

Waitsfield Elementary School
AGENDA
WAITSFIELD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
January 16, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

Board members attending: Rob Williams, Helen Kellogg, Eve Frankel, Todd White.

WES and WWSU staff attending: Kaiya Korb and Brigid Scheffert.

CALL TO ORDER

Rob Williams called the meeting to order at 6:38.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rob made a motion to approve the minutes from December 20th, 2011. Eve Frankel seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Financial Report: Our current fund balance projection is \$5000, although Kaiya anticipates that is very conservative.

Principal's Report: Kaiya gave a verbal report including the commencement of the professional development around the common core, taking place during the ski program afternoons. The challenge is moving all WES children to those high standards. Kay Marcelle is leading professional development on using Smart Boards and Ipads. The school is considering a mobile lab through Ipads. The audit was sent electronically and is linked to the WWSU site. Kaiya will send a link for the audit and budget. Katie Westhelle's maternity leave will start soon and there is a strong pool of long-term substitute candidates from which to choose. Kaiya inquired about the Board's area of interest for the town report out on the school. Kaiya proposed "Good to Great" as a theme and the Board agreed and built upon the theme with physical plant improvements as well. Kaiya also noted her interest in having the budget report out in the media become a WWSU-wide effort that reflects more than just WES. The theme would be "The Thoughtful Collaboration Toward Fiscal Prudence."

Washington West Representative Report: The team approved the budget, and discussed positioning ourselves in an environment of declining enrollment. An end of year retreat is planned (June) to consider the opportunities and options.

Superintendent's report: Board report to come. Brigid is managing two searches and the contract negotiations. She spoke to the new approach of community negotiation for the teachers contract to improve the process going forward. Eve Frankel noted the significant cost savings generated by a more highly functioning central office. Brigid spoke to the selection criteria for the Harwood administrator – with a focus on integrity,

passion, character, work ethic, and commitment. The search committee is pleased to have found a very promising candidate.

DISCUSSION

Audience and Written Communication: none submitted.

WWSU Policy Packet #2:

E12: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS USE & RETENTION: the current capacity does not exist but will be in place before the start of next school year.

F17: HEAD LICE: the policy is sound, but there remains discussion around recommended procedures. The WWSU will list those as recommended.

F26: THE USE OF RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION: OK as is.

F31- R: EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR SERVICES: OK as is.

G11-R: RESPONSIBLE USE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES & THE INTERNET: OK as is.

F-30 Pest management, first reading. It is a non-required policy that needs to be pared down. The board requested that Kaiya review the draft for ease of implementation.

Discuss public presentation of the Budget: Kaiya and Rob to draft a note for the press. Michelle Baker will come to our February meeting to review the budget calculations, including the CLA, to equip us to successfully address community questions at the town meeting. There will be a power point presentation prepared to address the key decisions and implications.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Eve Frankel made a motion to go into executive session. Rob Williams seconded and the Board went into executive session at 7:50 on a matter of personnel. The board came out of executive session at 8:10. Helen Kellogg made a motion to authorize Kaiya to search for and hire a nurse to serve one morning a week. Todd White seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14. The next meeting will be held on February 20th, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Waitsfield Elementary School library. The meeting will include a presentation on our health and guidance curriculum by Cat Fair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Kellogg
Secretary and Clerk