

Winchester Board of Education
Type of Meeting: Board Of Education Meeting Minutes
Date: May 9, 2023, @ 7:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall – Hicks Room

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

Jeannette Brodeur, Salvatore Lovetere, Cheryl McGlynn, Nora Mocarski, Kristin Peterson, Sondra Strubhar, Tara Sundie, and Renata Waldron

I. Call to order: @ 7:02 pm Pledge of Allegiance:

II. Roll call: Jeannette Brodeur, Tara Sundie, Nora Mocarski, Doug Pfenninger, Melony Brady-Shanley, Cheryl McGlynn, Salvatore Lovetere, Sondra Strubhar, Renata Waldron, Kristin Peterson

III. Agenda Review Discussion Possible Action:
a) Board of Education Agenda: May 9, 2023

IV. Comments from the Chairman:

Doug welcomed visitors, Jeff Kitching from EdAdvance and Theresa Padin from our CHAMPS program. We look forward to their presentations tonight. Doug Pfenninger also wanted to comment on the performance of Annie and how it was amazing. We had some serious talent on the stage, and every kid had a great time. He also mentioned it's teacher appreciation week, and the Board does appreciate all the teachers and their hard work and dedication. We are very fortunate to have the great staff in our District and appreciate all they do.

V. Presentations:
a) CHAMPS - Summer Camp Presentation by Theresa Padin

Theresa Padin presented the CHAMPS Summer Camp Presentation

- Funding Source: ARP After School Grant
- Grant Amount: \$180,000 (split between the summer of 2022, and 2023, and expansion of programs in the 23/24 school year)
- WPS Students grades K-6 qualify for the program
- Partners:
 - Winsted Recreation Department
 - American Mural Project
 - NWCT YMCA/Camp Moe
 - Warner Theater* (New for 2023)
 - All-Star Transportation
- Up to 4 weeks offered to WPS Staff with 23 students attending WPS K-6 (Camp Moe and /or Winsted Rec Camp)

- Up to 3 weeks offered to 39 students from CHAMPS After School Enrichment (Camp Moe and/or Winsted Rec Camp)
- 54 students offered up to 2 weeks of Camp based on staff recommendations (Camp Moe and/or Winsted Rec Camp)
- 12 students offered one week of American Mural Project camp
- 15 students offer one session of Camp Rising Star
- 27 Drama Club students offered one week at Warner Theater Camp

Total students offered scholarships: 171

CHAMPS After Camp is offered. Pick up at Pearson School, Monday-Friday 3:30-6:00 pm, 6/26/23-8/11/23. \$5.00 per day.

Transportation provided from Rowley Street Rec Camp to Pearson

Camp Moe and Camp Rising Star bus drop off and pick up is at Pearson

This program is open to all Winchester Students attending any of the camps listed, not just those with scholarship offers.

b) EdAdvance Presentation - Jeff Kitching

Jeff Kitching, Executive Director, presented the EdAdvance Presentation

EdAdvance is a public, non-profit Regional Educational Service Center (RESC). EdAdvance exists to promote the success of school districts and their communities. Collaboratively with them, we provide educational and related services. A continuing commitment to quality and excellence is our standard of performance.

To achieve our mission, we are committed to the “Three Cs”: Connecting, Culture, and Customization

We service 29 School Districts; 32 Communities.

For Schools & Districts:

- Food Services
- Professional Learning & Instructional Coaching
- Program Research & Evaluation Services
- Skills21
- Special Education Programs
- Transition Services
- Transportation Services

For Students & Families:

- BASES (Before and After School Extended Services)
- Birth to three
- Community and Home Supports for Individuals with Disabilities

- Early Childhood and Family Programs
- Family Resource Centers & School Readiness Programs
- Head Start and Early Head Start
- Summer School and Extended School year Programs.

Specialized Services for Communities and Schools:

- Human Resources, Talent Recruitment, and Staffing Solutions
- Integrated Business and Operations Support
- Marketing and Communications
- Technology Services

For Adult Learners:

- Adult and Continuing Education Programs
- ATDN Professional Development
- Career and Technical Training
- High School Completion Programs (GED, HSDP, NEDP)

Lastly, we have big news to share. We have two new buildings in Torrington. The first building is the former Sacred Heart Church, our new facility. It will hold up to 125 students from Torrington and surrounding areas. The second building is the East School in Torrington, which will be the new permanent home for STEPS. It will provide services for the region and development career center and offer options to High Schools across the region. They will also partner with the High Schools and workforce needed areas.

