



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

Winooski School Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 6:30pm
Learning Media Center
Winooski School District

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: T. Cleiland, A. Yin, K. Dahal, A. Burlock, S. McMannon, M. Decarreau, J. Portilla, S. Berbeco, V. Gardner

1. **Call to Order/Mindfulness:** 6:39 pm
2. **Agenda Review and Adjustments:** N/A
3. **Public Comments:** N/A
4. **Recognition of Mike Decarreau**

Mike Decarreau has served the board and district for 10 years and was instrumental in helping the board move to policy governance. He is a parent of children that have gone through the system and his work in the district is more than appreciated. Alex and Sean spoke to the positive impact Mike had on them personally and in the school.

5. **Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: June 9, 2021 and July 21, 2021
 - ii. Regular Board Meeting: June 9, 2021
 - b. Approval: Reappointment of Mike Decarreau to the Capital Project Executive Committee as a Community Member

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- c. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Approval of Bills
 - ii. Approval: Capital Project Interim Financing Renewal
- d. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
 - i. Approval: Support Staff Side Letter Multilingual Liaisons
 - ii. Approval: Teacher Contracts
 - 1. Elizabeth Lane: Elementary Classroom Teacher (Grade 4)
 - 2. Timothy Berger: Long Term Sub-Elementary Special Educator (K)
 - 3. Nancy Radley: Long Term Sub-Elementary Teacher (Grade 2)
- e. Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - i. Superintendent Report

Motion to accept the consent agenda was passed.

6. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (75 Minutes)

- a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
 - i. Report: Multistakeholder Group update from Julian Portilla
 - ii. Board Training: Policy Governance with Val Gardner

Report on Multi Stakeholder Group By Julian Portilla - Interviewing community members, staff and board members. Report can be found in the [PowerPoint presentation](#) that was shared by Julian. Relevant stakeholders were consulted and recommendations will be formed from that information. With this process all stakeholders that wish to have a voice will have a time to voice their thoughts. At the time of the meeting 12 people had been interviewed. Broad praise for the City and School was expressed by those interviewed. Safety concerns were brought up and it was noted that most concerns were around safety threats outside of the school. There were concerns voiced about having an armed uniformed police officer on the premises and how it could impact members of the school community. Understanding the role of the SRO will be discussed in future meetings. The Chief of Police voiced that building relationships is the outcome that he would like to see come from this work. The hope is to get a max of 15 people to meet twice monthly, starting in August, to understand this issue with recommendations to the board by mid November.

*K. Dahal asked if demographics were looked at when gathering information. Julian will try to work on this but is working very hard to not break confidentiality but feels he can find a way to provide this information.

*S. Berbeco asked about teachers not being on the list to be interviewed. Julian voiced that he does have plans to interview teachers. Students will be selected to be interview by [Sean McMannon](#) and his administration. Julian has reached out to those students and only heard back from one of them.

*A. Yin - commented on his appreciation of the process to hear what the community is thinking and feeling about the topic of safety of the SRO as well as the desire to focus on the students' needs for safety.

*K. Dahal asked if there was a sense of someone empathizing with thoughts of other stakeholders and how they are feeling about the SRO and safety in the school. Julian spoke to hearing that he heard that people wanted to come together to figure this out and heard a willingness to try and figure this out.

*S. Berbeco spoke to including board members to make sure that Julians work is aligned with the board.

Next steps will be to meet with Tori and Sean regarding roles and responsibilities and setting up a meeting schedule for future stakeholder meetings.

Val Gardner to facilitate Policy Governance Training. Policy governance was started about 9 years ago when board members realized that governance was not functioning well in the school. A move was made toward Policy Governance and this allowed the board to be intentional about roles and responsibilities.

[Readings](#) were given to the board regarding Policy Governance and how it works within a school board. Board members shared their thoughts on this topic.

[Policy Governance](#) is driven by policy. Every decision should be looked at in the context of the policy in that it falls under. It requires the board to focus on work linking with the community. Policy Governance requires the

board to delegate management responsibilities and make sure things are taken care of in executive limitations. Actions are based on policies and a yearly calendar. It is the job of the Superintendent to report to the board on policy compliance and makes the board aware of when they are in or out of compliance.

Four points of Policy Governance

1. Ends - board responsibility to generate and superintendents responsibility to produce.
2. Executive Limitations - board creates and the superintendent is responsible for making sure these are met.
3. Board Management Delegation - how the board will work with the superintendent
4. Governance Process - how board members will work with each other and the community

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

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

Steering committee has been doing a lot of community engagement.

Tori will do the next newsletter and will then make a schedule for when other board members will be writing for the newsletter.

8. Next Agenda: (5 Minutes)

9. Upcoming Important Dates:

- a. WSD Pre-Service:
 - i. Teachers return Monday, August 16th
 - ii. School-Year Support Staff return Friday, August 20th
- b. Wednesday, August 25th: 1st Day of School Grades K-5 (full day), 6 and 9 (half-day)
- c. Thursday, August 26th: K-12 full day
- d. Wednesday, September 8th: Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting, 5:15p, WSD Library
- e. Wednesday, September 8th: Regular School Board Meeting, 6:30p, WSD Library
- f. Saturday, September 11th: School Board Retreat, 9a-1p, Venue TBD

10. Executive Session:

- a. Labor Negotiations

Motion to move into executive session made by S. Berbeco - Motion passed.

11. Possible Action on Executive Session:

12. Adjourn: