WINOOSKI BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:  M. Decarreau, President
J. Lambert, Secretary
J. Corrigan, Member
T. Cleiland, Member
A. Booher, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:  M. Lundeen, Superintendent
R. Goulet, Finance Mgr.
M. O’Rourke, PK-5 Principal
L. Wheeler, 6-12 Principal
R. Hood, Dir. of Spec. Ed./ELL
S. Metivier, Secretary
Armando Vilaseca, Commissioner of Education
Vaughn Altemus, Education Finance Mgr.
SEE ATTACHED LIST

1. Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance/National Anthem: Mike Decarreau called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The Pledge was recited.

2. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: None.

3. Consent Agenda (See attached – Accept/Adopt): MOTIONED by T. Cleiland, second by J. Corrigan to approve. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Focus on Learning: None.

5. Administrative Reports: It was noted that the computer list that Jay requested is not yet complete.

6. Public Comments:
   a) General Public: None.
   b) Winooski Education Association: None.
   c) Student Council Representative: Not present.

7. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action):
   a) Education Commissioner Vilaseca – Consolidation Study Discussion: Armando thanked the board, administration and others for taking time to meet with him. He stated that he will make a recommendation to the State Board of Education next week that WSD be able to hire a superintendent for up to 2 years, with a study being done by the DOE or someone approved by them on what educational opportunities and consolidation of services are available for students and community. The reason for doing this is that Winooski is a district with fewer than 1,200 students, and in keeping with past practice, whenever a superintendent is leaving, he recommends that a boundary change study be done. Vermont is heavy in administration and government and these discussions are being held with other districts around the state. He is not expecting any predetermined outcome. Armando has spoken to other districts about the possibility of collaboration/resource sharing with WSD. For example, joining with the Burlington food service program. He stated that he is excited that the board is looking at Policy Governance, as that is the way a school should run. It is a good move on the board’s part. Vaughn said that there are many grants available to help fund collaborative/consolidation efforts with other districts. If the State Board authorizes a study, they would pay for it. The State Board would give the district an opportunity to respond to the study.

Board President Decarreau thanked all who came out tonight as the board appreciates the support, especially from the teaching staff and Nellie Mae counterparts. He stated that Winooski is not afraid of a study, just afraid of not having representation in the study. Armando said it is a collaborative effort and the committee would work closely with administration and the business office. Decarreau said that what we are doing with Partnership for Change (Nellie Mae grant) is unique and the staff is willing to do the work. How would the outcome of a study affect this work for change? Armando said the DOE would be supportive of the work that is being done. Superintendent Lundeen stated that we began the budget presentations with the VSA presentation on quality education which has similar principals to the Partnership for Change and this will become the work that other schools will embrace as well. There was discussion about the assessment tools currently being used and the SBAC consortium working on the next
Decarreau requested an agenda revision: move up on the agenda the public hearing of budget, approval of items from the Reserve Fund and the Partnership for Change update. There was board consensus.

g) PUBLIC HEARING and Adoption of FY '14 School Budget: Lundeen said that the budget is 1.7% increase from FY '13 to FY '14. We were able to meet the Governor's request to remain below the 2.2 inflation rate. There will be a recommended 5-cent increase on the homestead tax that will affect the tax rate. We still don't have CLA and ADM numbers and others to make a recommendation on a tax rate. Goulet said that she would use the recommended homestead tax when we estimate a tax rate. The Board challenged the administration to cut from the original budget knowing that we may have a 5 cent increase built in because of the homestead tax. Ticehurst asked if the new budget takes into consideration known numbers or were they made on assumptions. Goulet said that for health insurance we were initially told to use a 15% increase to the premium, and have recently been told by VEHI that the increase will be 14%, but have not adjusted the cost to leave room for changes in plans. Lambert asked Rep. Clem Bissonnette to advocate for a lower homestead tax rate. Decarreau thanked Brian Corrigan and Robert Millar for their help on the budget committee. MOTIONED by A. Booher, second by T. Cleilaid to approve the regular budget for FY '14 at $12,629,200. Motion passed 5-0.

