

Waitsfield Elementary School
WAITSFIELD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS Minutes
March 16, 2015 7:00 PM
Waitsfield Elementary School

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present: Helen Kellogg, Barclay Rapoport, Eve Frankel, Christine Sullivan, Jonathon Goldhammer

WES and WWSU Members: Kaiya Korb, Brigid Scheffert

CALL TO ORDER

Kaiya Korb called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Elect a chair: Helen Kellogg made a motion to nominate Eve Frankel as the Chair of the Waitsfield Board of School Directors.. Christine Sullivan seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Vice chair: Eve Frankel made a motion to nominate Christine Sullivan as the vice chair. Helen Kellogg seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Clerk and Recording Secretary: Christine Sullivan made a motion to nominate Helen Kellogg as the clerk and recording secretary. Eve Frankel seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

WWSU Executive Committee Representative: - Christine made a motion to nominate Eve Frankel. Barclay Rapoport seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

WWSU Board Representatives (3):

Christine Sullivan made a motion to nominate Eve Frankel. Barclay Rapoport seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Eve Frankel made a motion to nominate Barclay Rapoport. Jonathon Goldhammer seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Jonathon Goldhammer made a motion to nominate Christine Sullivan. Barclay Rapoport seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The board designated Kaiya Korb as the **truant officer**.

The board designated The Valley Reporter as the **newspaper of record**, and the Times Argus if matters are time sensitive.

Set Meeting schedule: The board will meet the third Monday of every month, with the exception of when that overlaps with school breaks.

Appoint Board Negotiations Representatives: The board appointed Helen Kellogg and Christine Sullivan.

DISCUSSION

Audience and Written Communication: none submitted.

Recap of annual meeting: Kaiya asked for any thoughts on the town meeting presentation.

Review of board work calendar: Kaiya highlighted the annual calendar of board work, including the retreat to come in June.

Educational Legislation and Political Activity update: Kaiya maintains this item on the agenda to support conversation and update on the work going on at the state and national level, per goals discussed at last June's board retreat.

The 2% budget increase cap and the reduction of the smalls school grant proposed in the current revision of school funding bill being discussed at the state level could impact valley schools significantly. Eve Frankel is drafting an op ed in opposition to the spending caps.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of February 16, 2015 minutes: Christine made a motion to approve the minutes of February 16th. Helen Kellogg seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Set April meeting date: The next Board meeting will be April 27, 2015.

Review and approval of FY 14 Audited Financial Statements: The report had no findings and the reported fund balance matched the audited fund balance. Barclay Rappaport made a motion to approve the audited financial statements. Jonathon Goldhammer seconded and the financial statements were unanimously approved.

Approve Board Order: Christine Sullivan made a motion to approve the warrants in the sum of \$39,764.36. Helen Kellogg seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Principal's report: Kaiya is looking forward to the preschool screening this month, which is when we get to meet new families. After the screening, the school will have further information regarding preschool enrollment, allowing a final decision to be made regarding addition of preschool staff for next year. The class placement process for next year will begin after parent conferences. Placement is communicated after the school year has ended to maintain focus for students on their present placement. Christine asked that all families get class lists, even if their child is staying in the same classroom. Family conferences are coming up at the end of this week. We are also preparing to administer the SBAC for 3,4,5 and 6th graders. Students are doing practice tests on the computer and are noting that it's rigorous. Some elements of the test results are instantaneous and others are hand graded. We expect the total summary of the test results in mid July. The staff is training to ensure that the testing tool is well understood, so that the results are based on student knowledge and not user error. The focus of the early release day professional development this month was on writing, specifically argument and opinion writing. The 5th and 6th grade play is coming up and will be showing at the same time as the Harwood musical. The school will be using grant monies to install a security door just beyond Kathi's desk. This would enable kids to enter the building before school is in session and also enable school wide lockdown in the event of an emergency. Kaiya noted that we will initiate an engineering

study to address drainage around the school. The select board has reviewed the solar power purchase agreement and we hope they take action tonight to finalize that document. The school would expect to pay 90% of the energy bill and use the savings toward facility needs. Helen Kellogg noted the magic of the artist in residency performance by the students, as well as the engagement by faculty.

Financial Report: The school is benefiting from new financial reporting tools, which is great and also involves a learning curve..

Washington West Representative Report: none given. Eve Frankel will update on policy work and the collective experience across the district from pre-K-12.

ADJOURNMENT

Helen Kellogg made a motion to adjourn. Barclay Rappeport seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:08. The next meeting will be on April 27th at 7 pm at the Waitsfield Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Kellogg
Clerk and Secretary