

Winooski School Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 6:30pm WSD Library Learning Commons or via Zoom

Zoom Login: https://wsdvt.zoom.us/j/87380690607

Policy Title 1.0 Ends Statement: 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.

- 1. Call to Order:
 - a. Meeting called to order by Robert Millar @ 6:30
- 2. Agenda Review and Adjustments: None
- 3. Recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month:
 - a. Hispanic Heritage Month begins on 9/15.
- 4. Public Comments: None
- 5. Consent Agenda: (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Regular School Board Meeting: June 12, 2023
 - ii. Regular School Board Meeting: August 9, 2023
 - iii. Special Board Meeting: August 2, 2023
 - iv. Special Board Meeting: August 21, 2023
 - b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Approval of Bills

- c. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - i. Superintendent Report
 - 1. Motion made by Steven Berbeco to move superintendent report for further discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
 - 2. Steven reiterates that the report is clear and gives a good understanding of the day to day, strengths and areas being worked on. It is noted that the chart on items discussed in the previous meeting is appreciated.
 - 3. Steven would like to discuss plans for SRO & significant community involvement that he would like to see. This discussion is suggested for a future agenda.
 - 4. Wilmer clarified that Steven would like discussion on what was in the report and further clarification. That it would be better to have warning of conversation for community members.
 - 5. Wilmer agrees with Steven and Robert
 - 6. Motion to accept report made by Robert. Motion passes 5-0.
- d. Policy Title 2.1: Treatment of Students, Parents/Guardians & Community
 - i. Monitoring Report

*Motion made by Nicole to accept Consent Agenda without the Superintendent Report. Motion passes 5-0.

- **6.** Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (75 minutes)
 - a. Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting
 - i. Ratify WEA Agreement
 - 1. Agreement has been ratified by teachers.
 - 2. Steven moves to ratify the WEA agreement.
 - 3. Nicole would like to know if there are significant language changes and inquired about wage increases.
 - 4. Robert shares increased planning time for JFK. He notes the wage increases by 6% the first year and 8.5% in the second year.
 - 5. Changes to the initial salary placement language are noted and presented to the board members by Robert.
 - 6. Motion made by Steven to ratify agreement and have the Board President, Robert Millar, sign on behalf of the board. Motion passes 5-0.
 - b. Policy Title: 2.9 Race and Equity
 - i. Appointment of Board Member to ARSC
 - 1. Isaiah moves to nominate himself to be part of the ARSC.
 - 2. Robert asks for other nominations.
 - 3. No other nominations were made.
 - 4. Robert appoints Isaiah to be part of the ARSC.
- 7. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (75 Minutes)
 - a. Policy Title: 4.8 Governance Investment
 - i. VSBA Policy Governance Training
 - 1. Policy Governance training facilitated by Debbie Singiser. All materials related to this training can be found by accessing this link.
 - b. Policy Title: 4.1 Governing Style
 - i. Discussion of VSBA Resolutions

- 1. The WSD Board submitted a student mental health resolution
- 2. Nicolet stated that the VSBA uses proposals to go to a committee and give recommendations. She gave a brief overview of the process and states that she would defer to the VSBA process as they have input for the entire state and there is no need for WSD to duplicate that work.
- 3. Steven, Kamal and Isaiah are all in agreement with Nicole's thoughts on the process.
- ii. Selection of Voting Delegate for VSBA Annual Conference
 - 1. Robert needs to delegate a representative to the conference.
 - 2. Steven makes a motion to nominate Robert as a board delegate for the conference with he and Isaiah serving as alternates if needed.
 - 3. Robert asks for additional nominations. None are given.
 - 4. Motion passes 5-0
- c. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
 - i. Policy Second Read
 - 1. C15 Student Conduct and Discipline
 - a. Wilmer speaks with the board and recommends that the board not approve at this time but instead consider this a second read to discuss procedures linked to the policy
 - b. Wilmer gives background that the original policy was held up due to a discussion around the terms "equitable vs. fair". This discussion tabled the approval of the original policy.
 - c. Nicole notes that she is thankful for Wilmer's work and asks Kamal for background information on why procedures were included in the policy?
 - d. Steven asks for clarification on Wilmers suggestion to consider this a second read instead of an adoption.
 - e. Wilmer confirms that he would like more time to work with principals and stakeholders to gather more information prior to adoption of this policy. He recommends a 3rd read prior to approval.
 - f. Nicole makes a motion to direct the Superintendent to confer with stakeholders to finalize the policy for a 3rd read/approval.
 - g. Motion passes 5-0
 - ii. Policy Second Read and Approval for Adoption
 - 1. F3 Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drills
 - a. Motion made by Robert to approve policy for adoption.
 - b. Motion passes 5-0
 - 2. F4 Access Control and Visitor Management
 - a. Motion made by Isaiah to approve policy for adoption.
 - b. Motion passes 5-0
 - 3. C2 Student Alcohol and Substance Misuse
 - a. Clarification is made to the board that they are adopting VSBA policy.
 - b. Robert notes that prior to publishing the policy the second paragraph should be updated to read substance misuse.
 - c. Motion made by Steven to approve policy for adoption

