



# WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

*We are the future.*

Winooski School Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 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, Tori Cleiland, Kamal Dahal, Steven Berbeco, Alex Yin, Mike Decarreau, Emily Hecker, Media Factory (Colin), Lindsey Halman, Evelyn Monje, Nicole Mace, Michael Eppolito, Julian Portilla

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

**2. Agenda Review and Adjustments:**

\*Motion to move the teacher contracts to consent agenda

\*Motion passes, 5-0

**3. Public Comments:**

**4. Consent Agenda:**

a. Minutes of Meetings

i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: April 14, 2021

ii. Special Board Meeting: April 7, 2021

iii. Regular Board Meeting: April 14, 2021

b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities

i. Approval of Bills

ii. Approval WSD Contracted Services Agreement with City of Winooski

**WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT, 60 NORMAND ST., WINOOSKI, VT 05404**  
**PHONE (802) 655-0485 FAX (802) 655-7602 [www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)**

c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits

i. Approval: Teacher Contracts

1. Emma Walsh: Elementary Special Educator
2. Caitlin Batche: Elementary Special Educator
3. Erin Hurley: Elementary ELL Teacher
4. Julie Galati: High School Special Educator

d. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board

i. Superintendent Report

\*Motion to move superintendent contract from consent agenda to Executive Limitations

\*Motion passes, 4-0

\*Motion to accept consent agenda with moving 4c to 6b

\*Alex - asking about the proficiency based learning model; making it easier for parents, students and staff to understand the process better. Is there something for the school board to do to help support this? Commending the school for their attempt to hold a senior dinner, junior/senior dance and senior class field trip.

\*Sean - supports can be opportunities for agenda planning for next year to have staff come and talk about the proficiency based learning model.

\*Mike - commending the school and city for their coordination in regards to students in the summer, keeping the tight bond.

\*Motion passes, 5-0

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

a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership

i. Discussion: White Supremacy Characteristics

\*The presentation started with a moment of mindfulness. The goal of the presentation is to call out the characteristics of white culture. Lindsey shared her screen and asked the board questions in regards to white supremacy characteristics. Some of the ideas of the board included: sense of urgency, fear of open conflict, and perfectionism. Lindsay asked the board about antidotes for the white supremacy characteristics. Some of the ideas include: inclusivity and time, seeking alternative opinions, listening to everyone, engagement, and phrasing questions in ways that allow the community to offer suggestions as part of the conversation. The presentation continued with an activity for the board. They looked at the Policy Governance Progress Monitoring Tool and looked for strengths and opportunities. They went around and discussed their 3 strengths and 3 opportunities they saw/noticed.

\*Steering committee update: In the last meeting, agreements and values for the group were created. There was discussion about who will guide the work for the demands that were not approved, and subgroups were created for communication and demand specific action groups.

**6. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (30 minutes)**

a. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board

i. Presentation: Financial and Planning Overview of ESSER Funding and Learning Recovery

\*Nicole - the presentation started with an overview of what ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund) is and what it's used for. The total amount of the fund for three years is \$11.6 million dollars. Nicole talked about the ESSER allowable uses and the guidance

from the Vermont Agency of Education.

\*Michael Eppolito - Michael started his presentation with the Learning recovery plan phases (3 total). The focus areas will be: academics, social emotional health and mental well-being, engagement, and culture and climate as well as the staff in those focus areas. Michael also discussed phase 1 and progress monitoring, phase 2, and phase 3 overview. Michael ended the presentation with what the current summer investments will be. Mike, Steven and Alex asked questions in regards to the presentation. Tori talked about the possibility of a school bus.

b. Approval: Superintendent Contract

\*Steven-wanted an opportunity to vote on this item separately.

\*Motion to approve superintendent contract as written

\*Motion passes, 4-0

## **7. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (60 Minutes)**

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

i. Discussion/Action: Multi Stakeholder Group Proposal to Research School Safety Models and Make Recommendations

1. Action: Authorize Superintendent to Execute City of Winooski-Winooski School District (WSD) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 2021-22 School Year

\*Motion to authorize superintendent to execute city of Winooski-Winooski School District MOU for 21-22 school year.

\*Motion passes 4-1

2. Action: Accept Multi Stakeholder Group Proposal to Research School Safety Models and Make Recommendations to the Superintendent

\*Julian introduced himself and how he created a proposal for the board's Multi Stakeholder group and questions were asked from all members of the board. Kamal asked for more information about the interview process for the group. Julian was able to answer questions with informative content and examples.

\*Motion to accept multi stakeholder group proposal

\*Motion passes 5-0

b. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies

i. Discussion/Possible Adoption - 2nd Reading: Revised Policy Titles: 2.1, 2.2 & 4.1.2 to include Safety

\*Sean started this discussion by giving the board an overview of the revised policy titles 2.1, 2.2, & 4.1.2 to include safety. The recommendation for this is to tighten up the adds to the policies and bring it back in June for consent agenda pending a legal review. This item will be tabled until June 2021.

ii. Discussion - 1st Reading: Role & Adoption of School Board Policies

\*Sean introduced this policy. No board members had anything to add at this time.

iii. Discussion - 1st Reading: Board Committee Principles

\*Steven shared that the principals seem to be limited or prohibited instead of identifying opportunities. It defines what a board should and should not do. The priority of governance is to reinforce the wholeness (Tori). Kamal asked a question about conflict. An example of this would be a staff member also being a member of a school board or negotiations team (Sean).

iv. Discussion - 1st Reading: District Equity Policy

\*This policy was written by the VSBA. No major changes, just localizing with the WSD name and logo.

This is a recommended policy, but not required.

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

- a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board
  - i. Newsletter Topics

\*May is Asian appreciation month. Softball has started in the district.

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

- \* Have policy 2.1 and 2.2 to include safety
- \* 2nd reading of the district equity policy.

**10. Upcoming Important Dates:**

- a. No School: May 13<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021
- b. Veggie Van Go: June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- c. Last Student Day: Friday, June 11, 2021 - Early Release for Students at 11am
- d. School Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 9, 2021
- e. School Board Meeting: July & August dates?
- f. School Board Retreat: September date?

**11. Executive Session:**

- a. Labor Negotiations

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

\*No action taken

**13. Adjourn: 10:17 pm**