



## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008

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School Board Members Present: Ginny Burley, Mark Berry, Conrad Smith, Allen Gilbert, Emily Goyette, Adrienne Magida, and Michael Stridsberg

Administrator Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal

Student Representatives Present: Alanna Webb and Ben Daut

Others Present: Mary Ellen Hill

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by principal, Keith Gerritt.
  - 1.1. Guests were welcomed and introductions were made.
  - 1.2. Agenda Revisions: Keith Gerritt reported that an executive session would be required tonight
  - 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence: Conrad Smith reported that, at Town Meeting, he invited any comments from constituents, and he heard some comments about financial (and other) support for athletics versus fine arts; also that some comments were made about AP courses and the desire to formalize an AP Program.
- 2.0. Board Reorganization
  - 2.1. **Elect Chairperson: Allen Gilbert moved to nominate Ginny Burley. Seconded by Adrienne Magida. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

At this point Ms. Burley assumed chair.  
Ginny Burley recapped the budget informational meeting that had been held on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Some issues that were heard: a balance between co-curricular programs.
  - 2.2. **Elect Vice Chair: Allen Gilbert moved to nominate Mark Berry. Seconded by Adrienne Magida. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.3. **Elect Clerk: Adrienne Magida moved to nominate Conrad Smith. Seconded by Mark Berry. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.4. **Establish time and day for regular monthly meetings: Presently 1st and 3rd Wednesday: Mike Stridsberg stated that he has a conflict on the third Wednesday and would have to arrive late most third meetings. The board discussed other possible dates/times but all agreed to keep the present schedule. Allen Gilbert moved to keep meetings scheduled on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.5. **Establish the newspaper for official posting: Adrienne Magida moved to keep *The Times Argus* as the official newspaper. Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.6. **Elect Executive Committee Representative: Mark Berry moved to nominate Ginny Burley. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

**Elect Alternate: Allen Gilbert moved to nominate Adrienne Magida. Seconded by Mark Berry. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.7. **Elect WCSU Policy Committee Representative: Mike Stridsberg moved to nominate Mark Berry. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Mike Stridsberg moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

**Alternate: Mark Berry moved to nominate Allen Gilbert. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**
  - 2.8. **Elect WCSU Negotiations Committee Representative: Allen Gilbert moved to nominate Ginny Burley. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

**Alternate: Allen Gilbert moved to nominate Mark Berry. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by**



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**Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

**2.9. Elect WCSU Transportation Committee Representative: Mark Berry moved to nominate Michael Stridsberg. Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously. No other nominations being heard, Allen Gilbert moved to close nominations. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously. A vote was called and the main motion carried unanimously.**

**2.10. Appoint a Truant Officer: Adrienne Magida moved to appoint Dan Violette as U-32 Truant Officer. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**

2.11. Establish U-32 Board Committee Memberships: Ginny Burley gave an overview of each of the following U-32 Board Committees. The two new board members noted that they needed to be added to the board email and the U-32 email list. Mike Stridsberg brought up the idea of teleconferencing some of the committee meetings.

**Allen Gilbert moved to establish the U-32 Committee membership as follows: (chairperson underlined)**

**2.11.1 Finance: Allen Gilbert, Ginny Burley, Conrad Smith**

**2.11.2 Policy: Mark Berry, Allen Gilbert, Mike Stridsberg**

**2.11.3 Curriculum: Adrienne Magida, Ginny Burley, Emily Goyette**

**2.11.4 Personnel: Mark Berry, Ginny Burley, Emily Goyette**

**2.11.5 Co-Curricular: Emily Goyette, Adrienne Magida**

**2.11.6 Facilities: Conrad Smith, Ginny Burley, Mike Stridsberg**

**2.11.7 Negotiations (ESP): Ginny Burley, Mark Berry**

**Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.**

Ginny Burley asked the student representatives if they would like to be members of any of the committees. They both stated that they were interested in attending some meetings, but not being official members.

**3.0. Adrienne Magida moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2008 school board meeting. Seconded by Mark Berry. The meeting date needs to be corrected to February 20, and the spelling of Emily Goyette's name corrected. The minutes were approved as edited.**

4.0. Reports to the Board

4.1. WCSU: No report.

4.2. Policy: Allen Gilbert noted that the committee continues to discuss the policy that was discussed at the previous meeting regarding suspension. Nancy Thomas is seeking legal advice on some issues related to this policy.

