

Windsor Central Unified Union School District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
December 6, 2021, 6:30 p.m., WCSU Conference Room
Virtual Zoom meeting recording

Board Members Present:

Barnard:

Kelly Welch (virtual)

Bridgewater:

Matthew Hough (virtual)

Sarah Adams (virtual)

Killington:

Gwen Hagenbarth (virtual)

Jim Haff (physical)

Plymouth:

Jay Moore (virtual)

Josh Linton (virtual)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean (virtual)

Bill Overbay (virtual)

Reading:

Anna Sessa (virtual)

Adam Ameele (virtual)

Woodstock:

Keri Bristow (virtual)

Ben Ford (virtual)

Sam DiNatale (physical)

Todd Ulman (virtual)

Louis Piconi (virtual)

Clare Drebitko (virtual)

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa (physical)

Director of Student Support Services: Gina Rocque (virtual)

Director of Instructional Technology: Raphael Adamek (virtual)

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn (physical)

District Curriculum Coordinator: Jennifer Stainton (virtual)

District Buildings & Grounds Manager: Joe Rigoli (physical)

Director of Human Resources: Linda Loprete (virtual)

Principals/ Administration: Garon Smail, Maggie Mills, Aaron Cinquemani (all virtual)

Student Representatives: Genevieve Morel, Owen Courcey, Aiden Keough-Vella (all virtual)

Pittsfield School Board: Ray Rice (virtual)

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop (virtual)

Legislators: Sen. Alison Clarkson (physical), Rep. Charlie Kimbell (virtual), Sen. Alice Nitka (virtual), Sen. Dick McCormack (virtual)

1. Keri Bristow called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Quorum noted.
2. Amendments to the Agenda: drop the vote on accepting board resignations, drop the vote on the budget. Motion to approve the agenda as amended. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Adam Ameele. All in favor.
3. Public Comment: Public comment was heard on advocating for mandatory staff vaccination, differing requirements for sports participation from elementary to HS/MS, positive parent feelings for the proposed winter sports spectator plan, and the board heard from their legislators.
4. Reports: Superintendent Sousa opened with highlights from her report, including vaccination percentages in the schools, and a brief recap of how federal COVID relief funds (e.g. ESSER) are being used and the plan moving forward.
Director of IT Raph Adamek reviewed his report.
Dir. Of Instr. Support Gina Rocque delivered her report.
CIA Director Jennifer Stainton discussed her report.
Dir. Of Finance Jim Fenn discussed the district current fiscal situation and some FY23 budget development proposals.
Student reps Genevieve Morel and Owen Courcey discussed student happenings and concerns.

5. Time Scheduled Appointments:
 - a. Accept Retirement: Motion to accept retirement. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Sam DiNatale. All in favor. Retirement accepted with regret.
 - b. Board Resignations- Thanked Clare Drebitko and Louis Piconi for their service.
 - c. [Stewardship Strategy](#): Aaron Cinquemani and Maggie Mills delivered an update to the board on Strategic Plan Goal 1.4: Review, refine, and where necessary, establish stewardship experiences so that they are well planned, purposeful and integrated into content areas and grade level curriculum.
 - d. FY23 School Year Calendar: The board reviewed and discussed the calendar as proposed for FY23. Motion to approve by Jim Haff. Seconded: Sam DiNatale. All in favor.
 - e. Tuition Rate FY23: The board discussed setting the tuition rates for FY23. Motion to set the elementary rate at \$16,425 and the HS/MS rate at \$18,985 by Jim Haff. Seconded by Bill Overbay. All in favor.
 - f. [FY23 Budget Presentation](#): Ben Ford delivered a presentation on the draft FY23 budget. He gave an overview of school finance and key contributing factors.
6. Committees:
 - a. Policy Committee:
 - i. First Reading- Special Education Policy: Motion to adopt at the next meeting by Louis Piconi. Seconded by Todd Ulman. All in favor.
 - ii. First Reading- Naming Policy: Motion to adopt at next meeting by Clare Drebitko. Seconded by Louis Piconi. All in favor.
 - iii. First Reading- Fundraising Policy: Motion to adopt at the next meeting by Clare Drebitko. Seconded by Louis Piconi. All in favor.
 - iv. Committee Update: none
 - b. Buildings & Grounds Committee Update: none
 - c. Finance Committee Update: none
 - d. Negotiations, Hiring, & Retention Committee Update: Adam Ameele shared that the ESP negotiations start Thursday.
 - e. Other Working Groups if needed: Keri Bristow shared that the Configuration and Enrollment committee will start meeting on Monday to begin considering a district name change.
7. Consent Agenda: Motion by Jim Haff to approve the consent agenda with an amendment to the minutes to include the reason for the executive session. The recording secretary will review the Zoom to gather the information and then add it to the minutes. Seconded by Adam Ameele. All in favor.
8. Public comment: Shared that the board will have a special meeting on the upcoming Monday to decide on the Winter Sports spectator plan.
9. Executive Session, if needed. (Not needed.)
10. Reflection: A lot of discussion was heard on the poor audio quality of conference room. Solutions were discussed, and improvements will be made.

The board questioned getting their update from the HS/MS principal on student issues raised in a student report last month. Mr. Smail will provide an update at the next monthly meeting.
11. Motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Moved: Jim Haff. Seconded: Sam DiNatale. All in favor.