



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

Winooski School Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 6:30pm
Virtual Meeting

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.

Attendance: Krista Parisi, Sean McMannon, Alex Yin, Tori Cleiland, Steven Berbeco, Liz Edsell, Nicole Mace, Colin (MediaFactory), Hussein Amuri, Mike Decarreau, Lindsay Halman, Kayla Loving, Mugabo, Abeer Alzubaidy, Tessie Sakai, Auishma Pradhan, Izzy Johnson, Heather Win, Matt Gile, Elizabeth Wood, Jim Duncan

1. **Call to Order:** 6:34 pm
2. **Agenda Review and Adjustments:** None
3. **Public Comments:** none
4. **Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: December 16, 2020
 - ii. Special Board Meeting: December 2, 2020
 - iii. Regular Board Meeting: December 9, 2020
 - iv. Special Board Meeting: December 16, 2020
 - v. Special Board Meeting: December 30, 2020
 - b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Approval of Bills

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- ii. Approval of PFM Financial Services Renewal Agreement for Capital Project Interim Financing
- c. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - i. Superintendent Report
 - 1. Approval of WHS School Choice Capacities (Act 62)
 - 2. Approve Announced Tuition for 2021-2022

*Motion to accept consent agenda

*Mike-under the update on the information technology and ransom wear and other attacks going on, how do we move this from a request to do something to an action item to move it forward?

*Steven-If the board minutes for December 2nd and December 16 should list me in attendance. Also December 16th, there is no record of those in attendance.

*Approved by all

5. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (60 Minutes)

- a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
 - i. Report/Discussion: Steering Committee for Anti Racism Consultancies

*The Anti-Racism work began with introductions of the meeting participants. The introductions included who you are, what your role is (parent, teacher, student, etc.) and what you are grateful for. The purpose of this hour is to discuss the steering committee for the demand groups. The planning team consists of Tori, Sean, Evelyn, Hussein, Rainbow and Luke Dorfman. There was a discussion and presentation about the steering committee. This included the purpose, supporting goals & guiding beliefs of the committee. Each participant had the chance to share their thoughts and feelings about the information provided. Anyone was able to ask questions about the information as well. The presentation included the number of members who will be a part of the consultancies. They also went over the roles and responsibilities of the members. Some questions came up regarding the length of terms, how many meetings per month, and whether the steering committee is taking the place of WSA. The presentation included application questions for those who want to apply for the steering committee. Hussein asked for feedback on the questions for the application. Some of the feedback included the question about the familiarity of the WSA demands and how to rephrase it so it's not intimidating and who's responsible for deciding who's on the steering committee.

6. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (60 Minutes)

- a. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Review/Approval: 2nd Quarter Financial Management Report (FMR)

*Motion to approve 2nd quarter financial management report

*Approval by all

- ii. Action: Approve FY2020 Audit Report

*Motion to approve FY2020 Audit Report

*Alex - I wanted to highlight the comments and applaud the administration team, especially Nicole Mace for doing the transition so well, transitioning to a new job during a pandemic. I am impressed with the notion to get better on things. Thank you for all the great work during a transition and pandemic.

*Steven - If anyone asked me if this was a clear audit, I can confirm it is.

*Nicole - We did have one finding related to bank reconciliations on a regular basis. The pandemic made it very hard for the bank and financial manager to meet on a regular basis. I have been meeting with them on a regular basis.

*Approval by all

- b. Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting

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i. Action: Adoption of 2021-22 Winooski School District Budget

*Motion to adopt the 21-22 WSD budget

*The discussion started with Sean stating they received an updated number on the equalized pupil that day. It was down .08 EP. That was the only change in the spreadsheet. When approving the warning, it is asked to have a bit of flexibility in the motion. If the numbers change, we would have your blessing to make modifications. Alex wanted to state his appreciation for the recruitment of the budget buddies. Thank you to Sean and Nicole for presenting a good budget, and the board as well.

*Approval by all

ii. Action: Adoption of 2021-22 Budget Warnings and Articles

*Motion to adopt 21-22 Budget Warnings and Articles while amending article 6 with respect to education spending for Equalized pupil

*The discussion started with Sean appreciating Nicole Mace because when she researched our warnings, she recognized that we didn't traditionally put what is now Article 4 with board trustees on the warning; it fell off the plate in 1993 and was never put back on. We are tidying up that piece. Sean also discussed having some flexibility with the last two numbers of Article 6 until it goes to press. Nicole spoke about Article 7; the last article is required for the district to enter into a lease agreement to install solar panels on the roof. Liz brought up a question about early voting on Town Meeting day. There will not be a mail-in ballot, just a postcard giving information regarding how to vote early if preferred.

*Approval by all

iii. Discussion: Review Annual Report and Budget Flyer

*This discussion started with Sean talking about how the district has two primary documents for the budget. The flyer was started about 6 years ago as a tool for the community. The annual report contains required information and has more detailed information regarding audits, comparisons with last years' budget and gives copies of warnings. We don't need a lot of feedback on the annual report, but we do need feedback on the budget flyer and will need to determine if the whole board should get it or a couple of board members to look at it. A question was brought up about whether the flyer will be available in multiple languages. Mike would like to request setting up a zoom meeting to have a question/answer session for the community. Alex requests there be a couple of items in the budget presentation such as information about the capital project loan, fundraising, etc.

c. Policy Title: 2.6 Asset Protection

i. Capital Project Update

1. Action: Approve Contract Change Order # 7

*Motion to approve contract change order # 7

*Mike started the discussion by stating there isn't a lot of backup with the change orders. We are watching the owner's contingency which is the amount left, what we haven't spent yet (about \$500,000). The board allowed Sean to approve items up to \$15,000. Anything above \$15,000, Alex and Mike have been given permission to approve. If Alex and Mike approve an item above \$15,000, there isn't a need to get a full board approval unless we have time to put it on the agenda.

Liz asked a question about the completion of the project and amount used. The project schedule was pushed back due to COVID and it depends on how you look at it. Overall, we are not quite half-way there yet.

*Approved by all

7. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1): (5 Minutes)

a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board

i. Newsletter Topics

*The current month has been done by Mike. Liz and Steven are now in the rotation for the district newsletter. Mike will be doing the March newsletter topic.

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ii. Legislative Meeting update

*Alex and Steven attended the weighting study meeting and only had 2 minutes to present information. There will be a meeting for the school board to meet with their legislators. Alex talked about local districts hiring a lobbyist during the legislative session.

8. Next Agenda: (5 Minutes)

*discussion of proposed school safety (regards to a new policy)

*proposed policy on district equity

9. Upcoming Important Dates:

a. No School-Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 18, 2021

b. Veggie Van Go: February 3 & 10, 2021

10. Executive Session:

a. Labor Negotiations

*Motion to move to executive session

*Approval by all

11. Possible Action on Executive Session:

*no action

12. Adjourn: 9:22 pm

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