



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

Winooski School Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 6:30pm
Virtual Meeting

Zoom Meeting Information: <https://wsdvt.zoom.us/j/93932485262>
Join by Phone: 1-929-436-2866

All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

Attendance: Sean McMannon, Nicole Mace, Mike Decarreau, Alex Yin, Sophia Do, Tori McCleiland, Margaret Bass, Matt O'Neil, Indra Acharya, Hiba Laaroussi, Mugabo Thierry Uwilingiyimana, Colin (RETN), Helen

- 1. Call to Order/Pledge of allegiance/Mindfulness:** (5 Minutes) 6:33 pm
- 2. Agenda Review and Adjustments:** (5 Minutes)
6B ii: authorize Capital Project executive committee members to approve owner initiated bids over \$15K
Parking agreement numbers and texts will match
- 3. Public Comments:** (5 Minutes)
*Commend district for putting out information and opportunities for speaking out. Let's take a step further for creating a restorative justice with trauma informed staff; create a space for staff and students to speak up about what's going on around the US. Everyone can relate to what's going on. Behavior policies are not up to date on how different cultures interact with each other. Suggestion: replace the SRO position-as many benefits as there are to having one, we need to bring in a restorative justice person.

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*Statements are a good response, but action is better. A WSD student was labeled “terrorist” based on the looks of the student and no one apologized to the student. Conversations were had with Sean and Leon Wheeler (principal at the end). When teachers feel threatened, they call SRO and they are traumatizing and “useless.”

*Everyday it's observed as to who is getting sent out of the classroom, and what I'm seeing is that there are no multicultural policies and it needs to be addressed. SRO needs to be replaced with restorative justice staff; need more black and multicultural staff members.

4. Recognition of Student Representative to the School Board: (5 Minutes)

a. Sophia Do

*We have known you for two years, and have also known your family. It's great to see how you've grown. I've seen you take ownership of your projects and “You've left the place a lot better.”

5. Consent Agenda: (5 Minutes)

a. Minutes of Meetings:

i. Regular Meeting: May 13, 2020

ii. Capital Project Executive Committee: May 13, 2020

b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities

i. Approval of Bills

c. Policy Title 2.6 Asset Protection

i. Approve People's Bank Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) Line of Credit Authorization Revisions

d. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits

i. Approve Contract Recommendation

1. Andrew Wild: Community-Based Learning Coach (1.0 FTE), 100% funded by Barr Foundation grant

e. Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board

i. Superintendent Report

ii. WSD-UVMMC Parking Lot Agreement

f. Policy Title 4.2.2 Board Job Description

i. Approve Board Monitoring Report

ii. Approve Recommendation of FY21 Food Service Contract

Consent: approved by all

6. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (30 Minutes)

a. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities

i. Discussion: Financial Implications of COVID-19

ii.

*Sticking with the same information as last month, but new content is in blue. The House has passed it's version of the yield bill-set to assure property tax is not the source of revenue used to fill a projected 1 million dollar deficit in the Education fund. Winooski's projected homestead property tax will decrease by 1 cent.

*General assembly will delay distribution to these funds until FY 2021.

b. Policy Title 2.6 Asset Protection

- i. Action: Approval of matching funds for Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grant

*Funds system is over 20 years old; having a hard time getting parts, cannot add more phones and as building expands we will need more phones. System needs to be replaced as soon as possible. New phones for upcoming school year. Should take from fund balance and use for 9-1-1 phone replacement upgrade

- ii. Authorize Capital project Executive Committee members (Alex and Mike) to approve owner-initiated bids over \$15K

*This is for bids related to the capital project, such as hiring a company for moving (classrooms and equipment)

Consent: Approved by all

- c. Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board

- i. Discussion: COVID-19 Health Update

*80% of COVID cases are in Winooski, rest are in nearby cities (Burlington and Colchester). There are meetings (huddle) to discuss information. Have been working with families with food needs, and unemployment needs. We had a donor of \$10,000; staff and teachers have been great about putting needs of families on a shared document. Testing will continue through the epidemiology team and supplies from other sites. Virtual summer school for first two weeks, in person for final two weeks. Thrive will start on July 6th; middle school and high school will go through Suzanne Skatfestad, 21C coordinator. Need to create a committee to help create a reopening plan for the fall. Should meet in July (even though it's usually not done).

7. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (30 Minutes)

- a. Policy Title: 4.1b Governing Style: Encouragement of a Diversity of Views

- i. Reading of Board Statement about George Floyd and Systemic Racism & Injustice

*Given the public comment, these are just words, but now we need to create action plans.

Encouraging our community engagement group will help fulfill an action plan. We should have an action plan before the summer retreat. We need to be clear about the action plan and how to monitor ourselves. There is not enough time in August to make decisions, previously we looked at behavior, and had no student data related to the SRO. We need a student voice to help understand what's going on in our school. Two board members go out into the community to figure out what the community may need. We should consider putting a racism statement into our end statement. We need community members to join together in the circle to help voice concerns and discussions. Tori has already created an outline for the July meeting to help the board get started. Words are good, actions are better.

(A) Hire people of color

(B) SRO

(C) trauma specialists for restorative justice

(D) policies around multicultural community

*We need to add some courses around ethnic studies, such as history classes instead of focusing on white people history. If you put people on those who are affected, action will come much faster. Restorative justice plan really needs to be in place by the fall school year.

- ii. Student Report to the Board

*Today we had a pots/pans parade-school ended this morning. Graduation is on Saturday (on a flatbed that will stop at each student's house). Sophia Do took a course online from CCV, help came from Mr. Clark and Mr. McQuinn for her capstones. Even though students take courses from college, students have to complete capstones because it's part of the graduation requirements.

*Families who moved to different districts, they were able to make the choice that best fits their needs. Most chose to stay in their district to finish virtual learning. High school students have school choice; little more challenging for k-8: if a family moved from WSD to BSD, they would write a letter requesting the choice best fitting their needs. Letter is then sent to board.

iii. Review Annual Agenda Plan

*Move meeting with legislators to October. How do you fit additional requests into a board meeting and do the regular board meeting at the same time? We need to be more thoughtful to do this work more functionally. The size of this board is set in the charter; charter change to increase size of school board members. We can have community members on a school board committee to help work on the school board. We have some flexibility to what we discuss on the agenda. The board should reflect members of the community of which we live.

iv. July Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 8th or 15th, 6:30pm

*July meeting: 15th

v. Schedule Board Retreat in September: September 12th or 19th, 8a-1p

*September retreat: 12th (saturday after september 9th meeting)

b. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies

i. Discussion: Model District Equity Policy

*Group of superintendent members worked on developing a policy, a good starting point (no finished product): what can we do to help get this through. Group focused on the definition of equity; Nicole tasked with the evolution of work done around the country on what other schools are doing. If we adopt policy, it needs to be updated to fit in with what we are doing/talking about. Start with what our goals are then work on policies in July.

8. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1): (10 Minutes)

a. Discussion: Recent community activities by board members

9. Next Agenda: (5 Minutes)

*Some concrete actions moving forward and discussing how to get the rest done.

10. Upcoming Important Dates:

a. Last Student Day: Wednesday, June 10th, 11:15am dismissal

b. Graduation: Saturday, June 13, 10 am - Mobile procession

c. July Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 8th or 15th, 6:30pm

d. August Board Meeting/Joint City Meeting: Wednesday, August 12th, 6:30pm

11. Executive Session:

12. Possible Action on Executive Session:

13. Adjourn: 8:45 pm