

Winooski School Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting  
WSD Library  
Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 6:30pm  
Virtual & In-Person Meeting

(Capacity for 5 Public Attendees-please email Krista Parisi at [kparisi@wsdvt.org](mailto:kparisi@wsdvt.org) to reserve seat)

Zoom Webinar information: <https://wsdvt.zoom.us/j/92770302999>

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.

Attendees: Sean McMannon, Matt O'Neil, Tori Cleiland, Alex Yin, Mike Decarreau, Luke Dorfman, Liz Edsell, Hussein Amuri, Matt Gile, Mugabo Thierry Uwilingiyimana, Heather Win, Kayla Loving, Remy Uwilingiyimana, Rainbow Chen, Tessie Sakai, Mohamed Diop, Wafic Faour, Lindsay Halman, Emily Hecker, Evelyn Monje, Ken (RETN), Matt Gonzalez, Steven Berbeco, Sarah McGowan-Freiji, Indra Acharaya, Elizabeth Wood, Katherine Monje, Celilo Bauman Swain

1. **Call to Order:** 6:38 pm
2. **Agenda Review and Adjustments:** None
3. **Public Comments:** None
4. **Consent Agenda:**
  - a. Minutes of Meetings
    - i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: October 14, 2020
    - ii. Regular Board Meeting: October 14, 2020
  - b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
    - i. Approval of Bills
  - c. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
    - i. Superintendent Report
  - d. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
    - i. Approval - 2nd Reading Title IX Policy

\*Mike-In a report by Sean under COVID relief and related expenses, WSD's CRF application has not yet been approved. We have been waiting on that for a period of time. Do we have any expectations on that?

\*Sean-We don't have a firm date on that, we are not alone as most have not received confirmation yet.

\*Tori-I have a few celebrations: first WSD for becoming an Anti-racist district. In our elementary school, they are starting a book discussion on Teaching for Black Lives. There is an Equity Vision and Professional Development committee that started on November 2nd. It will be a multi-state group with two very important goals of moving equity and anti-racism forward.

\*Approval by all

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**5. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (80 Minutes)**

- a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
  - i. Discussion: WSA Anti Racism Demands Process
    - 1. Prioritize Demands
    - 2. Establish composition and outreach of demand-based working groups
- b. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
  - i. Discussion: Review Proposed Revisions to City of Winooski/Winooski School District (WSD) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
  - ii. Action: Authorize Superintendent to sign extended Side Letter through February 19, 2021 for current City of Winooski/Winooski School District (WSD) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

\*Tori-We have a side letter written by Sean and Jessie Baker from the city to speak to the purpose of the MOU and look into the dates of when we approve these so we can have more flexibility with each other and give more notice to budgetary changes and needs before moving into the budgetary sessions.

\*Mike-This one has a different viewpoint and it focuses on the dollars. The piece in section 3 "The district pays the city one half of one percent of the statewide property tax. That's the same number that was in there before. In section 4 which describes the SRO, can you put in context for us this memo, this MOU, and wording in here and our path forward which is still undefined.

\*Sean-What this is doing is giving you all time, and by doing this you're basically agreeing to let the city know you will keep the money that is budgeted annually for the SRO in the budget, but you are not committing to that position. You will make a decision about that by mid/end of February so they can make an employment decision on their side.

\*Tori-A couple of things I want to celebrate in this side letter are the strong shared vision between city and school. The whole idea that it's founded on the financial and service provision agreements between city and school to use the best of our dollars to do the best for our community. It's wise to change the date to february so we all have time and are intentional with our communication with each other.

\*Mugabo-"What is the MOU and where can we find it to read it? Where is the side letter to read it and access it?"

\*Sean-They can get posted on the website.

\*Mugabo-"Why the extension? What are we doing already to engage the community?"

\*Tori-The reason for the extension is to clarify how the MOU is shaped for goals and intention. To be able to change the dates in which we initiate the MOU so that it fits better with budget seasons. We used to do it in September, and ours is in December but the City's is in before or after that. Their Restorative Justice group is going to do some education forums and send surveys to the community within the next month or so.

\*Approval by all

**People's Hour with Evelyn Monje**

\*This hour is designated to provide an opportunity for community members to meet with the board and participate in a restorative justice circle. The purpose of this circle is to have an anti-racist, non-hierarchical conversation which allow the people of Winooski to do three things: (1) Develop a shared understanding of what this space was created for; (2) Envision how the community can use these hour-long blocks of time to dismantle white supremacy in our district and become an anti-racist district; and (3) Reflect on whose voices are missing in these meetings, and commit to creating more inclusive spaces that are truly accessible to all people who consider themselves members of the community. Each restorative justice circle has a check in/value round where participants share their name, pronouns and what you need from this group. There are 4

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rounds of questions participants answer. Round 1 questions are: "Why is anti-racism in our school important to you?" "Where are you in your anti-racist journey?" Round 2 questions are: "Whose historically marginalized voices are missing in this circle?" "What thoughts or ideas do you have for including those voices in the future?" Round 3 questions are: "How would you like to see this People's Hour used to further the anti-racist mission of WSD?" Round 4 questions are: "There will be many things we will want to do during this hour. What is important to do in the decision making process for what to do with next month's people's hour?" The check out round is used as a debriefing round. The questions are: "How did it feel to share these experiences and thoughts in this circle?" or "Share one word about how you are feeling at this moment."

**6. Executive Session: (30 Minutes)**

- a. Legal Advice Regarding Contracts

**7. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (30 Minutes)**

- a. Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting

- i. Discussion: FY22 Budget Timetable

\*Sean-It's very similar to what you have experienced in the past. You will be getting level services baseline budget Monday, November 30th and the first meeting is on December 2nd. We will talk about variances and special education, ELL and so forth. We have meetings scheduled every wednesday starting the 9th, 16th which is a regular board meeting. We do have a meeting, if needed, on December 30th before final review on the 6th of January. The adoption is January 13th.

- b. Policy Title 2.6 Asset Protection

- i. Discussion: Capital Project Update

1. Action: Approve contract Change Order # 3

\*Sean- We have submitted for federal reimbursement around COVID related expenses. We are hopeful to get a portion of the \$33,000 back.

\*Approval by all

2. Action: Approve contract Change Order # 4

\*Sean-This is a lot of smaller dollar items. The bigger items included a grease trap redesign totaling \$34,000 and some plumbing under the maintenance building for \$14,000 which was not part of the original design. We are putting a backup generator over by the maintenance shed to have as a backup to the entire school for \$26,000 for a grand total of \$159,000.

\*Approval by all

3. Action: Approve Value Engineering Package

\*Approval by all

- ii. Discussion/Approve: WSD Winter Transportation Bid

\*Sean-We did not get any bids for the Winter Transportation on the first go around. We reached out to Mountain Transit and were told it was an oversight. The winter transportation budget is \$89,000. The second bid request came back with Mountain Transit stating they don't have any drivers.

\*Approval by all

**8. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1): (5 Minutes)**

- a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board

- i. Newsletter Topics

\*Tori-I was going to soccer games when I was able to. I am also excited that we are able to have somewhat of a basketball season.

**9. Next Agenda: (5 Minutes)**

\*Mike-Getting Phil Bruth and his stay on the education committee, is that in December?

\*Sean-One idea you could entertain is to have some superintendent's work together to have something bigger, like a legislative breakfast or a webinar in the evening that's not just Winooski School Board Members. There has been some outreach from Burlington to focus on the weighting study.

**10. Upcoming Important Dates:**

- a. No School: 11/16
- b. JFK Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal: 11/23 & 11/24
- c. No School: 11/25 - 11/27
- d. Veggie Van Go: 12/2 & 12/9
- e. New board member interviews on Wednesday November 18, 2020 6:30 pm

**11. Possible Action on Executive Session:**

**12. Adjourn: 9:52 pm**