



# WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

*We are the future.*

Winooski School Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:30pm

Zoom Webinar information: <https://wsdvt.zoom.us/j/84754701054>

Join by Phone: 1 301 715 8592

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: Kevin Dirth, Tori Cleiland, Steven Berbeco, Emily Hecker, Jeff (Media Factory), Alex Yin, Rachel Howes, Iris Bond-Gill, Brent Litterer, Allison Burlock, Nicole Mace, Sarah Haven, Etai Mizraz, Jon Rauscher, Murphy Anderson, Andrea Wheeland, Yasamin Gordon, Kamal Dahal, Elizabeth Wood, Mileydith Ortiz-Culley, Micheal Eppolito, Cedric Thompson, Sara Raabe

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

**2. Agenda Review and Adjustments:**

\*3 items to adjust: remove the tuition student item, add new hire Mohamed Diop to the consent agenda, and switch governance process and executive limitations.

**3. Public Comments:**

**4. Focus on Learning:** Rowland Fellows Presentation Ask Jean on the amount of time they need. \*Brent Litterer and Rachel Howes shared a presentation on the Rowland Fellows. Brent gave an overview of the background of the presentation based on the success of students in the pod model in 2021-2022 school year. The start of the journey began with researching other schools in Vermont and outside of the state on how they designed schools to be successful for students. The purpose of the Onion River Schoolhouse is project based learning and around the GXs. This will run for two blocks in the afternoon in the next school year. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions.

**5. Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)

a. Minutes of Meetings

i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: April 2022

ii. Regular Board Meeting: April 2022

b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities

- i. Approval of Bills
- c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
  - i. Timothy Berger: LT Substitute Teacher Special Education 3rd Grade
  - ii. Thu Borch: Kindergarten Teacher
  - iii. Kelly Marcus: District Nurse
  - iv. Ana O'Neill: JFK (Preschool) SLP
  - v. Jessica Smith: 4th Grade Special Educator
  - vi. Carlos Spigel: 5th Grade Teacher
  - vii. Jessica Riley: Preschool Teacher
- d. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
  - i. Superintendent Report
- e. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
  - i. Approval/Adoption: 2nd reading Policy #6146 Responsible use of Technology
  - ii. Approval/Adoption: 2nd reading Policy #4312 Electronic Communications Between Employees and Students

\*Motion to accept consent agenda

\*Steven-A few words of gratitude for Sara and administration for their hiring efforts in a challenging time.

\*Alex- I'm curious if we are tracking numbers and backgrounds of BIPOC applicants. \*Motion passes, 5-0

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

- a. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
  - i. Discussion: 1st Reading Policy # 3546 Capitalization of Assets

\*Board members were able to ask questions regarding the policy.

ii. Discussion: 1st Reading Policy# 3547 Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Procurement \*Board members were able to ask questions regarding the policy.

- iii. Discussion: 1st Reading Policy # 3548 Travel Reimbursement

\*Board members were able to ask questions regarding the policy.

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

- a. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Conditions and Activities
  - i. Discussion/Approval: Copier Bid

\*Nicole sent out a memo of a lease set to expire at the end of September for our copier. We went out with a bid along with other school districts and the lowest bid came from Symquest and the price will allow the district to replace all existing copiers and add an additional copier. The lease includes service and supplies.

\*Motion to accept Copier Bid as outline in Finance Manager, Nicole Mace's memo including both recommended motions

\*Steven-Thank you Nicole.

\*Alex-We have Symquest at my job and I can use the copier without problems.

\*Kamal-We use Symquest at my job and I have heard nothing but good things.

\*Motion passes, 5-0

- ii. Update: Transportation Bid

\*In response to transportation, we have received 1 bid from STA and the bid pricing came in under budget. We will continue our current routes and add an additional route for those who live  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile or more. For the bus drivers, we have 4 drivers who have completed 2 weeks of coursework and are getting ready for final testing.

\*Steven-Is this for full year busing?

- b. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
  - i. Presentation/Approval: City of Winooski Easement Request

\*Jon presented about the new main street project. All utilities will be underground and will be replaced.

Some new items to be added are a sidewalk on the right side, trees for shade and a bike lane. Some items that are needed include going out to bid and going to each property owner to sign off on temporary and permanent easements. Looking for approval and authorization on temporary easements. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions.

\*Motion to authorize, execute temporary easement and permanent easement for the Main St.

Landing project

\*Motion passes, 5-0

ii. Update: Personnel Hiring Updates (Kevin Dirth/Sarah Haven)

\*Kevin-contracts are in so it's good to see the open positions. We have had a good experience with the hiring process.

\*Sarah shared a spreadsheet of the position status of the district. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions.

iii. Discussion/Approval: Request for non-resident student to register for WSD

c. Policy Title: 2.9 Race and Equity

i. Suggestions/Discussion: Student Voice and Leadership Team

\*Kevin talked about an update on student voice. They have 4 current suggestions: town meetings for the middle school, community meetings for the high school, continue to put students on hiring committees, culture and community capstone class (students involved in governance) having student government involved in the school board. Board members had an opportunity to ask questions. ii.

Discussion: Presentation of Equity Audit

\*Iris and Etai from Opportunity Consulting presented the findings of the equity audit that was done in parallel with the city of Winooski. They talked about different themes such as diversity, equity and inclusion in Winooski and promising community engagement and inclusion practices. They also discussed the outcomes of the different themes. There were 7 different themes. Etai then discussed some recommendations such as student transportation and extend the community liaisons from the WSD to the city. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions.

## **8. Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):**

a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board

i. Newsletter Topics

ii. Board Committee Updates

## **9. Next Agenda:**

a. Venue for next meeting

i. In Person/Hybrid: WSD Cafeteria

b. Tour of the new construction

## **10. Upcoming Important Dates:**

## **11. Executive Session:**

a. Personnel

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

**13. Adjourn:** 9:02 pm