

**WINOOSKI BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015
O'BRIEN CENTER
MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Michael Decarreau-President, Tori Cleiland, Jen Corrigan-Secretary, Julian Portilla, Student Representatives: Rainbow Chen and Ledania Taylor

Board Members Absent: Mohamed Abdi

Administration Present: Sean McMannon-Superintendent, Leon Wheeler-Principal, Brenda Steady-Recorder

Others Present: See sign-in sheet: Includes Winooski City Council Representatives.

1. Meeting called to order at 6:38pm by Michael Decarreau followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Mindfulness with Tori Cleiland.
2. **Focus on Learning:** Sean McMannon and Leon Wheeler presented a Power Point on Student-Centered Learning (SCL) and Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements (PBGRs). The presentation included what is going to be expected by 2020 from the Vermont Agency of Education regarding quality standards. Each student will have an individual Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) that will be developed with parent, teacher and student involvement. At this point in time WSD is ahead of the game and students are positioned well to meet the standards. Discussed what is expected of students to be college ready. There are currently two Middle School Teams and three High School Houses. The houses provide support and counsel to students regarding their pathway to college and their personalized plan. House Advisors along with many learning options address Graduate Proficiencies (GPs) and building Graduate Expectations (GXs) skills by providing student designed classes, labs, college, virtual, community based, etc. Students demonstrate proficiency in GX skills. To encourage students there is a GX Champ of the Day. A student is nominated for doing something really well. The students are celebrated throughout the day. A belt is worn with pride by the student. Students in grades 6-12 have a Student Expo in the spring. This Expo gives students a chance to practice so that by their senior year they are proficient. Michael explained that the assessment of learning will look different from the typical grade system of A, B, C, D.
3. **Public Comments:** K. R. Decarreau presented police officers in three different uniforms and asked all in attendance their opinion on what they would like to see the police officers in their city wear for a uniform. Would like to go to one standard where the policeman look alike. Three officers modeled the uniforms. The first police officer, Jim, wore a polo shirt - not full button. The second officer, Tom, wore a more traditional uniform with full buttons. The third officer, Scott, wore a gray uniform instead of the typical black uniform. This uniform had a vest that could be easily removed. After having audience members clap for the uniform they liked best the polo shirt type uniform was the most popular. Mayor Leonard and Michael Decarreau conjointly read the Proclamation Recognition document about "Welcoming Week".
4. **School Board/City Council Meeting:**
 - MOU – Memorandum of Understanding was a topic of discussion between the city council members and the school trustees. The members discussed how they can work together not to duplicate events in the city and school. Mayor Leonard is pleased with working together for the best of the community. Nicole Mace thanked the trustees for the work they do. The council and trustees' believe the partnership opportunities for students will benefit the community. Robert Millar expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the school trustees' and supports working together.

Tori Cleiland made a motion to approve the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with a second by Jen Corrigan. All present in favor. Nicole Mace made a motion to approve the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) as presented with a second by Brian Corrigan. All in favor. Duly noted Mayor Leonard voted in the affirmative for the MOU – Memorandum of Understanding.

Break at 7:24 pm while the City Council Members departed and the regular School Board Meeting continued.

5. Agenda Review and Adjustment

Remove first reading of the transportation policy due to not being in the packet.

6. Consent Agenda:

- a) Minutes of Meeting - August 22, 2015
- b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - Approval of Bills
- c) Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
 - Approve Contract Recommendation:
- Deb George, LTS for L. Dold (parental leave)
- d) Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - Superintendent Report
- e) Policy Title 4.2.2 Board Job Description
 - Adopt Policy #5146, Whole Child and School Wellness

Motion by Tori Cleiland to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with a second by Jen Corrigan. Discussion followed with Julian Portilla noting that the minutes reflect the following corrections: A typo from member to members and that clarification surrounding an extra 30 minutes of physical activity is during the school day and not in and out of the school day. All in favor.

7. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):(20 Minutes)

- a) Policy Title 2.1 Treatment of Students, Parents/Guardians and Community
 - Superintendent Monitoring Report - Review and Discussion
Michael Decarreau asked what is in place as an electronic standpoint for security?
Superintendent McMannon explained that important documents and sensitive information is secure with separate servers with the IT Department. He also asked about Procedure 105 – Complaint on staff member and would there ever be an issue if the complaint isn't a personnel issue? Supt. McMannon explained an example would be if there was a complaint about the math program but it would depend on the actual complaint. Tori Cleiland made a motion to accept the reading of Policy Title 2.1 Treatment of Students, Parents/Guardians and Community with a second by Jen Corrigan. Discussion followed and Sean McMannon explained that this is the first reading. Tori Cleiland made a motion to withdraw her original motion due to first reading status. All in favor.
- b) Policy Title 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting
 - Discussion: Set Budget Parameters and Budget Building Timetable
The timetable for November until the end of December was reviewed. Members would like it opened up to the community and also the buddy system as in the past. The focus will be on completing a budget within the scheduled times. Members discussed the cost per pupil and the Vermont average per student. There are many school districts that have the ability to spend more within their threshold. There are also penalties for exceeding the threshold. The members agreed that their goal will be teacher retention and working to keep the salary schedule competitive. Julian Portilla expressed that the limitations set by the state is a way to freeze education spending throughout the state. Act 46 was discussed and it might not benefit Winooski. Sean explained there are always unknowns with health care when creating a budget. Julian Portilla asked if the staff will have contracts in place for the next school year. Sean said the support staff contract is settled through June 2017 and the teacher contract expires in June 2016 with negotiations beginning next month.

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
Sean announced Ledania's birthday and the board sang "Happy Birthday" to her.
Rainbow shared that the students are back in school from their summer vacation. She went to China through the Governor's Institute program. Elementary students had the opportunity to

attend summer camp. Middle School students participated in a summer program along with Burlington students. Youth Leadership Institute had six students, three from Winooski and three from Burlington. High School students had two field trips with 20 students between Burlington and Winooski to check out schools and programs in New York City. On April 5th and 6th the Business Department will be sending 12 students to NYC to learn about businesses and attend a Broadway Show. The business students will learn how to fundraise to finance their own trip. Act 46 merges districts. Every three years, the band goes to Springfield, Massachusetts to march in the parade and this is the year. Elementary school students will have their first walk to school on October 7th. They will be meeting at Rite Aid and band members will be playing as they walk. Ledania reported that on August 20th there was a back to school barbeque. On August 28th there was a Wellness Assembly and new faculty members were introduced. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs will be the featured play and the casting is complete. The GX Champ was for attending the Governor's Institute. TA time has started with the Math Lab. There is mixed feedback regarding the Math Lab. The elementary students will have their pictures taken on October 2nd. She gave an update on the upcoming sporting events. Homecoming weekend is scheduled for the weekend of September 25th. Michael Decarreau informed the members that at some point a new Student Representative will need to be discussed for the next school year.

- b) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
- Discussion – 1st Reading, Policy #3545 Transportation - **removed**
 - Discussion - 1st Reading, Policy #6144a Animal Dissection

A majority of schools have moved to virtual dissection.

- c) Policy Title: 4.8 Governance Investment

- Discussion
Michael asked if the \$9,000 line item should stay the same. The members agreed the Lake Morey Retreat is always a good investment. Tori Cleiland informed members that a talent show will be held at the VSBA Conference. Sean McMannon attended Policy Governance 101 but feels that 201 will be good for the board members. Michael Decarreau sees the need to move forward and keep it local. The members decided to leave the budget line item at \$9,000. Discussion regarding having the October meeting on Tuesday evening instead of Wednesday so that Nicole Mace can train the members on Act 46 with a follow-up in the spring. Nicole is not available on Wednesday evenings.

9. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):

- a) Discussion: Recent community activities by board members
Tori Cleiland and other board members attended the "Back-to-School" BBQ. Julian Portilla did not have an update on the opiate situation but plans on requesting the city work together on it. He also attended a Peace and Justice meeting and there still seems to be higher rates of suspension and expulsion with students receiving free and reduced lunch and special services across VT. Discussion included what kind of behavioral interventions can be put in place to keep all students in school. Chittenden County representatives are working together on restorative justice. Sean McMannon will pursue any data on this issue.

- 10. Next Agenda:** Discussion of having the October meeting on Tuesday instead of Wednesday so Nicole Mace can discuss Act 46.

11. Upcoming Important Dates:

- Yom Kippur Holiday - No School – September 23rd
- Homecoming - September 24th - 26th
- Champlain Valley Headstart - Open House, October 6th at 5:30 pm
- Columbus Day - No School - October 12th
- Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, October 12th

12. No Executive Session

- 13. Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm by Tori Cleiland. All in favor**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Steady
Board Recorder