



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

Winooski School Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 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: Sean McMannon, Mike Decarreau, Tori Cleiland, Steven Berbeco, Kamal Dahal, Alex Yin, Media Factory (Colin), Nicole Mace, Mitch Barron (Centerpoint), Kayla Loving, Evelyn Monje, Emily Hecker, Lindsey Halman, Tessie Sakai, Mugabo Uwilingiyimana, Jeff H, Graham Clarke, Susan Holson, Matt Gile, Katherine Blair, Heather Win, Elizabeth Wood

1. Call to Order/Mindfulness: 6:31 pm

2. Agenda Review and Adjustments:

*Tori: changing antiracism work from “Board Training: Board Self-Assessment and White Supremacy Culture” to “revisiting last month’s learning and steering committee update”.

*Mike: the “we” in the weighting study coalition update should be “the coalition hired a lobbyist”.

3. Public Comments:

4. Consent Agenda:

a. Minutes of Meetings

i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: March 10, 2021

ii. Regular Board Meeting: March 10, 2021

- b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Approval of Bills
 - ii. Sun Common Lease Agreement
- c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
 - i. Approval: Teacher Contract
 - 1. Pirawan Ratanapratum: Elementary Classroom Teacher
 - 2. Camilla Thomassen-Tai: Middle School English Language Arts Teacher
 - ii. Administrator Contracts
- d. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board

*Motion to accept consent agenda

*Motion passes, 5-0

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT, 60 NORMAND ST., WINOOSKI, VT 05404
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- i. Superintendent Report
- ii. 2021-22 School Calendar
- iii. WHS Scholarship Request

5. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):

- a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership

- i. Antiracism work: Revisit March 2021 learning and steering committee update

*Antiracism work started with 15 seconds of silence. Lindsey and Evelyn discussed what the hour will look like. The school board was given homework for the May 2021 meeting: look at the white supremacy culture list and do a deep dive on what this would look like. The questions to reflect on are: how do we want to move forward in dismantling the white supremacy culture characteristics that are always going to be present unless we actively work against them? What antidotes have we seen emerge? What has already been done? What antidotes are needed in order for the board to progress?

*Steering committee update: They had an April meeting and reflected on “what does it mean to do partnership and how do we embody that? They also talked about the next steps. Following the special board meeting last week, we lost a member of the steering committee. The next steps are: 3 hour training with WSA on 04/19 with a makeup on 04/28/21, and creating the process of the demand groups. Lindsay and Evelyn proposed a reflection question for the board around connecting the dots from WSA’s demand #3 and the multi-stakeholder group proposed by the board. This discussion was paused.

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

- i. Action: Heart of Winooski (HOW) Board Member Representative Appointment

*Sean went over the basics of the Heart of Winooski and the time commitment it requires.

*Motion to nominate Steven Berbeco for Heart of Winooski (HOW) board member representative

*Motion passes 5-0

Discussion/Action: Multi Stakeholder Group Regarding School Safety and SRO

*Tori started the discussion by reading what the multi stakeholder group is going to be asked to do. The board discussed some changes that could be made such as wording and language. Some of those suggestions included: a broader use of community input, educational process, recommendation versus 3 comprehensive models, and what are the possible outcomes. Steven asked “what would a successful committee look like in terms of outcome?” Sean suggested the board should step back and first decide who is going to make this decision, either the board or the superintendent will through the MOU, then

develop the charge. In regards to who makes the decision, Mike suggests that the superintendent make the decision as he would be held accountable for the decision.

*This agenda item has been tabled.

c. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies

i. Discussion:

1. [Role & Adoption of School Board Policies](#)

2. [Policy Development Procedure](#)

*Tori started the discussion by giving an overview of policy adoption since 2012. This year (FY 2021) was the first time a policy was developed by the board. The discussion is to determine how the policies are developed and adopted. If the board adopts the VSBA model, the board would not need the procedure. It was suggested to eliminate the procedure and adopt the VSBA model. Sean will work with a school board member, Steven, to polish up the policy for a first reading for the May meeting.

ii. Discussion: [Board Committee Principles](#)

*This policy should have happened when the board changed over to policy governance, but didn't happen. Tori talks about the importance of the wholeness of the board. When you have board committees, it can sometimes make communication harder for the board function as a whole. Mike talks about how committees are for a specific purpose and used sparingly to get to the heart of the matter. In order to adopt this policy, there needs to be a first read in the meeting in May.

iii. Discussion - 1st Reading School Safety within Policy Titles: 2.1, 2.2 & 4.1.2

*This policy was originally developed by Steven and Liz and then integrated into already existing policies. Mike discussed which existing policies the safety policy fits into. It was suggested the district lawyer take a look at the additions for section 4 to make sure there isn't any additional and undue exposure with the language that has been described. Alex suggested that under personal identity, to add age.

6. [Executive Limitations \(Policy Section II\):](#)

a. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits

i. Action: Approve Nomination of Katherine Blair as Director of Support Services and Early Learning

*Sean (Superintendent) and Katherine Blair had the opportunity to address the board around Katherine's nomination for Director of Support Services and Early Learning.

*Motion to approve Katherine Blair for Director of Support Services and Early Learning

*Motion passes 5-0

b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities

i. Action: Approve Quarter 3 Financial Management Review (FMR) Report

*The Quarter 3 FMR report shows the board how the school district is doing related to our budget and where we anticipate ending the fiscal year. In the first 2 quarters, everything seems to be lining up well.

*Motion to approve quarter 3 financial management review report (FMR)

*Motion passes 5-0

ii. Action: Funding of Anti-racism work

1. WSD Antiracism Steering Committee

2. Demand-Based Team Work

*Motion to support funding of Anti-racism work

*Motion passes 5-0

iii. Action: Food Service Fund Balance Purchase Request

*Nicole put together a memo describing everything in great detail related to using the fund balance to purchase kitchen equipment.

*Motion to approve food service fund balance purchase request

*Motion passes, 5-0

7. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):

a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board

i. Newsletter Topics

*Kamal will write the newsletter for this April

*Alex will write the newsletter for May

8. Next Agenda:

*Second reading of district equity policy

9. Upcoming Important Dates:

a. April School Break: April 19-23, 2021

b. Veggie Van Go: May 5th & 12th, 2021

c. School Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021

d. Saturday May 1st-school board tour of capital project 8:30 am

10. Executive Session:

a. Labor Negotiations

11. Possible Action on Executive Session:

No action taken

12. Adjourn:

___Meeting adjourned at 9:51PM