

Winchester Board of Education

Type of Meeting: Regular BOE Meeting MINUTES

Location: Town Hall – Hicks Room

Date: April 9, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Call to order @ 7:00am

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call

Present:

Winchester Board of Education:

S. DeVaux (@7:22 pm), R. Dutton, C. Heffernan, M. Hintz, N. Mocarski, K. Peterson, D. Pfenninger, A. Propfe, C. Royer

District/Central Office Staff:

M. Brady-Shanley, Superintendent, N. O’Dea-Wyrick, Director of Finance & Business Services, S. Cullinan, Director of Student Service, Barbara Silverio, Principal of Pearson School, Rosanne Field, Principal of Batcheller School

Agenda Review Discussion Possible Action:

a) Regular Board of Education Agenda: April 9, 2019

MOTION to add to the agenda a letter regarding Substitute Bill # 874 (SB #874) “Testimony in Support of Section 6 of Proposed Substitute Bill No. 874 An Act Concerning Education Initiatives and Services in Connecticut by Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools”

FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: M. Hintz → U.

MOTION to add to the agenda discussion of possible “Contribution of increase line item to Gilbert tuition” after the “Executive Session.”

FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: M. Hintz → U.

Comments from the Chairman

a) 250 years Winchester, 50 years Earth Day

The Board Chair hoped that the curriculum would recognize the occasion of 250 years of Winchester in some small way.

Principals Silverio and Field described plans to recognize “Earth Day” with analysis of protecting the species, particularly honeybees.

The Board recognized those adults and students who did a tremendous job at producing a very successful “Alice and Wonderland” this past month

Hinsdale Renovation architects were very informative at the first meeting at Pearson

Next Hinsdale Workshop scheduled Thursday, April 11 at 7 pm @ Pearson

Presentations:

a) 3rd Quarter Financial Report

N. O’Dea-Wyrick presented [Handout] - We are \$37,117 “in the black” at the end of the 3rd quarter due to in-house savings realized from faculty hires and Medicaid reimbursements.

Object #560 Special Education Out of District Tuition line item is over by \$286,596 due to Special Education students moving into the district. To be remedied by a request to move line items #340 and #512 to Object #560 if approved.

Discussion of the rationale for moving Object #011 to #430 included need to complete internal painting Pearson and discussion of the rationale for moving Object #200 included need to purchase collaborate furniture to support instructional strategies.

MOTION to transfer Line item # 340 \$150,000 of “Special Ed Contracted Services” to 560 “Special Ed Out of District Tuition” and item #512 \$100,000 “Special Ed EX cost Out of District Transportation” to #560 “Special Ed Out of District Tuition” and item # 011 \$75,000 “Wages” to #430 “Maintenance & Repairs Pearson” and #200 \$50,000 “Benefits” to #738 “Collaborative classroom furniture”

FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: N. Mocarski → U.

Public Hearing:

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

None.

Consent Agenda Items Discussion Possible Action:

- a) Minutes of Regular BOE Meeting – March 12, 2019
- b) Minutes of Special Meeting – March 21, 2019
- c) Minutes of Policy Meeting – March 26, 2019
- d) Minutes of Curriculum Meeting – March 26, 2019
- e) Minutes of Special Meeting – April 3, 2019

MOTION to amend the “Policy Committee Minutes” to include “R. Dutton” to the “Invitees” listed above.

FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: K. Peterson. → U.

MOTION to approve all the minutes, items a) through e), with the amended change made in the first motion that included “R. Dutton” to the Invitee list in the “Policy Committee Meeting Minutes” [Page 9]

FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: R. Dutton → U.

Correspondence to the Board:

- a) State of CT waiver request letter [pages 15-19]
The State of Connecticut, again for the fourth time, waived the repayment of \$144,173 that would have been due April 30, 2019. There is one more repayment that remains due as required under Section 304(a) of Public Act 15-5 as discussed on page 16 of the BOE packet.
- b) 2019 Connecticut 4-H Leadership Award – R. Manzer [page 20]
- c) Report on Hinsdale Renovation Public Session
Superintendent Brady-Shanley will work with Nancy O’Dea-Wyrick to videotape the next Hinsdale workshop that will take place on Thursday, April 11 at 7 pm @ Pearson. This will be made available for the community.

Superintendent’s Reports & Action Items Discussion Possible Action:

- a) Superintendent’s Report was read [pp. 21-22]
Grade 6 to 7 transition plans for students are underway.

Pearson playground has been busy on the weekends.

