

Winooski School Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020  
Minutes

School Board Members Present: Alexander Yin - Secretary, Margaret Bass, Tori Cleiland, Matthew MacNeil,  
Student Representatives: Sophia Do and Hiba Laaroussi

School Board Members Absent: Michael Decarreau - President

Administration Present: Rebecca Goulet, Finance Manager

Others Present: See sign-in sheet on file.

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Alexander Yin, Secretary, followed by the Pledge of the allegiance and Mindfulness with Tori Cleiland.
2. Agenda Review and Adjustments: None
3. Focus on Learning: Kate Grodin & Jean Berthiaume, WMHS Co-principals, Lindsey Cox, iLab teacher and Matthew Webb, Instructional Coach, presented **Proficiency-Based Learning**. “Competency-based learning” is a student-centered approach to instruction and assessment where students advance upon mastery of a set of skills and knowledge as they progress through their education (American Youth Policy Forum). Proficiency-Based Learning in Winooski has clear and transparent learning expectations. The process began in 2012 and shifted the systems of teaching, learning, grading and reporting to proficiency-based. This system centers around GX (Graduate Expectations) and GP (Graduate Proficiencies) instruction using Web2School to design a proficiency-based report card. Implementation began in 2018. GX instruction and Capstone Assessment system across disciplines. WMHS has developed Expositions of Learning (Expos) for performance-based assessments and implemented advisory systems to support Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) and graduation pathways. They have also started shared professional learning with HS GX teams, MS Expedition teams and calibration and revision of GPs. Development of new Habits of Learning are currently being revised. A transcript has been created for the class of 2020 using Mastery Transcript Consortium. There is a new Student Information System (SIS) and Learning Management System (LMS) being implemented to support 6-12. Through Empower Learning a teacher can look up a student's educational history. Currently completing GP calibration and implementing revised GPs, developing performance indicators at all levels of the progression and reassess role of math and reading skills tests as graduation requirements. Board member questions included communication between students and parents. Margaret suggested actually having college admission staff come to a board meeting to give feedback. Mr. Berthiaume assured the board members that the staff is getting feedback and they have spent a lot of time on the transcript process.. Ms. Cox shared that currently the focus has been on the current students graduating. Tori expressed concern that there is no more honors for students to reach for. In the past students would work to be on the Honor Society and to her knowledge there is no more Honor Society. Both student representatives made suggestions regarding the transcript along with expectations. Mr. Webb believes the additional counselor has been beneficial. Hiba suggested that she and Sophia be kept up to date on the changes with the transcript process so they can communicate better as board members. Margaret also expressed concern about not having a National Honor Society.
4. Public Comments: None

5. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Minutes of Meetings
    - i. Special Meeting/Budget: January 2, 2020
    - ii. Regular Meeting: January 8, 2020
    - iii. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: January 8, 2020
  - b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
    - i. Approval of Bills
  - c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
    - i. Approve Contract Recommendation
      1. Rachel Hurwicz: Long-Term Sub, High School ELL
  - d. Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
    - i. Superintendent Report

Motion made by Tori Cleiland to accept the Consent Agenda. Any discussion: Tori shared there were some great celebrations in the Consent Agenda. All in favor.

6. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):
  - a. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
    - i. Approve FY19 Audit

Rebecca Goulet, Finance Manager, communicated to the board members that the Audit report looks good.

Motion made by Matthew MacNeil to approve the 2019 Audit as presented. All in favor.

- b. Policy Title: 2.4 Financial planning and Budgeting
        - i. Review of FY21 Budget Cycle

Rebecca asked the board for any feedback regarding the budget process. The board decided to table this conversation until the next meeting.

7. Board-Management Delegation (Policy Section III):
  - a. Policy Title 3.2: Accountability of the Superintendent
    - i. Review/Accept Board Monitoring Report

Matthew MacNeil believes that a few times the board members have walked the line.

Motion made by Tori Cleiland to accept the Board Monitoring Report. All in favor.

8. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):
  - a. Policy Title: 4.1b Governing Style: Encouragement of a Diversity of Views
    - i. Student Report to the Board:

Hiba shared a great opportunity about an application to see Hamilton on Broadway. She explained the process. There is a cost of \$9,093 and that there will be some fundraising that will need to be done. Sophia shared that today was the deadline for scholarships and she expressed concern if a student wasn't in Upward Bound that they might not have had knowledge of the scholarships. She let board members know that in order to take CCV classes that students need to know more about what classes they need to take to qualify for the early college classes.

- b. Policy Title 4.6: Chair's Role
        - i. Board Monitoring Report:

Motion made by Matthew MacNeil to accept the Board Monitoring Report. All in favor.

- c. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies

i. 1st Reading of #1340 Tobacco Prohibition

Alexander asked if vaping is considered tobacco usage. Matthew asked if there is another policy for vaping and Rebecca said there is not. Tori prefers Winooski's first paragraph over the VSBA. During the 2nd reading board members agreed to add vaping to the policy.

ii. 1st Reading of #4311 Privacy of Health Related Information (HIPAA):

Rebecca shared with board members this is standard.

9. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):

a. Discussion of recent community activities by board members:

Tori Cleiland knocked on doors and got signatures. Alexander shared that the Charter will be added to the website. Alexander shared that he will be hosting Winooski's Got Talent. He also attended the voters translation meeting on February 8th.

10. Next Agenda: Feedback on the budgeting process. Add an Executive Session to discuss the student transcripts.

11. Upcoming Important Dates:

February 29th - Community Dinner at the O'Brien Center at 5:30 pm.

March 2nd - The Annual Meeting at the Performing Arts Center. The city will be presenting at 6:00 pm followed by the school board members at 7:30 pm.

12. Motion made by Tori Cleiland to enter the Executive Session at 8:24 pm to discuss labor negotiations. All in favor.

13. Possible Action on Executive Session: None

14. Motion made by Tori Cleiland to adjourn at 8:30 pm. All in favor..

Respectfully submitted by:

Brenda Steady  
Board Recorder