

Winchester Board of Education

Type of Meeting: Regular BOE Meeting Agenda - Amended

Date: December 8, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

Location: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7966671341?pwd=OGh4c1haZkkvcGJ2UHVtZXo4M0VDdz09>

Phone: 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 796 667 1341

Passcode: 12345

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

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

I. Call to order at 7:03pm

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

BOE Members Absent: Shana DeVaux

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

IV. Agenda Review Discussion Possible Action:

a) Regular Board of Education Agenda: December 8, 2020

MOTION to add correspondence to the Winchester Board of Education from CABA

First: D. Pfenninger, Second: N. Mocarski → U.

V. Comments from the Chairman

None.

VI. Presentations

None.

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 – November 10, 2020

b) Minutes of Curriculum Meeting – November 24, 2020

c) Minutes of Policy Meeting – November 24, 2020

d) Minutes of Finance Meeting – November 24, 2020

e) Minutes of Ad Hoc Meeting - November 12, 2020

MOTION to approve all minutes above a) through e)
First: K. Peterson, Second: N. Mocarski → U.

IX. Gilbert Report from Board of Education Representative

No one in attendance.

X. Correspondence to the Board:

CABE recognition of the Winchester School's Facebook Page.
Congratulations expressed to the district for such a recognition.

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

- a) Superintendent's Report was read into the record, pp. 14-15.
Walkthroughs continue to be critical for the district.
- b) School Enrollment
531 - Holding steady.
- c) Chronic Absences
Figures do not look good on paper because of quarantining measures due to COVID.
We are at 25% average daily attendance is good. We are averaging about 93% across the district.
- d) Gilbert Enrollment & Grade Level Enrollment
There is an error on the paper - 22 international
427 Gilbert enrollment
- e) Monthly Budget Summary
 - Fiscal Year 2020
Non-lapsing amount of \$362,912 was accepted by the Winchester Board of Selectmen.
Currently, there is \$17,525 which will be added to \$362,912 to the total non-lapsing fund.
 - Fiscal Year 2021
Appropriated budget is currently at \$37,006 as of November 30, 2020
While there are some CARES Act monies available for repairs, these are big ticket items
Heating and PPE are largest costs
- f) Update on In-Person vs. Distance Learning Numbers
In-person learning v. distance learning numbers are consistent. There hasn't been a huge swing.
- g) Cares & Esser Grant Update
CARES - \$152K access to as a reimbursement grant covers from March to December 31st. This was awarded in November after we applied in October. This is to offset facility costs i.e. Custodial and Nurse at Oak Street. \$114K spent so far.
CARES ESSER fund - \$192K covers obligations that go through this school year.
We have spent 137K so far. This went to PPE and cleaning supplies at the start of the year as well as some equipment to facilitate distance learning.

BOE Question: Do we have enough for the rest of the year? No. Supplies line on the appropriated budget line matters here.
BOE has the ability to use the non-lapsing funds at our discretion, but these are already targeted for non-operational costs.
- h) Update on Pearson Bathroom & Water Fountain RFP
Six bids have come in showing good interest in the project. Still sifting through the details of each bid. The monies in the grant are enough to cover the bid.

XII. Discussion:

a) Address any BOE questions related to COVID and in-person learning

There was a positive case at the 6th grade level today. Therefore, 6th grade will go to remote learning as of tomorrow until Christmas break Returning January 4th. This is due to an inability to staff.

The BOE Chair expressed his thank you to Melony Brady-Shanley and the administration for their efforts in working through this difficult time. And to note for the Board and Community to be aware that there is an extensive process that goes into action if there is a positive case in the building. The hours involved are extensive. For example, today there were 20 different phone calls that had to be made for contact tracing and then staff and faculty had to be contacted, as did the Department of Public Health, the Department of Education, Winsted town officials, and parents, etc. on this one instance alone.

COVID seems to be spreading through in-home transmission. COVID is not spreading in the school system.

b) Preliminary DRAFT Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Revenue

Changes will come on the grant side. Keeping the appropriated amount the same for now. We are counting on items for grants. See page 25. Note that we expect a revenue deficit of \$577,761 because of the reduction of grants. Ex. No more Commissioner's Network grant. CN does not extend into a 6th year.

c) Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Calendar

Page 26 was shared.

XIII. Board Action Items:

a) New Hires

Speech and Language Pathologist was hired due to a high need
Para educator was hired at Batcheller. This person is bilingual

XIV. New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

a) Policies – Second Read

1) Policy # 3517 Security of Buildings and Grounds

MOTION to adopt Policy #3517

First: D. Pfenninger. Second: C. McGlynn → 7-0-1

2) Policy # 3516 Safe and Secure School Facilities, Equipment & Grounds

MOTION to adopt Policy #3516

First: C. McGlynn, Second: T. Sundie → 7-0-1

3) Policy #4118.112 Sex Discrimination and Sexual harassment in the Workplace

MOTION to approve

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

b) Policies - First Read

1) Policy # 4111.3 Minority Recruitment

MOTION to table and move back to First Read.

First: D. Pfenninger, Second: C. McGlynn → U.

2) Policy # 4116 Probationary / Tenure Status

MOTION to move to Second Read:

First: C. McGlynn Second: D. Pfenninger → U.

3) Policy # 7100 New Construction Planning

MOTION to move to the Second Read

First: C. McGlynn Second: R. Dutton → U.

4) Policy # 4118.16a Rights, Responsibilities, and Duties

MOTION to move to Second Read:

First: C. McGlynn, Second: T. Sundie → U.

c) Grant Application - Low Performing School Bond Funding for Technology

1. Submitted 12/1/2020

a. We applied.

2. Application amount - \$156,150

3. Paraprofessional Chromebooks, Student Chromebooks, Headphones with microphones and protective cases for Chromebooks. Some of our Chromebooks are at the end of life so this grant should help replace these items. A technology recycling program is being used for those Chromebooks that die.

XV. Executive Session:

a) Discussion of Gilbert Negotiations

MOTION to move into Executive Session at 8:05pm inviting M. Brady-Shanley, Superintendent of Schools and Nancy O’Dea-Wyrick, Director of Business and Finance.

First: C. McGlynn, Second: N. Mocarski → U.

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 8:24 pm.

First: D. Pfenninger, Second: C. McGlynn → U.

XVI. Adjourn:

MOTION to adjourn at 8:24pm

First: C. McGlynn, Second: R. Dutton → U.

Submitted by: N. Mocarski, WBOE Secretary.