

**WAITSFIELD BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 14, 2011, 6:00 P.M.**  
**Waitsfield Elementary School**

**Board Members Present:** Elizabeth Cadwell, Wrenn Compère, Scott Kingsbury, and Rob Williams (chair).

**Board Members Absent:** Helen Kellogg.

**WWSU and WES Staff Present:** Kaiya Korb and Brigid Scheffert.

**Members of the Public Present:** Emily Church, Betsy Eckfeldt, Eva Frankel, Cathryn Hayes, Carol Hosford, Beth McGeorge, and Leigh Stockton (6:20 p.m). All members of the public left following the discussion of the pre-school program.

**Call to Order:**

Rob Williams called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Wrenn Compère moved to accept the minutes from the January 10, 2011 Waitsfield School Board meeting. Elizabeth Cadwell seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Audience and Written Communication:**

Various members of the staff and public spoke to Board members regarding the importance of appropriate preschool programming for Waitsfield students. Kaiya Korb recommended that the Board reduce the existing program to three days per week for the next year (combining three and four-year-olds in one class), due to anticipated low numbers. She plans to continue work toward provision for the best possible program while also remaining fiscally responsible. Conversations with the Fayston School are underway to explore the possibility of combining the preschool programs to keep costs down while maintaining quality programming. Kaiya Korb and Cathryn Hayes, in conjunction with teachers and staff, will continue to consider the possibilities. The Board will look to hear an update on the progress of this exploration at its next meeting in March.

**Action Items:**

**I. Pre-school Program**

**A.** Scott Kingsbury moved to shift to a three-day-per week program with three and four year-olds combined. Wrenn Compère seconded. Rob Williams and Scott Kingsbury voted in favor of the motion; Elizabeth Cadwell and Wrenn Compère declined. Helen Kellogg was noted absent. Discussion followed, in which it was noted by audience member Eva Frankel that it simply isn't economically feasible to have a class of four

children (which may be the case if the classes aren't combined.) It was suggested that the original motion be amended. However, after discussion, it was agreed that the original motion might be voted differently.

**B.** Scott Kingsbury moved again to shift to a three-day-a-week program. Rob Williams seconded. Scott Kingsbury, Rob Williams, and Elizabeth Cadwell approved the motion. Wrenn Compère declined. The motion passed.

## **II. FY 2010 Audit Approval**

The Waitsfield Board acknowledged receipt of the FY2010 financial audit conducted by Angolano and Company. Rob Williams moved to accept the audit report. Wrenn Compère seconded, and all Board members present approved.

## **III. Policy Packet Approval**

Rob Williams moved to accept the WWSU Policy Packet (see below) in its entirety. Scott Kingsbury accepted, and all members present approved.

- A1: The Role of Policy
- A2: Policy Development and Adoption
- A3: Policy Dissemination, Administration, and Review
- B1: Board Member Education
- B2: Board Goal-Setting and Evaluation
- B3-R: Board Member Conflict of Interest
- D6-R: Substitute Teachers
- D7-R: Volunteers and Work Study Students
- D9: Resignations
- E11: Relating to the Idling of Vehicles Other Than School Buses When Present on School Premises
- F25-R: Student Attendance
- F30-R: Truancy (and procedures)
- G11-R: Responsible Use of Electronic Resources and the Internet

## **Discussion:**

### **I. WWSU Consolidation Study**

The Executive Committee did not receive the funds from the State to study consolidation as expected. Nevertheless, there is openness to continuing the conversation in a less formal manner. The Waitsfield Board collectively agreed that discussing options for middle school regarding configuration remained a reasonable path. Kaiya Korb suggested "testing" ideas, such as perhaps offering some school choice in an effort to see how Valley residents respond. Central Office will receive a "model" from the State with suggestions on how to implement practices connected with Act 153 (required by law.)

### **II. Principal Evaluation Feedback Format**

It was decided that the Principal Evaluation would be discussed at the end of the March meeting. The Board will meet in Executive Session first to review results, and then invite the Principal in for sharing.

## **Reports:**

### **I. Financial Report**

Kaiya Korb briefly shared the latest financial report.

### **II. Principal's Report**

Kaiya Korb offered highlights from the past month and noted that Action Planning for the 2011-2012 school year will begin later this spring.

### **III. Superintendent's Report**

Brigid Scheffert offered commentary on her monthly report posted online on the Supervisory Union Website. Emphasis was placed on goals for the upcoming year.

### **IV. WWSU Executive Committee Report**

Elizabeth Cadwell reported on recent WWSU Executive Committee Updates. Minutes from the latest meeting should be available soon.

## **Executive Session:**

Wrenn Compère moved to go into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss personnel. Elizabeth Cadwell seconded. The Board came out of Executive Session at approximately 9:05 p.m.

## **Final Business:**

### **I. Retirement Request**

Rob Williams moved to accept Connie Hartshorn's retirement resignation request. Wrenn Compère seconded, and all approved. The Board's deep appreciation for her many years of service to the school will be expressed toward the end of the year.

### **II. Town Meeting**

Town Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1st. The School Budget will be voted at 1:00 p.m. Board Members should plan to convene at the school by 12:45 p.m. Rob Williams and Kaiya Korb will prepare materials.

### **III. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on March 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the school library.

### **IV. Adjournment**

The School Board meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Cadwell  
Board Member