

**WINOOSKI BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Decarreau, President
J. Lambert, Secretary
J. Corrigan, Member
J. Portilla, Member
T. Cleiland, Member
Student Representatives: Ledania Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT: S. McMannon, Superintendent
S. Chalmers, Board Recorder

1. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance** – M. Decarreau calls the meeting to order with the recitation of the pledge at 6:32 p.m.

2. **Focus on Learning:** Strengths-Based Leadership

Superintendent McMannon presents information on the Tom Rath and Barry Conchie book, Strengths Based Leadership. Superintendent McMannon discusses how the book assisted the leadership team in identifying their personal and professional strengths as they pertain to leadership. After much discussion, it is decided that the WSD Board members will read the Strengths Based Leadership book in order to identify the leadership strengths of individual members.

3. **Consent Agenda:**

- a) Minutes of Meetings: December 4, 9, 2013
- b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Conditions and Activities
 - Approval of Bills
- c) Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting
 - Approval of Announced Tuition for 2014-15
- d) Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - Superintendent Report
 - Approval of Bills:

#12	(warrant #12 not on Dec approval of bills)	
#13	Payroll and Expenses	\$319,652.77
#1078-1081		
#1084-1086	Accounts Payable	\$303,448.21
#1082	Food Service	\$59,034.63
#1083	Reserve	\$139,780.79

MOTIONED by J. Corrigan, second by J. Portilla to accept the consent agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

4. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):**

- a) Policy Title: 4.1.b Governing Style: Encouragement of a diversity of views
 - 1. Student Report to the Board with discussion as follows: Ledania Taylor, student representative, reports that 'Aspirations Day', held at the high school, was a success. With a motivational speaker in attendance at 'Aspirations Day', and various workshops being offered to students, students found it to be a beneficial event. With tardiness being an issue at the high school level, Ledania reports that Mr. Wheeler has instituted a new tardiness policy. Students must arrive at school and in respective classes by 8:00 a.m. Students who are tardy will need to develop a plan with the principal about being on time. This will occur after the initial tardy. Ledania will report

back to the Board as to whether or not the tardiness plan proves successful. Superintendent McMannon mentions that student-centered learning as a focus may serve as a long-term solution to addressing issues of absenteeism and tardiness at the middle and high school levels. With the implementation of personalized learning plans, students will be able to develop individual schedules that mimic their learning and working styles. Staggering school start times based on personalized learning plans may decrease tardiness and absenteeism.

5. **Global Executive Restraint (Policy 2.0):**

a) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Conditions and Activities

- Action: Accept Resolution to apply for a P Card Discussion: Superintendent McMannon asks the Board President to sign off for the resolution of a purchasing card, which would have an initial spending limit of \$10,000. Rebecca Goulet, Finance Manager, and Sean McMannon would be primary cardholders for the account. After discussion of it being more efficient means in which to purchase, the board motions to accept the resolution. MOTION: J. Corrigan motions to accept the resolution with T. Cleiland seconding this. Motion passed 5-0.

b) Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting

- Action: Adoption of 2014-2015 Winooski School District Budget: M. Decarreau refers to the budget handout that summarizes the 2014-15 proposed budget. M. Decarreau asks for a motion to approve the proposed budget after Board review and brief discussion regarding the proposed scenario. MOTION: J. Corrigan moves to accept the motion to pass the budget, with T. Cleiland seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
- Action: Adoption of 2014-2015 Budget Warnings: M. Decarreau refers to the budget handout that summarizes the 2014-15 proposed budget. Based on the proposed warning, there will be no monies taken from the reserve account at this time in reference to the budget that is being proposed. With the estimated 9.39% increase in school taxes, the Board members stress the importance of informing the community, with clarity, exactly how monies will be utilized. MOTION: J. Corrigan moves to accept this motion, with J. Lambert seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

6. **Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):**

- a) Discussion: Report community activities by board members: M. Decarreau met with the Mayor recently and relayed that the Mayor is in support of early education. Members of the board discuss the importance of early childhood education. It is noted that there has been an increase in state funding that will support the evolvement of early childhood education within schools. S. McMannon mentions that the 'Penguin Plunge' is occurring on February 8th.
- b) Discussion: 2014-15 budget Informational meetings: On February 19, there will be a community dinner at 5:00 p.m. in which budget information will be presented. The board contribution to the February newsletter will be completed by J. Corrigan, with the March newsletter being finalized by T. Cleiland. S. McMannon will offer input to the February newsletter, as well. J. Corrigan offered to deliver pamphlets and fliers regarding the school budget and updates throughout the community.

7. **Next Agenda:**

- a) J. Lambert mentions having a discussion regarding 'Golden Apple' award nominees at a future board meeting. 'Golden Apple' nominees are community members who are being recognized for their support of the school district within the community. It is noted that the budget will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

8. **Board Self-Evaluation (Policy 4.1):**

- a) Discussion: Mid-year Board Progress Update
- b) Discussion: Review Annual Report
- c) Discussion: Individual Assessment of Current Meeting

9. **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

- a) BSD/WSD joint retreat –Saturday, January 25, 8-1
- b) Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.

10. **Executive Session:**

- a) Support Staff Negotiations: MOTIONED by J. Portilla, second to approve by J. Corrigan to enter executive session at 8:02 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

11. **Adjourn:** MOTIONED by J. Corrigan, second by T. Cleiland to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Shanon Chalmers
Board Recorder