

WAITSFIELD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2015, 7:00 P.M.
Waitsfield Elementary School

ATTENDEES

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

WWSU and WES Staff Present: Kaiya Korb, Brigid Scheffert Nease

Members of the Public Present: none

CALL TO ORDER

Eve Frankel called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

DISCUSSION

Audience and written communication: Kaiya noted several positive comments about the school received during the Ski & Skate sale.

Budget Draft 1 Review: Kaiya prefaced the review noting that we only have expense information at this point, and not revenues. She reviewed the assumptions behind the preliminary budget, including special education moving to the WWSU budget. She noted the needs of the student population changing.

Brigid notes that the special education moving to the supervisory union is now law. Due to the decline in our student population need, there will a reduction in our special education staffing. Brigid spoke to the false positive of the negative budget noting that it is a one-time reduction connected to student needs, which could easily swing back. We will have more information on the revenue in late December, when equalized pupils will be reported by the state, as well as further information on block grant funding, WWSU and Harwood budgets, and further confirmation on tax penalties as defined under act 46. This budget draft looks merely to maintain

programming and meet student needs in as lean a manner as possible without cutting services or programs.

The maintenance reserve is funded at \$50K , with the intent that the balance of that would be spent next fiscal year for capital improvements including:

- Building drainage
- Doors
- Tile in the kitchen
- HVAC system update
- Painting for the gym, library and exterior.

ACTION ITEMS

Teacher Master Agreement: Helen Kellogg made a motion to approve the teacher master agreement for July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Barclay Rappeport seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Amendment to School's drinking water planning loan (WPL-079): The amendment makes no material cost changes, just financial terms. Barclay Rappeport made a motion to approve the amendment to the school's drinking water planning loan. Jonathon Goldhammer seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Board Orders:

Jonathon Goldhammer asked the board for confirmation for the pre-approval of warrant 1058 for \$6,652.77. Eve Frankel made a motion to pre-approve warrant 1058 for \$6,652.77. Christine Sullivan seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Christine Sullivan made a motion to approve vouchers 1072 for \$540 and 1071 for \$25,910.52. Eve Frankel seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Jonathon Goldhammer made a motion to approve the Oct 19, 2015 minutes. Christine Sullivan seconded and Eve Frankel, Jonathon Goldhammer and Christine Sullivan approved. Helen Kellogg and Barclay Rappeport were not present at the Oct 19th meeting, and therefore abstained.

Jonathon Goldhammer made the motion to approve the September 21, 2015 meeting minutes. Christine seconded the motion and Barclay, Christine and Jonathon approved.

REPORTS

Principal's report: Kaiya focused on both the school-wide and WWSU goals. At the 5th and 6th grade levels, we're focused on PLPs (personalized learning plans). This process fosters student reflection as well as goal setting. A survey will follow to solicit parent experience to date. The leadership team - LTEE - is building understanding around graduation proficiencies versus sub level learning targets. They're also working on the transferable skills which arch across all content levels. We've started valley-wide staff meetings across grade level or like jobs. These meetings happen once a month and are teacher directed. PBIS is also ongoing in our school. The compass cup was a school-wide effort to get kids excited about our recognition system, as well as connected to other kids in the school. There is work happening around community engagement. The film "Most Likely to Succeed" playing at Harwood on January 14th, will hopefully fuel conversation about values and engage people in what's going on in our schools. The chief of police and a state trooper went through our safety plans and provision. They noted the significant addition of the lock down door.

WWSU Representative Report: Eve has been out of town for all meetings since early October, but she will be attending on December 9th and will report out at our following meeting. Christine noted that WWSU budgeting has begun.

Act 46 Study Group Report: Christine noted that the group is ready to start drafting the articles of agreement. There are preliminary designs for the new school-based advisory teams/boards. There is a core team driving the process, and Christine expects participation will grow as the language gets finalized and the equity/parity issues are surfaced. There is also work to define how the district board would be structured and weighted by population.

Superintendent's Report: Brigid's work is largely focused on Act 46, the budget season and the relocation of the special educators, all of which were spoken to above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Helen Kellogg made a motion to go into executive session for employee contract and Barclay Rappeport seconded. The board went into executive session at 8:21.

The board came out of executive session at 9:07.

ADJOURNMENT

Barclay Rappeport made a motion to adjourn at 9:08. Jonathon Goldhammer seconded and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:08.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Kellogg
Secretary and Clerk