge of the Allegiance and Mindfulness with Tori Cleiland.
2. **Agenda Review and Adjustments:** None.
3. **Focus on Learning:** Sean McMannon, Superintendent opened the presentation on **Systems of Support-Tier 1**. He described the overall Systems of Support. In the past five years there have been added supports in the areas of ELL, Special Education, Data and Wellness. The presentation tonight focuses on Tier 1 or Universal Supports. Courtney Bryan, Kindergarten teacher and Sarah Forbes, K-1 ELL teacher described Tier 1 at the elementary level. Schoolwide expectations, HEART are the key to Tier I because they clearly describe behavioral expectations. Reminders of expectations are around the school. A video was shared of students describing what HEART means? To them heart means to keep their hands to themselves, listen, etc. If students are successful, there is a school celebration. The teachers continued describing what staff do with the actual hearts they give students for positive reinforcement? A student receives a heart and it is put in a classroom jar. When it is full, that is when the celebrations are earned. There is a take a break space where a student can calm down and make better choices. There are Behavior Interventionists and a Behavior Coach who work with students and staff. Students are encouraged to do their best at all times. Andrea Boon, Middle School classroom teacher gave examples of Tier I at WMS. Math Best Practices – work with students with different ways of thinking. Something new this year is Expeditionary Learning which is multidisciplinary and active learning. It is an 8-12 week unit for all learners. The sixth grade is doing various circus acts with Circus Smirkus. This expeditionary learning unit is being supported by a state grant. Thomas Shearer, WMHS Behavior Coach spoke about behavior. He shared Developmental Designs which is a research-based program that builds on relationships, social contracts, self care and the advisory model. A critical proponent is boosting the strong connections between student and staff. Most WMHS staff members have received Developmental Designs training. An effort began this school year to transition from the Planning Room model to a model based on the 5 R's of regulate, relate, reason, repair and return. The team is currently using the SWIS data system to collect data. The Keystone Habit has also been put into place to make HEART effective. Protocols have been put into place for tardies and class cuts. Hall passes and bathroom

passes have been put into place for accountability. Christina Lauterbach, High School English teacher and Kari Maughan, High School Reading teacher shared the background about combined English and Social Studies. All 9th graders focus on Critical Thinking and other Graduate Expectations (GXs). The GX rubrics drive all of the assessments. Reading groups are formed during the student's English and Social Studies class. All 9th grade students now receive instruction from a Reading Specialist for about 20 minutes each day for six weeks. The reading groups (4-5 students) choose a book to read and discuss. Board members shared their views and asked questions. The board members thanked the staff for coming and sharing.

4. **Public Comments:** Infinite Culcleasure, representing Parents & Youth for Change (PYC) got an extra \$10K Grant for South Burlington, Winooski and Burlington. On Monday, October 16th, at 5:00 pm there will be a Community Forum here at the school. Students will lead discussions on racism and proficiency-based learning. Also, Infinite asked for an update on the transportation. Three bids were put out. Only one was received back and it is higher than budgeted. Infinite asked the board or administration to communicate through emails so he can keep up with the progress.

5. **Consent Agenda:**

- a) Minutes of Meetings: September 13th, 16th and 27th, 2017
- b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - Approval of Bills
- c) Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - Superintendent Report
- d) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Board Job Description
 - Adopt Policy #5110, Student Attendance
 - Adopt Policy #6160, Educational Support System

Motion made by Matthew MacNeil to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All in favor.

6. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):**

- a) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - Quarterly Financial Management Report:
Projected \$80K favorable balance to date on the current budget. Special Education can fluctuate from quarter to quarter.
- b) Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting
 - Superintendent Monitoring Report 2.4:
The review and acceptance will now be on the first pass.
Motion by Tori Cleiland to accept the monitoring report titled 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting. All in favor

7. **Board-Management Delegation (Policy Section III):**

- a) Policy Title: 3.2 Accountability of the Superintendent
 - Board Monitoring Report 3.2:
Motion made by Jen Corrigan to accept monitoring report 3.2 Accountability of the Superintendent. All in favor.
- b) Policy Title: 3.3 Delegation to the Superintendent
 - Board Monitoring Report 3.3:
Board members reviewed a handout regarding the Board Monitoring Report. This policy touches on the board members compliance to the policy. The content

isn't clear on 3.3.3 and is basically the superintendent's view on how board members are spending their time. The minutes will be an indicator of measurement of how the board is spending their time.

Motion by Alexander Yin to accept board monitoring report 3.3 Delegation to the Superintendent policy with the one adjustment discussed. All in favor.

8. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):

- a) Policy Title: 4.1.b Governing Style: Encouragement of a Diversity of Views
 - Student Report to the Board
Destiny Syharaj, Student Representative gave an update of current school activities. Spirit Week showed a sense of unity. PEACE JAM visited New York City. Advisory student rep meetings have begun. They speak about what they want to see happening with advisory. The big focus was on relieving stress. Effective Communications class members are working with Kindergarten students. There are a lot of fundraisers happening. Middle school students are preparing for the Spartan Games. Sean McMannaon added that in the future he would like to have other grade levels besides only the high school into the student representative's report. Sean added that recently parents have been invited to attend morning meetings at JFK.
 - Review/Discussion of VSBA Resolutions
School board members have a list of resolutions that will be reviewed. Innovation Zones item has been in the agenda for the last few years. There was been a review of the document. The second proposal is the statewide health care benefits. There are a couple components of ratios based on equalized pupils, fact finders in the collective bargaining and surplus amounts surrounding maintenance. Districts have had to defer maintenance due to money.
- b) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
 - Discussion – 1st Reading, Policy #5124, Graduation Requirements
Graduation Requirements – What we have in place is close to the model. The packet has the new proficiency-based information. The policy gives the flexibility on graduating students either way, proficiencies and/or credits to graduate a student. The model gives a good place to start. Student Representative, Destiny, said the entire school is learning to understand the proficiency-based system. She did say it is noticed but might not be understood and can be confusing.
 - Discussion – 1st Reading, Policy #8312, Public Participation at Board Meetings
The model policy is essentially the same as the one in place. Only one adjustment was needed.
- c) Policy Title: 4.5 Agenda Planning
 - Board Monitoring Report 4.5:
This policy has been completed with the only change that the year does not need to be in it. The annual agenda would be written in June and approved in September. The policy updates based on change of timing will be corrected and added to the next Consent Agenda.
- d) Policy Title: 4.7 Board Members Code of Conduct
Sean said that the photo in the lobby needs to be updated since Julian left and there is a new board member. The Board members code of conduct needs to be reinforced, re-signed and posted. No action at this time.

9. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):

- a) Discussion: Recent community activities by board members with a focus on Communications Plan. No updates at this time.
- b) Book Discussion: Deepening Community by Paul Born read to page 30
Sean began the presentations with some background on Paul Born. He has worked with a lot of non-profit groups and has had incredible success in reducing poverty in Canadian communities. Sean gave each board member a copy of Born's book to read. The following questions were posed for discussion:
 - How do you find the time and energy to be a good neighbor?
 - Do you agree or disagree with the statement "In making it a priority to enhance individual rights and opportunities, have we made it easier for people to ignore community responsibilities?"

10. Next Agenda: None.

11. Upcoming Important Dates:

- VSBA/VSA Fall Conference on October 19th & 20th

12. No Executive Session

13. No action due to no Executive Session.

14. Tori Cleiland made a motion to adjourn at 9:13 am. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by:

Brenda Steady, Board Recorder