

Windsor Central Supervisory Union
Windsor Central Unified Union School District
Board of Directors Special Meeting
December 19, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
[Virtual Zoom meeting recording](#)

Board Members Present:

Barnard:

Bryce Sammel (virtual)
Carin Park (virtual)

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers

Killington:

Jim Haff

Plymouth:

Elliot Rubin

Pittsfield:

Ray Rice (virtual @ 7:21 p.m.)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean (virtual)
Lydia Locke (virtual)

Reading:

Anna Sessa (virtual)

Woodstock:

Ben Ford (virtual)
Keri Bristow
Matt Stout

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: Jennifer Stainton

District Buildings & Grounds Manager: Joe Rigoli (virtual)

Director of Human Resources: Linda Loprete (virtual)

Counsel: Dina Atwood (virtual)

Contributors: Stephen Stuntz, WUHSMS Special Educator & WCEA Representative; Lance Whitehead (virtual) and Leigh Sherwood (virtual), Lavallee Brensinger Architects

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop (virtual)

1. **Call to Order:** Keri Bristow called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Quorum noted.
2. **Amendments to the Agenda:** Keri calls for any amendments to the agenda. Change in agenda order, to begin with the grievance. Motion to approve the agenda: Jim Haff. Seconded: Matt Stout. All in favor.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Time Scheduled Discussion:**
 - d. Education Association Grievances- Stephen Stuntz, representing the WCEA, presented the information for two grievances. The nature of both grievances was related to subcontracted employees, though it was made clear that they were in no way meant to be disparaging to the currently subcontracted employees. Sherry Sousa shared her response to the grievances.
 - a. FY24 Budget- Ben Ford delivered a presentation on the proposed FY24 budget, covering the timeline, key factors and assumptions, budget priorities, and final tax rate projections.
 - b. Bond, Borrowing, and Resolution- Bond- Ben presented some options, then turned it over to Leigh Sherwood and Lance Whitehead for an in-depth explanation.
Lara Bowers motioned that \$1.65M goes to a bond. Seconded by Jim Haff. Significant discussion ensued. Lara amended her motion to place the \$1.65M/5 years as a budget item. Seconded by Jim Haff. All in favor.

Ben presented the language for the warning:

Vote on FY24 Budget Warning (All Priorities)

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WARNING: Shall the voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend Twenty-Six Million Eight Hundred Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred Forty Three Dollars (\$26,865,143), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$23,397.97 per equalized pupil. This projected spending is \$2,550,825 or 10.49% higher than spending for the current year.

Jim Haff motioned to approve the warning as presented. Seconded by Lara Bowers. All in favor.

5. **Public Comment:** None.

6. **Executive Session:** Motion to enter executive session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss the grievances. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.

Return to public session. Motion to deny the NuVu grievance. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Ben Ford. All in favor.

Motion that the board denies the grievance on the contracted SLPs and contracted services, and directs the Superintendent to enter into further discussions around potential resolutions. Moved: Lara Bowers. Seconded: Jim Haff. All in favor.

Addressing counsel, Jim Haff motions for the Board Chair to sign the written reasoning when it is prepared. Seconded by Carin Park. All in favor.

7. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.