

Waitsfield Elementary Board of School Directors

Draft Meeting Minutes March 16, 2016

Waitsfield Elementary School – Belknap Classroom

Attendees: Jeremy Gulley, Christine Sullivan, Barclay Rappeport, Jonathan Goldhammer, Eve Frankel, Kaiya Korb

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Kaiya Korb.

Board Reorganization:

- A. Board Chair - Barclay Rappeport nominated Eve Frankel for Board Chair. Jonathan Goldhammer seconded. Unanimous approval.
- B. Board Vice Chair – Barclay Rappeport nominated Christine Sullivan for Board Vice Chair, Jonathan Goldhammer seconded. Unanimous approval.
- C. Clerk – Eve Frankel nominated Jonathan Goldhammer for Clerk. Barclay Rappeport seconded. Unanimous approval.
- D. Recording Secretary – Christine Sullivan nominated Barclay Rappeport as recording secretary, Eve Frankel seconded. Unanimous approval.
- E. WWSU Executive Committee – Eve Frankel nominated Christine Sullivan, Barclay Rappeport seconded. Unanimous approval.
- F. WWSU Board Representatives – Barclay Rappeport nominated Christine Sullivan, Eve Frankel seconded. Eve Frankel nominated Jeremy Gulley, Christine Sullivan seconded. Barclay Rappeport nominated Eve Frankel, Jeremy Gulley seconded. Unanimous approval for all three appointments.
- G. Kaia Korb was designated as Truant Officer.
- H. The Valley Reporter was designated as the paper of record. In the event that a more timely announcement is needed, the alternate daily paper would be the Times Argus.
- I. Future board meetings will be held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30pm, at Waitsfield School. The exception will be the April 2016 meeting which will be held on 11 April at 6:30pm, at Waitsfield School Library.

Audience and Written Communication – there was none.

Town Meeting Follow Up – Welcome to new board member, Jeremy Gulley. Appreciations were offered to Kaiya for presenting succinctly and professionally on Town Meeting Day. Kaiya will be reaching out to people who had questions regarding Act 46 to ask them to attend the public forums. Valerie Capels has asked the Town Meeting Focus Group to follow up with thoughts regarding the schedule of the town meeting. It was noted that we had an excellent turn out for the school meeting.

Eve Frankel suggested an all board letter to the Valley Reporter and Front Porch Forum to encourage the vote on board consolidation on June 7th and that we should add the drafting of a letter to the agenda for the 4/11 meeting.

Forum dates are as follows:

3/31/16 @ Harwood High School

4/27/16 @ Harwood High School

5/11/16 @ Thatcher Brook Primary School

5/25/16 @ The Big Picture

Education Legislation – Since the allowable growth threshold was repealed, the prior Act 68 growth threshold is what is reverted to. Kaiya doesn't anticipate any issues with the growth threshold should that continue to be in place next budget season.

Appoint Board Treasurer – Eve Frankel , on behalf of the board, appointed Nancy Myrto as Board Treasurer.

Board Warrants

- 1st Warrant was pre-approved on 2/1/16 for voucher #1107 in the amount of \$2315.16. Jonathan Goldhammer moved to accept voucher 1107, 2nded by Eve Frankel. Unanimous approval.
- Voucher 1127 in the amount of \$87,951.63 was presented. Jonathan Goldhammer moved to accept voucher 1127, 2nded by Christine Sullivan. Unanimous approval.

Approve minutes of 2/15/16 meeting – Barclay Rappeport moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Christine Sullivan seconded. Unanimous approval.

Storm Water Manatement Grant Proposal

Friends of the Mad River is looking at a grant to get engineering for storm water management in the Valley schools.

- Due to a change in the Water Quality Act (Act 64), which there are new regulations for any area with more than 3 acres of impervious surface. It's noted that Waitsfield Elementary School has less than three acres of impervious surfaces, but we would be included in the overall proposal.
- Waitsfield Elementary School does have prime location for runoff management, due to water run off from the road.
- Friends of the Mad River are asking for a letter in support of their grant application.

- If Waitsfield Elementary School were prioritized the school would receive an engineering plan.

Christine Sullivan moved to draft a letter of support for the grant. Jonathan Goldhammer seconded. Unanimous approval.

Principal's Report

- Kaiya provided an update on Brain Camp. It will likely be a morning only, science based camp. There is an opportunity for students receiving summer services to participate, more details forthcoming.
- Student Engagement – Laura Wedel suggested Spanish instruction beginning with a 2x weekly for 6th graders during Challenge Support Time to help students make an informed decision on the choice of language going into middle school. She will offer this for 4 weeks after April break.
- Staff recently used the 5th/6th grade 'Mask' project to consider instruction in transferable skills. Staff meeting time is being used, like this example, to support the work of the WWSU action plan.
- Staff meeting time has also been spent exploring moving to proficiency based report cards; we are looking into piloting a new project to a narrative report card.
- Preparing for SBAC administration.
- Study Circle and community conversations are continuing throughout the month. There have been 110 participants including students. Kaiya reported that the discussion have been effective in using dialogue to help coalesce shared vision, priorities and areas of concern.

Act 46 Report

- Christine Sullivan offered that WWSU board has not yet reorganized after Town Meeting.
- Study Group Report – 'Articles of Agreement' have been updated regarding more proportional representation and weighting to reflect percentage of population of each town, with legal help and AOE input. Secretary of Education will recommend that it goes to the State Board of Education for approval on 4/19/16.

Superintendent's Report – there was no Superintendent's Report

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm by consensus.

Respectfully Submitted,

by Barclay Rappeport