

Winchester Board of Education

Type of Meeting: Regular BOE Meeting Agenda

Date: May 11, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Location: In-Person - Town Hall - Hicks Room

Meeting Facilitator: Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent
Doug Pfenninger, BOE Chairman

Members: Nora Mocarski, Kristin Peterson, Richard Dutton, Alexandria Propfe, Cheryl McGlynn, Michelle Hintz, Shana DeVaux, and Tara Sundie

- I. Call to order: 7:20pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll call:
 - A. BOE Present: Doug Pfenninger, BOE Chair, Nora Mocarski, BOE Secretary, Richard Dutton, Kristin Peterson, Alexandria Propfe, Michelle Hintz, Tara Sundie, Shana DeVaux
 - B. BOE Absent: Cheryl McGlynn (excused), Tara Sundie (excused), Shana DeVaux, (unexcused)
 - C. Central Office: Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley, Nancy O’Dea-Wyrick, Director of Business Services and Finance, Seamus Cullinan, Director of Student Services
 - D. Administration: Principal B. Silvero, Principal Rosanne Fields
- IV. Agenda Review Discussion Possible Action:
 - a) Regular Board of Education Agenda: May 11, 2021
MOTION to subtract Item C under presentations to push to the Curriculum Committee Agenda
First: N. Mocarski, Second: M. Hintz → U.
- V. Comments from the Chairman:

None.
- VI. Presentations:
 - a) Learning Model for the 2021-2022 School Year - MBS
Winchester Public Schools will open fully for education in line with the direction from the State Department of Education.
 - b) Restructuring of the Department of Student Services - MBS
Assistant Director of Curriculum placed at The Gilbert School to support the largest Special Education population in the District. Case in point, Seamus Cullinin has conducted over 150 PPTs in the past year. And over 350 PPTs are conducted in PreK-6. This is to allow for Mr. Cullinan to continue developing the department.

Operations Manager to analyze, direct, and oversee the WPS reporting systems and communicate with the SDE. Financial background. Five years minimum experience. Anticipated savings \$18,196.00. Further savings could be realized by developing programs in-house that can reduce outplacements.
 - c) ~~Transitioning from Commissioner’s Network Support to Independent Programming—MBS~~
 - d) Update on ESY Planning and Programming - SC
Five years ago ESY was 15-20 students. Since, assessments are conducted to determine who should attend ESY. This year we have invited over 90 students to ESY due to the

amount of need. We are expecting 79 students and 30 staff/faculty. Critical initiative because of loss due to COVID and “summer slide.” This is during the month of July. 13 of our Special Education students will be sent to The Gilbert ESY program for credit recovery. Itinerant services are also available (ie. Reading or OT or PT services only for fewer hours).

VII. Public Hearing:

Five minutes allotted to each speaker per Board Policy #9325 No BOE employee, Students or community members should be defamed within a public comment.

None.

VIII. Consent Agenda Items Discussion Possible Action:

- a) Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting – April 20, 2021
- b) Minutes of Policy and ByLaws Meeting – April 27, 2021 - Canceled
- c) Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting – April 27, 2021 - Canceled

MOTION to approve the Minutes of the Regular BOE meeting from April 20, 2021.

First, N. Mocarski Second: R. Dutton → U.

IX. Gilbert Report from Board of Education Representative:

Kristen Peterson and Richard Dutton reported.

Replacing the telephone system at The Gilbert School. There is no determination of cost or timeline at this time. Question raised if Serio has or will apply for the School Security Grant. This grant could be used as an alternative funding source provided that the semi-private school is eligible for it.

Roof bid awarded

MOU on Special Education between WPS and The School Corporation is upcoming.

New Head of Schools as of 7/1/2021 - Greg Shugrue

The Gilbert School Graduation and prom dates established

8th grade Promotion Night will be live-streamed

May 19, 2021 is the next Gilbert School Corporation Meeting, student scholarships to be awarded at this meeting.

X. Correspondence to the Board:

Letter from Mutual Link received by the Chairman of the Board.

XI. Superintendent’s Reports & Action Items Discussion Possible Action:

a) Superintendent’s Report

Page 11 was read into the record.

The Social Worker position was filled,

SBAC revealed some needs for remote students to reenter the school setting next year

New Commissioner of Education is not officially appointed but the acting Commissioner is Charlene Russel Tucker

b) School Enrollment

528 as of this meeting. More registrations are coming in as a whole vis-a-vis Homeschooled students are returning.

c) Chronic Absences

Numbers are getting better, but expecting the data to ebb and flow because of possible COVID cases in the future. Our attendance is probably “average” when comparing to State numbers.

d) Gilbert Enrollment & Grade Level Enrollment

424 for March.

e) Monthly Budget Summary

Year-end projection is at \$48,000. Grant funding - we are trying to take advantage of maximizing the carryover for next year.

We were just awarded a \$20,000 grant from the State of Connecticut. Special Education grant. We allotted the full amount. Has to be spent by September 30, 2021.

We did get the amount for American Rescue Funds. 20% has to go to academic recovery.

Pearson bathroom renovation photos were shared. Second floor bathroom should be completed by the end of this week and they are removing up to the third floor thereafter. Breakless mirrors are backordered. Larger tiles for less grout which attracts dirt and dark stalls to discourage graffiti.

f) Monthly Hinsdale Report

Happy to report that Hinsdale construction is well underway. Workers are in the building. The fence around the property is up. Capping off all the mechanicals is underway to continue their work. Getting ready to cut holes in the floor to send piping. Abatement should be done this week. Destruction of the two story structure should be done by June. This will happen while the digging for the new foundation should be underway.

May 20th for ground breaking at 10am at Hinsdale. Invitations sent.

g) Updates on the Pearson Bathrooms (pictures)

XII. Board Action Items:

a) New Hires

Paraprofessional, a Library Media Specialist, a new Social Worker at The Gilbert School

XIII. New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

a) 2nd -Read Policy # 4113.6/4213.6 - Remote Work/Telecommuting

MOTION to approve Policy #4113.6/4213.6

First: N. Mocarski Second: R. Dutton → U.

b) CAFE Express District Membership for BOE Members Professional Development - \$400.00

Annual

Membership Fee

K. Peterson discussed the benefits of the membership including training of Board members. \$400 gives the entire board access to most of the programs offered by CAFE, i.e. legislative updates, webinars on equity, etc. MBS supports this initiative and funding.

MOTION to approve \$400.00 for CAFE Express District Membership for WPS

First: R. Dutton, Second: M. Hintz → U.

c) Schedule Melony Brady-Shanley, End of Year Evaluation

Wednesday, May 26, 3pm @ Oak Street School

XIV. Adjourn:

MOTION to adjourn at 8:25pm ,

First: K. Peterson, Second: N. Mocarski, → U.