

**WINOOSKI BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2012**

MINUTES

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

MEMBER ABSENT: A. Booher

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Lundeen, Superintendent
M. O'Rourke, PK-5 Principal
R. Hood, Dir. of Spec. Ed./ELL
R. Millar, Citizen
C. Mander-Adams, Teacher
D. Blanchard, Teacher
Skyler Trayah, Student
Keana Ferguson, Student
R. Goulet, Finance Mgr.
L. Wheeler, 6-12 Principal
J. Helm, 6-12 Asst. Principal
A. Sherrer, Teacher
D. Koplinka-Loehr, Teacher
J. Pape, Teacher
C. Brosnan, Teacher

1. Call to Order: M. Decarreau called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
2. FY '14 BUDGET WORKSESSION: M. Lundeen started with a PowerPoint presentation showing the framework for quality education as presented by the VSA. Vermont superintendents have agreed that this will be the focus for quality education in a rapidly changing Vermont and are presenting this to their school boards. It reflects what students need to be successful in the world. VSA believes that leadership is a disposition, not a position – everyone comes together and leadership needs to be shared by all.

M. O'Rourke, PK-5: All parts of the budget that she has control over has been level funded. A .5 literacy support position has been cut from 1.0 to .50 FTE. Enrollment figures and class size were reviewed. Priorities include the current 21 classroom teachers, art, music, PE, guidance, math lab, literacy and math coach and .5 literacy support. Priorities/needs include 21 classrooms teachers (currently what we have and anticipated for next year), art, music and guidance and literacy and math coach to keep the kids moving forward. Average class sizes were shown.

L. Wheeler, Gr. 6-12: All parts of the budget were level funded that he could control. Tried to be as fiscally responsible as possible and to also think about the movement forward. Class size/enrollment figures were reviewed – don't expect any major changes in that area. Major budget changes include an increase in professional development and money for laptops for current 8th graders and for Grade 9. Next year will be the end of the SIG grant with a loss of revenue. He is recommending that the Spanish program be eliminated and also eliminating the OMNI and Velocity programs. He is proposing to establish a 21st Century Learning Lab that will service both the MS/HS students and help in designing and implementing personalized learning. Staff will be reassigned to manage this program. He is requesting 1.0 FTE new professional for community based learning. This will result in a .5 FTE reduction in the teaching staff. There was discussion of the need for so much professional development. Wheeler explained the different roles that consultants play. Decarreau asked what would happen to the students who are in the OMNI and Velocity programs. Wheeler stated that the community based learning person would work with these students. Decarreau asked that Wheeler speak with the city manager about this project to see if there can be collaboration.

Decarreau stated that as we move forward with all the new initiatives, we will be looking at the need for flexibility in staff, space, etc. and hope that the WEA is on board. Pape indicated that they were.

R. Hood, Special Education/ELL: She is requesting that staffing remain the same. Reviewed SE enrollment over the years and even though there have been changes, our average special education population remains about 16%. All programs were briefly reviewed in the special education budget. For ELL, she is requesting that

staffing remain the same. We will post, in the near future, for a Burmese Liaison, which is 100% grant, funded. The ELL population as remained stable over the last 4 years and we don't anticipate any major increase or decrease. About 30% of the student population are ELL students. Anticipated revenues for both ELL and special education were reviewed.

R. Goulet, Finance Manager: She received an e-mail from the DOE today stating that the homestead tax rate, based on a recommendation by the Department of Taxes, increase by 5 cents from .89 to .94 cents – putting the tax rate to \$1.24 without the budget being considered. This is approximately a \$250,000 increase. As this needs to be approved by the legislature, we will not know what the exact amount will be until they adjourn. Still don't have figures for the CLA and ADM. The nursing program was reviewed with an added \$10,000 for an AED and training. Outreach services were decreased as our homeless population has decreased. The central office budget has an increase of 8.6% that includes a proposed salary for a new superintendent, software upgrades and software training. The maintenance program (based on strategic plan) includes an increase for boiler design, new dishwasher, circular pump, rooftop control upgrades and replacing 8 new unit ventilators. Not in the maintenance budget are paving of Hawthorne field and the front parking lot – these need to be considered. It was suggested that some of the maintenance items could be purchased through the reserve account to decrease the budget in this program. The security program has a 3% increase for the SRO as we don't have a solid number from the city at this time. Federal programs are always a moving target, but we decreased by 10% for sequestration.

The entire budget as it now stands has an increase of 3.38% for expenditures.

Board – direction from the board included off loading maintenance items with the reserve fund and take out another \$100,000 out of budget on top of maintenance.

3. Adjourn: MOTIONED by T. Cleiland, second by J. Corrigan to adjourn at 8:51p.m. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Metivier
Secretary to the Board