



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

Winooski School Board of Trustees
Special Meeting
Monday, July 20, 2020, 6:30pm
Virtual Meeting

Zoom Meeting information: <https://wsdvt.zoom.us/j/98622120225>

Join by Phone: tel:+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: Mike Decarreau, Sean McMannon, Judy Atkins, Colin (RETN), Tori Cleiland, Nicole Mace, Alex Yin, Sara Raabe, Kayla Loving, Graham Clarke, Margaret Bass, Theiry Uwilingiymana, Yatrika Dhamala, Kirsten Kollgaard, Courtney Bryan, Evelyn Monje, Rainbow Chen, Katherine Monje, Jessica Perotte Liz Parris, Luke Dorfman, Andrea Boon, Heather Win, Steven Berbeco, Nina Miller, Hillary Gombar, Tay Olson, Vijayata Dahal, Indra Acharya, Stephe Siki, Hussein Amuri, Helen Tosteson, Gina Buchanan, Sarah McGowan-Frieje

1. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Mindfulness:** 6:34 pm
2. **Agenda Review and Adjustments:** None
3. **Public Comments:** (5 Minutes)
4. **Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Regular Meeting: July 15, 2020
5. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):** (15 Minutes)
6. **Board-Management Delegation (Policy Section III):** (20 Minutes)
7. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (20 Minutes)
 - a. Discussion: Board response to Student Anti-Racism Demands
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*The board broke up into two groups and each discussed half of the demands. How can we get financial funds for the groups? We should go through each item at this point, we are going to find team leads to get these projects

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started. Commissions are set up as external to be an advisory (ours is school board and administration). Which demands are set up as an advisory and which ones should be set up as a committee? We should have an HR or professional person to help navigate these demands. The only demand I wanted to ask is "how is the commission comprised?" It is better to leave administration and teachers out of the final draft of the demands as they are the instigators of these situations. By Wednesday night, we should have leaders for the committees. For the committees, we can do a one time stipend or a team stipend at the end. It would be helpful to bring in an outside researcher/facilitator to help with demand 1. It would be helpful to have specific training so everyone is on the same page so it would be done the right way.

*Yatrika Dhamala-the students should have the decision making power and compensate us. We have already done so much work towards this, we can't just be kicked out.

*Tori-should we have the students organize and create the committees and invite the adults in?

*Evelyn Monje-the team has done the work and research; I would like to be sure that our actions match our words that this is going to be student led.

*Margaret Bass-I am not really clear why we are getting in the way?

*Mike-#3-SRO-we have a signed memorandum with the city with a contract through the end of the 2021 school year. We have been talking about getting a more diverse staff, we need to be careful about setting a quota.

*Alex-the committee should have a budget and get a good commission for the students. I recommend students look into the research. We need to sell the state of Vermont as well as the school in order to get more staff of color. I worry the most about the mentoring one.

*Rainbow-We do recognize the research exists; our demand requests for community mentoring programs as well as within the school (which is already in place). We are ready to go.

*Sean-on the funding side, it will come out of the operating budget and ask them to create a budget for you. The SRO-the city and school are reviewing that position. We should have a full board for that discussion.

*Tori-would it be feasible to have the budget by Wednesday?

*Alex-can we use Wednesday's meeting to allow students to ask questions about the budget?

*Hussein-the current students are doing the work, and we are ready to do this. We know what we are doing and we've done the research.

*Margaret-they don't need us! Let the students do what they need to do.

*Rainbow-we can get the budget by Wednesday.

*Mike-we need student voice in our school. Where are you? What do you need? How can we help you? The SRO, other than the contract, what are we looking at, changing the role and function. As of FY 20-21, the contract is set with the WPD.

*Indra-we haven't gotten a written recognition about where the board stands on these demands

*Sean-demand 2: there are legal and confidentiality concerns about hazing, bullying and other stuff. The board has to decide if they agree with or not agree with the replacement of the SRO or discuss the alternative.

*Hussein-we do need to get parents involved, especially the new parents. It's important to have the parents involved and understand what is going on. Most parents do not read the newsletter so it wouldn't be beneficial.

*Stephie-translators can call parents and allow the parents to understand what the students see.

*Kirsten Kollgaard-Saturday we had a meeting with our parents, french and swahili community. The liaisons and parents have a strong bond. The history of racism in the US is different from the racism in other countries.

*Evelyn-I discussed the topics with the WSA; the parents didn't have a clear background. We feel like everyone has the same understanding and history.

*The concern is we have a contract with the city for the SRO; we are dealing with an individual who will not have a job if we cut and replace the position.

*Rainbow-we would like to have a discussion on what we would like him to do, and have documentation from the officer perspective of the interactions as well as the student perspective.

*Margaret-who determines which schools do and don't have an SRO? I know there are some schools that do not have SRO's.

*Nicole-24 hours is needed for a special meeting. You can revise and resubmit the agenda for Wednesday's meeting.

8. Next Agenda: Teams, budget

9. Upcoming Important Dates:

a. Special School Board Meeting - July 22, 2020

10. Executive Session:

11. Adjourn: 8:19 PM