

WINCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Type of Meeting: REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - MINUTES

Date: TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019

Location: P. FRANCIS HICKS ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, TOWN HALL – 7:00 P.M.

Board of Education (BOE) Members (in alphabetical order by last name): Shana DeVoux, Dr. Richard Dutton, Cheryl Heffernan, Michelle Hintz, Nora Mocarski, Secretary; Kristin Peterson, Doug Pfenninger, Chairman; Alexandria Propfe, Christine Royer

- I. CALL TO ORDER @ 7 pm
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL - Present: S. DeVoux, K. Peterson, A. Propfe, M. Hintz, D. Pfenninger, N. Mocarski, R. Dutton, C. Heffernan, S. Cullinan, Director of Student Service, M. Brady-Shanley, Superintendent., N. O’Dea-Wyrick, Director of Finance & Business Services, Pearson School, Barbara Silverio, Principal, Rosanne Field, Batcheller School Principal
  - A. Excused: C. Royer,
  - B. Unexcused: None.
- IV. STUDENT PRESENTATION
  - A. Students from the Pearson Drama Club and Show Choir sang three songs from the production of “Alice in Wonderland” for a Board of Education appreciation presentation. These students were directed by teacher Jacqueline Petriello and Theresa Padin.
- V. AGENDA REVIEW
  - A. MOTION
    1. to move “Public Hearing” before “Comments from the Chairman.”
    2. to strike from the agenda, “Bridges Math Presentation” under “Presentation.”
    3. to strike from the agenda, “Approval of Donation to the Critical Needs Fun from St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Kent” under “Board Action Items.”
    4. to add “Assistant” to “Approval of Custodial and Executive & Administrative Contracts.”
      - a) FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: M. Hintz, → U.
- VI. PUBLIC HEARING
  - A. Presentation by Dr. Jeffrey Kitching, Ed.D., Executive Director of EdAdvance on services [Handout]
  - B. EdAdvance would welcome a WBOE member to serve on their Executive Board.
- VII. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN
  - A. None.
- VIII. PRESENTATIONS
  - A. Batcheller & Pearson Mid-Year Audits - Principal Barb Silverio and Principal Roseanne Field
- IX. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
  - A. MOTION
    1. To change the “Minutes of Special BOE Meeting” from February 26, 2019, to read, “FIRST READ” of the following policies and thus, nullify the motion in the Agenda of February 26, 2019, that accepted these policies:
      - a) 5141.3 - Students Health & Immunization
      - b) 5141.4 - Reporting Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault
      - c) 5144.1 - Use of Physical Force

d) 5144.4 - Discipline

(1) FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: C. Heffernan → U.

B. MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

1. FIRST: C. Heffernan. SECOND: Dr. Dutton → U.

X. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

A. None.

XI. SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS

A. Superintendent's Report was delivered [PAGE 8]

B. School Enrollment was delivered [PAGE 9]

C. Chronic Absences were reported out [PAGE 10]. Pre-K is not included in this report because Pre-K is not mandatory per the State of Connecticut. Reporting is only K through 12.

D. Gilbert Enrollment presented as reported by Gilbert [PAGE 11]

XII. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. 2019-2020 Budget [HANDOUT of Presentation]

1. Presenting a 0% increase and we are asking for \$330,000 for town support for education.
2. Notification of any possible funds from the Commissioner's Network would be received by mail. It is the "E-Grants System" that delivers the money. Superintendent Brady-Shanley stated that we could not count on any monies until we see monies in the E-Grant System. Notification may not be until June. Variables that might impact whether Network monies will be received include a new Commissioner of Education. Superintendent Brady-Shanley stated that it would be irresponsible for our district to presume monies are coming from the Commissioner's Network when we do not have any guarantee that monies arrive at all.
3. Grant monies that are received must be spent on very specific items per grant agreements. Grants get written each year.
4. MOTION to adopt the 2019-2020 budget as presented for the Board of Selection.

(1) FIRST Dr. Dutton, SECOND M. Hintz. → U.

b) DISCUSSION before the vote:

- (1) Concern was expressed about the awkward timing of the negotiation process with Gilbert: How can it be that Gilbert approves their budget without first settling on the tuition amount with the Winchester Board of Education?
- (2) The Winchester Board is working on the assumption that the Selectmen and Town Manager will not accept any more than a zero percent.
- (3) Down the road, this negotiation process with Gilbert has to be fixed. With any other vendor, there would be a process. Here it appears that we are held, hostage. There has to be an end-date for negotiations.
- (4) It does not seem fair that a "Joint Finance Committee" between the Gilbert Trust and the Winchester Board of Education is to be formed to help, as it appears to the Winchester School System, to cut its budget
- (5) We have been asking for meetings. We have done our part.
- (6) The current contract does have a mediation process in the language.
- (7) The Gilbert Board has approved a \$657,000 (17% increase). The concern is that this increase will come out of the WBOE side.

B. Approval of Custodial and Executive & Administrative Assistant Contracts.

1. Custodial Contract as presented.

a) MOTION to approve: FIRST: Michelle, SECOND: Dr. Dutton. → U

2. Administrative Assistant Contract.

a) MOTION to approve: FIRST: C. Heffernan, SECOND: K. Peterson → U

XIII. NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Second Read

1. Policy #5141.3

a) For the record: Concern was shared by the Board Chair that exemptions allowed by families in this policy may also put the rest of the population at risk. This has shown to be problematic in districts in some states.

2. Policy #5141.4

3. Policy #5144.1

4. Policy #5144.4

a) MOTION to accept and adopt all four policies as presented.

(1) First: C. Heffernan, Second: S. DeVoux → U

B. First Read - the following policies will move to April for a second read:

1. Policy #6142.101 - Student Nutrition & Physical Activity. Necessary to adopt to receive federal aid. There were parts of this policy to pick from. So we selected an allowance for organizations outside the school day, for example, such as the PTO to sell pies during the Drama Production intermission.

2. Policy #6200 - Adult Continuing Education.

XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A. MOTION to adjourn at 9:06 pm

1. FIRST: M. Hintz, SECOND: A. Propfe → U