

WINCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Type of Meeting: REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - MINUTES

Date: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

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

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

Call to Order @ 7:10pm

Roll call:

Dr. Richard Dutton, Cheryl Heffernan, Michelle Hintz, Nora Mocarski, Secretary; Doug Pfenninger, Chairman; Alexandria Propfe,

Absent:

Jamie Duffy, Shana DeVoux, Christine Royer

Agenda Review Possible Action

None.

Comments from the Chairman:

Excused absence process: Please call the BOE Chair as a courtesy if absent before the meeting.

We must begin to think about expanding partnerships in the community to promote further success as a community. This includes working with Gilbert Board, the Board of Selectman in the development of a community-wide strategic vision for all grades, Pre-K through 12.

Presentations

New Enrollment Presentation - Melony Brady-Shanley - [BOE Packet page 3]

33 new families as of this report; Data includes where these families are living in the community.

These locations include diverse areas around our community, single and multi-housing units.

Some students left district: These were mostly students who have moved out of town or left the state.

SBAC Results [BOE Packet pp. 4-10]

Significant gains - Out of 188 educational entities, Winchester Public Schools is ranked #1 for most improved math scores and #19 for most improved reading scores. Recognition of all those who helped to contribute to the success of the district's success was made. These gains are a product of efforts of multiple individuals. Of particular note: Freeman Burr and Ellen Stoltz were present and recognized as key initiators leaders of our district's success.

Question from BOE: How much of that financial contributions played a role in this success? Answer: It was a combination of leadership and monies/resources to program for students.

The superintendent will seek the extension of the Commissioner Network funds.

Results by subgroup will be presented at a later BOE meeting.

Public Hearing

Bob Geiger, Town Manager to comment:

“We cannot have a great town without a great school.”

Freeman Burr to comment:

“Thank you to Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley for the invitation and kind remarks. It is appropriate to give credit to the faculty/staff [for the success of the district].” Both Burr and Stoltz appreciated the welcome they received when they were here working in the district and were happy they were able to build credibility and trust with those in the district. Commended the BOE for their leadership.

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes - Motion to approve: FIRST: Michelle Hintz, SECOND: Dr. Richard Dutton → Unanimous.

Correspondence to the BOE

Presented NIS-CT Audit successfully completed. [BOE Packet, page 16]

Superintendent’s Report & Action Items

Superintendent’s Report - [BOE Packet, page 17-18]

Superintendent Brady-Stanley attended a panel called, “Performance Matters” with the State of Connecticut. The focus was on data systems. Members of The Gilbert School attended as well.

Finance - The playground is to be completed in 2 weeks. Grand opening date TBD

Alliance Grant approved. Commissioner’s Network funds approved.

Funding for the Hinsdale steps is from state funding. They are to be built to code and ADA compliance. Completion date TBD

The RFP - Closed as of yesterday, 9/10/18. We have received six (6) valid submissions. The Building Committee is to review these on September 17, 2018.

School Climate Officer (SCO) is to work with students on how to play together on the playground. To teach passion and inclusivity. Will not be armed.

Meet & Greets were held. Pre-K - K Open Houses. We had many families from Pearson as well. Sign in sheets for families were used to provide a record of the number of families.

74 families from Pre-K to K transition.

We had approximately 150 families in Pearson.

We also had four (4) half days from the heat. 85% to 88% degree rooms. Portable A/Cs were placed in on the third floor at Pearson.

Enrollment - holding steady at 538 for the district. We were had 518 enrolled last August. We are pulling people back to our district.

Chronic Absences - Attn. Averages shared page 20.

New Hires [BOE Packet pp. 21-31]

Gilbert Enrollment - We have been asking for enrollment numbers on a monthly basis

As if September: 472 students enrolled at TGS.

44 international students and two students (2) from other school districts

Board Action Items - None.

Unfinished Business

Regarding the 1% - Upon closure of 2017-18 BOE budget - once all bills have been paid, this will transfer over to the 2018-2019 school year. The Board of Selectmen has approved the 1%.

New Business

Promotional SBAC Celebration Conversation: Discussion on how to share the good news about student performance gains on SBAC. Ideas included social media, perhaps a booth at the Fall Foliage Festival, a banner at Pearson, among others.

Quarterly Meeting with Gilbert - We should be meeting with Gilbert at least four times a year. These meetings are beyond those Winchester BOE members who serve on the regular Gilbert meetings. We need to get dates on the calendar with Gilbert to have this happen. Negotiation dates have not yet been established.

Those who serve on the Gilbert Board will address this at the next meeting with Gilbert.

Negotiation dates will be set up in conjunction with Superintendent Brady-Stanley and Dr. Serio.

Evaluation of the Board of Education Chairman: To speak into the microphone more, but otherwise he is doing an excellent job.

Executive Session - 8:12pm

MOTION to invite Seamus Cullinan and Melony Brady-Shanley to go into Executive Session for the purposes to discuss a confidential legal matter. → FIRST: Cheryl Heffernan, SECOND: Michelle Hintz. → Unanimous.

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 8:54 pm. → FIRST: Cheryl Heffernan, SECOND: Alexandria Propfe → Unanimous.

Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn at 8:55 pm. FIRST: Alexandria Propfe, SECOND: Cheryl Heffernan → Unanimous.

