

WINOOSKI BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
BOARD RETREAT
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2015
*****DOUBLE TREE HOTEL*****
1117 Williston Road
South Burlington, VT
Carriage Room

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Decarreau, President
J. Corrigan Secretary
J. Portilla, Member
T. Cleiland, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: S. McMannon, Superintendent
L. Wheeler, 6-12 WMHS Principal
S. Raabe, PK-5 JFK Principal
K. Kollgaard, Dir. of Curriculum & ELL
R. Goulet, Finance Mgr.
K. Grodin, 6-12 WMHS Asst. Principal
R. Hood, Dir. of Spec. Services & Early Learning

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order @ 9:05 a.m.
2. **Business Meeting:** Consent Agenda: Motion by J. Portilla, second by T. Cleiland to approve the consent agenda below.
Motion passed 4-0.
 - a. Approve Board Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2015
 - b. Approve Bills
 - c. Personnel:
 - i. Sierra Thibodeau – WHS Math Teacher, 1.0 FTE (increase from .5 to 1.0 FTE - funded by Nellie Mae Education Fund through the P4C)
 - ii. Johanes Lasher – WMHS Art Teacher (LTS for maternity leave)
3. **Retreat**
 - a. Reflection
 - i. Board Reflections on 2014-15 School Year
 - ii. Highlights
 - iii. Areas for Improvement
 1. Board President Mike Decarreau remarked on the improved culture and climate that he noticed when addressing the WSD staff at the beginning of Convocation. Member Tori Cleiland spoke about the blossoming positivity that she noticed during the Back-to-School BBQ and the changes to the facility such as the Library Learning Commons. Member Julian Portilla talked about the structural challenge of housing in Winooski with respect to families who would like multiple bedrooms and bathrooms have difficulty finding suitable housing. Two members remarked about the continuing challenges associated with cross-cultural relationships and communication such as translation/interpretation during large school gatherings. A few members talked about how policy governance has helped the board operate at a policy level and their understanding of policy governance has deepened in the past year.
 - iv. Leadership Team reflections on 2014-2015 School Year
 1. The items pointed out by members of the WSD Leadership team as successes were:
 - Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) that feeds all WSD students a free breakfast, snack, lunch, and supper for students in afterschool activities.
 - Continued teambuilding in WSD Leadership team, WMHS Leadership team, elementary grade-level teams, and middle school teams.
 - The growth of student-centered learning opportunities for WMHS students.

- The implementation of the GX Champ and Expo Week at WMHS which focused on Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving and Effective Oral and Written Communication
 - The professional development at JFK related to Project-Based Learning (PBL) that prepares students for student-centered learning at WMHS.
 - The collection of reading, attendance, behavioral and staff data that has driven planning across the organization.
 - The growing PreK opportunities at WSD and the early adoption of Act 166.
- v. Open discussion for clarity
- b. Board Goal Review
- i. Continue Community Outreach
 - ii. Close out community discussions on remaining ENDS items
 - iii. Receive first pass feedback on 2 ENDS interpretations
 - iv. Retention
 - v. Partner with Parent groups to develop a higher level of community interest in working with each group.
 - 1. Board members agreed that they accomplished the community discussion and approved an acceptable interpretation on the ENDS elements of “college and career readiness”. Members agreed that they needed to continue working on all of their identified goals in the upcoming year.
- c. 2015/2016 Focus Areas
- i. Budget Cycle
 - 1. The cap on spending of 2.74% for FY17 was discussed.
 - ii. Negotiations Needs
 - 1. Teacher negotiations with WEA will start the fall. Some salary modeling work is being done to explore ways in which WSD teachers could be compensated closer to the average than the bottom in Chittenden County. Supt. McMannon shared that 84% of the WSD teaching staff have 14 or less years of experience in teaching, 66% have 9 or less years of experience in teaching and 41% have 4 or less years of experience in teaching.
 - iii. Act 46
 - 1. Supt. McMannon shared a handout on the requirements of Act 46 as it relates to governance. Nicole Mace, VSBA Executive Director will come to the October board meeting to help the board and community understand the purpose and requirements of Act 46.
 - iv. Community Interaction
 - v. Board Visibility
 - vi. Alignment with Ed. Quality Standards/Common Core State Standards
- d. Accreditation Update
- i. Supt. McMannon described that there is an existing tension between the decennial accreditation process through NEASC and the federally-required and state-developed Education Quality Review (EQR) process. The EQR process is still in development and will be piloted during the 2015-16 school year. WSD has requested a postponement of the NEASC process until the 2018-19 school year.
4. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean McMannon
Superintendent