VI. Public Comment:

Board of Education Chairman to read Public Comment Regulations. Three minutes are allotted to each speaker per Board Policy #1120. No BOE employee, student, or community member should be defamed within a public comment.

Steve Sedlack, 103 Indian Meadow Drive, Winsted, CT. Would like to congratulate Melony Brady-Shanley on the budget presentation. We have good support for education in the community. People feel good about the budget, but we still have a way to go. I know some taxpayers will get a pretty big increase in their taxes. I urge everyone to talk to friends, relatives, and neighbors to vote on the referendum on the 27th. Together we can get to the finish line. Thank you.

VII. Consent Agenda Items Discussion Possible Actions:

- a) Minutes of Special BOE Meeting – April 18, 2023
- b) Minutes of Special Meeting – April 25, 2023
- c) Minutes of Committee Meetings April 25, 2023

MOTION to approve

- a) Minutes of Special BOE Meeting – April 18, 2023
- b) Minutes of Special Meeting – April 25, 2023
- c) Minutes of Committee Meetings April 25, 2023

First: Nora Mocarski, Second: Sondra Strubhar, 8, 0, 1

VIII. Gilbert Report from Board of Education Representative:

Doug Pfenninger mentioned that there remains confusion within the community about the structure of our education in Winchester. I understand that, and we are somewhat unique. I suggested to Holly Cassaday that it would be beneficial to the Trust to publicize somehow an article that describes the history of the Trust and the way its structure, and the way the lease of the building is set up with the school so people can have a better understanding and how it works. It would be helpful for the community to understand better the partnership between the Gilbert Trust, the Gilbert School, and the Winchester Board of Education.

Deb Lewis presented a series of results from standardized testing. I wish I could say they were great, but they were not, and Deb readily admitted that. The most encouraging part of her presentation was that she commented on strategies they were employing to identify their weaknesses structurally and instrument-wise. She was displeased with the results, and Greg Shugrue acknowledged that we have a long way to go.

Doug Pfenninger will share a printed copy of the rest results with the Board.

IX. Correspondence to the Board:

No correspondence

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

- a) Superintendent's Report
- b) School Enrollment
- c) Chronic Absences
- d) Gilbert Enrollment & Grade Level Enrollment
- e) Monthly Budget Summary - FY23

Melony Brady-Shanley and Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick presented the Monthly Budget Summary - FY23.

XI. Board Action Items:

- a) New Hires
 - Janessa Webb, Paraprofessional
 - Alan Nolan, Behavior Technician
 - Sarah Schackner, Assistant Director of Student Services, start date is July 1
- b) Appointment of Sarah Schackner - Assistant Director of Student Services

Melony Brady-Shanley introduced Sarah Schackner as the new Assistant Director of Student Services, who comes to us from the Hartland School as a special education teacher. She was chosen from a pool of 7 other candidates and quickly rose to the top. She will work with the Gilbert school and the Birth to Three partnership.

- c) Calendar change to move from 181 days to 180 days, with the last day of school for students being June 19, 2023, as a 1/2 day.

MOTION to approve Calendar change to move from 181 days to 180 days, with the last day of school for students being June 19, 2023, as a 1/2 day.

First: Cheryl McGlynn, Second: Salvatore Lovetere, U

XII. New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

a) Policies for First Read

1) Policy 5131.21 Students Threats or Acts of Violence

MOTION to move Policy 5131.21 Students Threats or Acts of Violence to second read at next month's board meeting with edits.

Melony Brady-Shanley made live edits and sent them to Darlene Bentley.

First: Nora Mocarski, Second: Jeannette Brodeur, U

2) Policy 5145.511 Exploitation, Sexual Harassment

MOTION to approve Policy 5145.511 Exploitation, Sexual Harassment to second read

First: Nora Mocarski, Second: Sondra Strubhar, 2, 7

b) Policies for a Second Read

1) Policy 5141.4 - Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault

MOTION to accept Policy 5141.4 - Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault

First: Nora Mocarski, Second: Renata Waldron, U

XIII. Public Comment:

Board of Education Chairman to read Public Comment Regulations. Three minutes are allotted to each speaker per Board Policy #1120. No BOE employee, student, or community member should be defamed within a public comment.

MOTION to adjourn

First: Cheryl McGlynn, Second: Salvatore Lovetere, U

IX. Adjourn: @ 8:57 pm