Five families attended the Internet Safety Presentation at Pearson School

We expect 46 students for the P-K program. We have room for 46.

- b) School Enrollment
+1 student as of April 1. [page 23]
- c) Chronic Absences
Attendance is returning to normal levels. 6.9% for district [page 24]
- d) Gilbert Enrollment
As of 466 students + 48 international +3 Other District = 517 total enrollment. [page 25]
We are close to that number of 24 students where the 5% rule comes into play with enrollment.
- e) New Hire
Brenna Bourke will be the new Special Education teacher. This is a replacement hire. Brenna Bourke will be working at the Gilbert School [page 26-27]

Board Action Items:

- a) Approval to submit the School Readiness Grant
Presented in the amount of \$275,764.00 [p. 28-42]
- b) Approval of School Readiness Agreement
MOTION to approve of the School Readiness FY19 Community Proposal
FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: Michelle Hintz → U
- c) Approval of Healthy Food Certification
Presented and discussion of possible approval of the Healthy Food Certification [page 43]
MOTION to approve “A” as written on page 43 in “Healthy Food & Beverage Certifications 2019-2020 Winchester Board of Education”
FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: K. Peterson → U.
MOTION to approve “B” as written on page 43 in “Healthy Food & Beverage Certifications, 2019-2020 Winchester Board of Education”
FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: N. Mocarski → U.
MOTION to approve “C” as written on page 44 in “Healthy Food & Beverage Certifications, 2019-2020 Winchester Board of Education”
FIRST: S. DeVaux SECOND: A. Propfe → U.
- d) Approval of non-renewals as it relates to the reduction in force.
Discussion of reduction in force of 12.95 in FTEs due to budgetary constraints.
MOTION: Approval of non-renewal letters as presented on pages 46-53 of the Winchester Board of Education Packet.
FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U.
- e) NEW ACTION ITEM
Letter read aloud on Substitute Bill # 874 (SB #874) “Testimony in Support of Section 6 of Proposed Substitute Bill No. 874 An Act Concerning Education Initiatives and Services in Connecticut by Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools.”

MOTION to support submission of the letter on Substitute Bill # 874 (SB #874) “Testimony in Support of Section 6 of Proposed Substitute Bill No. 874 An Act Concerning Education Initiatives and Services in Connecticut by Melony Brady-Shanley, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools” for Section 6 of Proposed Substitute Bill No. 874”
FIRST: R. Dutton, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

- a) Policy #6142.101 – Student Nutrition & Physical Activity – 2nd Read
MOTION to adopt: FIRST: N. Mocarski, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U
- b) Policy #6200 – Adult Continuing Education – 2nd Read
MOTION to adopt: FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U
- c) Policy # 6114.1 – Fire Emergency Drills/Crisis Response Drills – 1st Read
We are already operating under this policy as is.
- d) Policy # 6159 – Individualized Education Program / Special Education – 1st Read
This policy is a more general policy as per CAFE and our attorney’s advice
- e) Policy # 6172.12 – Magnet Schools – 1st Read

Executive Session:

- a) Update on Gilbert Corporation / Winchester Public Schools Negotiations

MOTION to go into Executive Session and to invite Melony Brady-Shanley, 8:38 pm for the purposes of discussing the update on Gilbert Corporation / Winchester Public Schools Negotiations of discussing Gilbert.

FIRST: C. Royer, SECOND: M Hintz → U

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:25 pm

FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: A. Propfe → U.

MOTION to not accept the proposed financial resolution, which was not recommended by the Winchester Board of Education’s Finance Committee, to increase the Gilbert line to \$450,000 financed by a line item transfer of \$150,000 from the Winchester Public Schools and \$150,000 from the Town Budget and \$150,000 tax increase to the taxpayer and Gilbert would reduce their proposed budget to the Winchester Public Schools by \$150,000 and the Gilbert Trust would increase their funding to the Gilbert Corporation by \$57,000 as discussed in the Joint Finance Committee.

FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: C. Royer → U.

MOTION to direct Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley to increase The Gilbert School line item by \$300,000 as funded by, \$100,000 from the 1% Non-Lapsing Fund, pending permission from the Winsted Board of Selectmen, and as funded by \$50,000, pending a line item transfer within the Winchester Board of Education budget, and as funded by an increase to the Winchester Board of Education budget of \$150,000 for FY 2020.

FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: R. Dutton.

In favor: 6

Opposed: 3

Motion carries.

Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn at 9:28 pm

FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U.