

WAITSFIELD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 20, 2012, 6:30 pm
Waitsfield Elementary School

Board Members Present: Rob Williams (chair), Helen Kellogg, Eve Frankel, Todd White, Scott Kingsbury.

WWSU and WES Staff Present: Kaiya Korb, Brigid Scheffert, Michelle Baker, Sue Dillon, Cat Fair.

Community Members Present: Rachel Rosenblum

CALL TO ORDER. Rob Williams called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

PRESENTATIONS

Health/Guidance curriculum: Sue Dillon presented the content by grade cluster and content area standards as it aligns with the Vermont standards. The presentation showed how health and guidance instruction coordinate and reinforce one another through a Venn diagram identifying the topics taught. A website created by all health/guidance professionals in the supervisory union that breaks the curricula down further, describing the skills that students should demonstrate and methods for assessment that again align with the VT standards was also shared. Cat emphasized that they also have the capacity to tailor programming to match the needs of the students based on research such as the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Eve Frankel noted the tremendous value generated for the community through these two part time positions in our school. The staff added that if they had more time in the building, the next step would be to add more communication to the parents to help reinforce the learning in school.

Preparing for Town Meeting presentation: Michelle walked the Board through the tax calculations that result from the CLA and state driven tax rates per equalized pupils. Kaiya has prepared a power point presentation that addresses the core changes and choices made to deliver this essentially level-funded budget; this presentation will be mailed out in advance of town meeting and be shown at the meeting as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Helen Kellogg moved to accept the minutes from the January 16, 2012 Waitsfield School board meeting. Eve Frankel seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

REPORTS

- Financial Report: Kaiya noted that we continue to be on track for a fund balance. Recent work with Special Education director Donarae Pike helped her identify how some special education costs could be shifted to be further covered by federal grant funds which should result in some greater savings to be reflected in the next financial statement.

Also, the school is serving as the fiscal agent for the Backpack Program, but is not directly funding the program.

- **Principal's Report:** The school has received questions about NECAP writing scores, which were low in writing. The long-range trend does not match this number, however. Staff are working with the scores to address needs for groups of students as well as, by looking at these long range trends, make adjustments in the curriculum as a whole to best meet student needs. Long-range trends show that students rise to meeting the standards over time. Overall, Kaiya notes the value of the NECAP tests and detailed data analysis available through VCAT that are helping staff to optimize instruction.

- **Superintendent's Report:** Brigid presented, on behalf of the VSBA, recognition of service of 3 terms and 9 years on the Board to Rob Williams.

- **Washington West Representative Report:** WWSU Executive Committee reviewed some recent testimony against the SU asking that tax payers be able to vote on the SU budget. Ben Smith, the WWSU previous committee chair, has since presented opposing testimony on behalf of the executive committee. The WWSU full board will meet on March 27th from 6-7 pm to reorganize; a presentation about assessment will also occur at this meeting.

DISCUSSION

- Audience and written communication. None submitted
- F-30 Pest management, first reading. Kaiya noted that much of this policy could move to our procedures realm. Kaiya will provide a draft prior to our next meeting.
- A long-term substitute, Clayton Wetzel, was hired to meet student health plan needs. .

ACTION

- Establish 2012-2013 Tuition. The calculations for tuition are set by the state. Eve Frankel made a motion to approve the rate as set by the state calculation to be \$13,000. Todd White seconded and motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19th at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Kellogg
Secretary and Clerk