f) Approve Use of Reserve Funds for Maintenance Items: These items were removed from the proposed FY '14 maintenance budget and qualify to be paid for out of the reserve fund. The items include 8 new unit ventilators, rooftop control upgrades, a new circular pump, a new dishwasher and design work for the boiler for a total amount of $129,000. There may be a need for a bond to do boiler work. Goulet asked this money be encumbered to move forward. MOTIONED by J. Lambert, second by T. Cleiland to set aside $129,000 from the reserve fund for maintenance items as described. Motion passed 5-0.

h) Partnership for Change Update: Lundeen said that implementation teams have all met at least 2 times. The Partnership is happy in the number of stakeholders, but is looking for more Winooski students and parents on these teams. The implementation team and fellows are working on hosting community conversation on what we are expecting our students to know when they graduate. They are hoping each board member will take a turn hosting. A group of delegates will visit NYC to visit innovative schools with tours of the schools and talking with teachers. February 2nd will be the 1st big learning conversation between WSD and BSD. They are looking at having 2-3 a year on a rotating schedule to host between WSD and BSD. It will be facilitated by a consultant and held in the BHS Cafeteria, the 2nd learning conversation will be in Winooski. A lead community partner has started a door knocking campaign in Winooski having conversations with marginalized families. We have posted on School Spring for a director and will accept application until 1/22. The 1st round of interviews will be the week of 2/11, 2nd round will have community input with a job offer made around 2/22.

b) 2nd Reading, Policy #4116(b), Prevention of Bullying of Students: Lundeen stated that Armando informed her of a change coming out of DOE and as we are on the 2nd reading we can incorporate now. Page 4, #Ba the word "sexual" needs to be removed. Others changes made was from the word principal to administrator. MOTIONED by T. Cleiland, second by J. Corrigan to approve with changes. Motion passed 5-0.

c) 2nd Reading, Policy #5114(b), Student Alcohol and Drug Abuse: Lundeen said that changes made to the procedures are in bold. Decarreau said that on page 5, Consequences, Principal should be stricken.
Cleiland said that on page 6, #3, the 1st sentence should be capitalized. MOTIONED by T. Cleiland, second by J. Corrigan to approve with changes as noted. Motion passed 5-0.

d) Policy Governance: Discussion Process for Policy Blitz and Policy Adoption Process: A conference call was held with M. Decarreau, V. Gardner, A. Odato and M. Lundeen to discuss the next steps. All work previously done at board meetings can be considered the 1st reading of the policies. The board needs to start rescinding policies that are not required. They will then become procedures and protocols. In January the board would have a second reading of Executive Limitations policies and a Global Ends Statement. In February, the board would have a second reading on the governance process and board/superintendent relations. Policies would be adopted and become effective March 1st. We still have a few more required policies that we need to update. All policies are on line to view. The Board would like to see a clear listing of what board accepted for Executive Limitations for the January board meeting.

e) Use of Facilities – Infinity Dance Studio: MOTIONED by J. Corrigan, second by T. Cleiland to approve the use as per policy. Motion passed 5-0


9. Future Agenda Items: Discussion of parking lot for the summer. Goulet has asked the City Manager to include the district when the City puts out the RFP for paving.

10. Correspondence: None.

11. Executive Session (Title I, Section 313): MOTIONED by J. Lambert, second by J. Corrigan to move into executive session at 8:51 to discuss negotiations, contract discussion for 13/14 and a public safety issue. Motion passed 5-0.

12. Adjourn: The board adjourned at 9.59 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012

I. Meeting Minutes: November 14, 2012, December 3 and December 5, 2012

II. Approve MOU with City of Winooski for Snow Plowing 2012/2013

III. Approval of Bills:

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Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Metivier
Secretary to the Board