4.3. Personnel: No report.

4.4. Co-Curricular: No report.

4.5. Curriculum: No report.

4.6. Facilities: No report.

4.7. Negotiations: Ginny Burley stated that she would give an update on support staff contract negotiations, tonight during executive session.

4.8. Student Representative's Report: Ben Daut asked for the status of the request for light board improvement/replacement in the theater. Conrad Smith reported that this request is still under consideration; he is still gathering information. Alanna Webb commented on the student death that the entire school community is still grieving; she expressed her blessings to the family and friends of the student. Ginny Burley commented on the school community's ability to come together, open the school building and assemble staff to support one another.

4.9. Administrator's Report: Keith Gerritt reported further on the school's response to the student's death. He is confident that supports are in place for tomorrow when students return. Adrienne Magida suggested that some information regarding activities such as these be posted on the website so all can become aware. Keith Gerritt reported on the 7th graders' recent activities at Lotus Lake. He also reported on his attending the National Association of Secondary School Principals' conference in Texas.

5.0. Discussion Agenda

5.1. Board Goals and Process: Ginny Burley reminded the board that at last year's retreat, no board goals were set, except to support Keith Gerritt's goals as administrator. Keith Gerritt reviewed his goals:

- Attention to the Action Plan and curriculum
- Organization of leadership in the school, particularly, department head structure
- Greater accountability among staff and students

Allen Gilbert asked for some explanation regarding the Strategic Planning and how this ties into U-32 goals. Keith Gerritt gave a brief overview of the process of supervisory-union-wide strategic planning so far. The board discussed goals such as the Facilities Committee's long range planning through a Capital Fund Plan. Conrad Smith spoke about



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the discussion a year ago of a clear evaluation process for administrators. The board agreed that the Personnel Committee should address this issue. Conrad Smith stated that if the Personnel Committee meets to discuss the document that came from Central Office regarding the evaluation process for administrators, then he would like to be part of the meeting.

Conrad Smith stated that he would like to have the issue of Advanced Placement courses be considered. He also reminded the board that the issue of Foreign Language was briefly presented earlier this year and he would like this discussion to continue. Ginny Burley noted that these are both issues for the Curriculum Committee to discuss. The idea of distance learning as well as a supervisory-union-wide consultant related to foreign language was discussed. Some issues for the Co-Curricular Committee were discussed.

Adrienne Magida discussed the perception that the school board and administration “butt heads” with staff at U-32. Some discussion followed regarding this issue. The board agreed upon the importance of articulating their intentions of what’s in the best interest of students.

Allen Gilbert commended the TA system as being key to a good school. The board discussed the issue of accountability: i.e., indicators of success or measurable outcomes, for some initiatives, such as the TA system.

Mark Berry brought up the subject of the integrity of vocational training. He would like to see data showing what students are doing, for example, two years after graduation. Conrad Smith asked for a forecast on this year’s senior class. Does U-32 have a high dropout rate, comparatively?

Ginny Burley brought up the subject of “policy governance.”

6.0. Action Agenda

6.1. Resignations: None.

6.2. Appointments

**6.2.1. Adrienne Magida moved to appoint William Dunn as a PT Maintenance and Mechanic. Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.**

**7.0. Consent Agenda: Mark Berry moved to approve the following board orders:**

**March 5, 2008                      \$29,140.92                      General**

**Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.**

8.0. Ideas for Future Agenda: None.

9.0. Board Comments: The board welcomed new members.

10.0. Executive Session: Upon motion of Mark Berry, seconded by Allen Gilbert, and approved unanimously, the Board went into executive session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

At 8:36 p.m., upon motion of Allen Gilbert, seconded by Adrienne Magida, and again approved unanimously, the Board came out of executive session.

11.0. Adjournment: At 8:37 p.m. upon motion of Allen Gilbert, seconded by Adrienne Magida, approved unanimously, without taking further action and without objection the Chair adjourned the Board at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt  
Board Recording Secretary