d. Motion passes 5-0

- 4. C4 Non-English Language Background
 - a. Motion by Nicole to approve policy for adoption and asks for discussion.
 - b. Nicole asks for Wilmers thoughts on this policy and if the board should take more time before approving.
 - c. Wilmer notes that there is an improvement with this policy as it defines an english learner. He states that he is not concerned about this policy and the policy gives power to the administrators to create procedures.
 - d. Motion passes 5-0
- iii. Policy Rescinds:
 - 1. WSD Policy #5114(b) Student Alcohol and Drug Use
 - 2. WSD Policy #6172 Non-English Language Background
 - a. Motion made by Nicole to rescind Policy #5114(b) and Policy 6172.
 - b. Motion passes 5-0
- iv. Policy First Reads
 - 1. B1 Substitute Professional Staff Employment
 - a. Wilmer notes that highlighted areas are new ideas.
 - b. Steven asks for high school requirement state law.
 - c. Nicole states that it is not a state law.
 - d. Robert asks if this precludes someone with a GED
 - e. Wilmer will look into Robert's questions and have more information for the second read.
 - f. No further discussion by the board on this policy
 - 2. C5 Firearms
 - a. Robert notes that we have a weapons policy but not firearms. Inquires about knives and other weapons.
 - b. Wilmer states that we have a separate safety policy plan that includes weapons other than firearms.
 - c. Steven asks if we are required to provide services to those expelled.
 - d. Robert notes that there is information regarding this question under definitions and in the old policy.
 - e. Wilmer will look into these questions and have feedback for the second policy read.
 - 3. C13 Students Who are Homeless
 - a. It is noted by the board that this is an entirely new policy.
 - b. Steven appreciates the VSBA for titling the policy Students who are homeless instead of homeless students.
 - c. Nicole notes that WSD has a liaison for the homeless and notes having a policy with related procedures for all members to view would help settle fears and provide knowledge of the rights the students have.
 - d. Wilmer suggests that we add a line to the policy, "a student who is homeless follows the same definition as a homeless student"
- d. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
 - i. Discussion: Future of HOW (Heart of Winooski)

- 1. The board discussed the history of the HOW foundation different roles it played in the district with respect to engagement and gifts.
- 2. Discussion around the benefits of the foundation and if we feel we have the resources and ability to support this foundation.
- 3. Wilmer will look into the points raised during the board discussion and work to bring answers back to the board. In the meantime board members for HOW will need to be recruited so the foundation can carry out its remaining obligations.
- e. Policy Title: 4.5 Agenda Planning
 - i. Approve Annual Agenda and Goals
 - 1. Motion made by Isaish to approve the Annual Agenda Plan
 - 2. Motion passes 5-0
 - ii. Discussion: Board Retreat Agenda
 - 1. The board held a discussion of what they felt would be most beneficial during the board retreat.

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

- a. Discussion: Recent Community Activities by Board
 - i. (Assign) Newsletter Topics and Due Dates
 - 1. Nicole will write the newsletter for the November edition
 - 2. An email will be shared with the board members for who will write articles for the following months.
 - ii. Group Photo for Publication
 - iii. Budget Buddy Recruitment
 - 1. The board discussed budget buddy recruitment and what that will look for the the budget buddy.
 - 2. Steven asked if there would be interest in having a student as a budget buddy. Robert confirms that this is fine.

9. Next Agenda: (5 Minutes)

a. Steven asks that a discussion of the SRO be added to the next agenda.

10. <u>Upcoming Important Dates:</u>

- a. September 14 Early Dismissal K-12, No PreK
- b. September 15 Veggie VanGo
- c. September 18 JFK Picture Day
- d. September 25 No Afterschool Activities
- e. October 6 Veggie VanGo
- f. October 11 Regular School Board Meeting
- g. October 14 Board Retreat

11. Executive Session: None

12. Possible Action from Executive Session: None

13. Adjourn:

- a. Motion made by Kaml to adjourn meeting
- b. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:27pm