

Winchester Board of Education

Type of Meeting: Regular BOE Meeting Agenda

Date: February 9, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Location: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7966671341?pwd=OGh4c1haZkkvcGJ2UHVtZXo4M0VDbz09>

Phone: 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 796 667 1341

Passcode: 12345

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: at 7:01 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll call:

BOE Members Present: Richard Dutton, Michelle Hintz, Cheryl McGlynn, Nora Mocarski, Kristin Peterson, Doug Pfenninger, Alexandria Propfe, and Tara Sundie.

Absent: Shana DeVaux.

Central Office Members Present: M. Brady-Shanley, Superintendent of Schools, Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick, Director of Business and Finance, Seamus Cullinan, Director of Student Services, R. Fields, Principal of Batcheller, and B. Silverio, Principal of Pearson School

IV. Agenda Review Discussion Possible Action:

- a) Regular Board of Education Agenda: February 9, 2021
None.

V. Comments from the Chairman:

Ten months ago, Governor Lamont and Commissioner of Education Cardona came to Winchester to support the opening of in-person learning. And so far, Winchester has been in person for all but 11 days for instruction. Our curriculum is pretty well on-track. Kudos to the administration, teachers, staff, parents, and students to promote and engage in in-person learning.

VI. Presentations:

Special guests include Ms. Iris White, Turnaround Consultant, who has worked with us and our Commissioners Network grant, and Ms. Lisa Lamenzo, Division Director from the turnaround office at the State Department of Education. PowerPoint shared (Slides 1-8).

They recognized the administrative leadership, teacher, faculty, staff, parents, and students. Turn around is possible and proven right here in Winchester.

The investments have resulted in progress and can be proven with the Accountability Index and Academic Progress, and Cultural and Climate vis-a-vis attendance.

Next Steps: Audit findings - Network School Exit Audit Report and they note sustainability is at the core of both schools improvement plans, so they look forward to continuing the work.

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 Ad Hoc Meeting - December 17, 2020
- b) Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting – January 12, 2021
- c) Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting – January 26, 2021
- d) Minutes of Policy and ByLaws Meeting – January 26, 2021
- e) Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting – January 26, 2021

MOTION to approve minutes above from a) through e) as presented.

First: K. Peterson, Second: C. McGlynn → U.

IX. Gilbert Report from Board of Education Representative

K. Peterson and R. Dutton shared comments from the Gilbert School Corporation, including the appointment of Astrid Robelli to the Gilbert School Corporation absent seat. Other discussions included the impacts of COVID and a discussion of capital projects.

X. Correspondence to the Board:

None.

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

a) Superintendent's Report

Pages 20-21 were read into the record.

A question on when staff will be vaccinated - Answer: Several staff members fall under the 65 years +, so some have selected to be vaccinated, but others have declined. We will have to wait about a month with this age group, and then teachers will be after that. Perhaps this will be in mid-March. But it is expected to be longer than that

The New Town Manager will begin in April.

There was a mix of persons interested in bids for Hinsdale - both general contractors and subcontractors

b) School Enrollment

Holding steady at 533.

c) Chronic Absences

The state is not putting out attendance numbers, but Winchester is consistent with other districts in the state.

d) Gilbert Enrollment & Grade Level Enrollment

422 Winchester students are enrolled at The Gilbert School. This number represents ten fewer students in August.

Twenty-one international students are enrolled at The Gilbert School.

e) Monthly Budget Summary

● Fiscal Year 2021

We are in the “black” by \$129,794 at this point in the Appropriated Budget school year.

Grants are in the black at this time at \$205,408.

The “Meals Count” - a monthly comparison report has been created for the Board
Foodservice budget is in the black by \$25,515.

XII. Discussion:

None.

XIII. Board Action Items:

a) New Hires

Ms. Julia Cardillo has been hired as Student Services Financial Executive Assistant. Seamus Cullinan, Director of Student Services, recognized Linda for her long-term service to the Winchester District. Her financial knowledge, as well as knowledge of the district, helped to turn around this district.

Erica Monroe has been hired as a Building Substitute at Batcheller.

b) Extension of Oak Street School Lease Agreement - \$77,200.00

RATIONALE for recommending the lease agreement for the 2021-2022 school year: Students ages 16 and below currently will not be vaccinated. The vaccination for adults is not moving as quickly as expected. Superintendent Brady-Shanley would like to continue social distancing. Per Board Chair, we are committing to more than \$77,000 because of the operational costs, but Covid is not going anywhere.

Per Superintendent Brady-Shanley, operational costs and staffing costs associated with this will be funded outside of ESSER II funds. Its use is in alignment with the design of these funds.

MOTION to lease Oak Street School for the 2021-2022 school year.

First: C. McGlynn, Second: K. Peterson → U.

XIV. New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

a) Policies Second Read

1) Policy # 4111.3 Minority Recruitment

MOTION to accept Policy \$4111.3 as presented.

First: T. Sundie, Second: R. Dutton → U.

b) Policies First Read

1) Policy # 5141.4(a) Reporting of Child Abuse

Policy #5141 is a combined version here, and regulations are included in the policy here. We will move this into a second read and approval at our next BOE meeting

XV. Executive Session

a) Update on Gilbert Negotiations

MOTION to move into Executive Session at 7:48 pm and inviting Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley 7:48 → U.

First: K. Peterson, Second: C. McGlynn → U.

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 8:11 pm.

First: C. McGlynn, Second: K. Peterson → U.

XVI. Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn at 8:11 pm.

First: A. Propfe, Second K. Peterson → U.

Minutes submitted by: N. Mocarski, BOE Secretary.