



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

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Board Members Present: Ginny Burley, Chair; Mark Berry, Vice-Chair; Emily Goyette, Clerk; Allen Gilbert, Adrienne Magida, Conrad Smith, and Mike Stridsberg

Administrators Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal; Stephanie Taylor, HS Assistant Principal; Mark Mooney, MS Assistant Principal; Tim Flynn, Special Programs and Services Director; Amy Molina, Athletic & Recreation Director; Lisa LaPlante, Guidance & Counseling Director; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; and Lori Bibeau, WCSU Business Manager

Student Representatives Present: Benjamin Daut and Caitlyn Couture

Also Present: Shane McAndrew, Kate McCann, Liz Snell, Jeneane Lunn, Rachel Collier, Kenny Saxe, Nanci Randall, Kathy Segar, Peg Wilmott, Nancy Mercer, Tom Cate, Emily Smith, Sarah Volinsky, Bo Carey, Paula Dolan, Adam French, Wes Cate, Mary Ellen Hill, Brittany Perry, Beth Allen, Rachel Sanguinetti, Jeff Rubin and Michelle McFadden

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.
 - 1.1. All guests were welcomed.
 - 1.2. Agenda Revisions – None.
 - 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence – Nancy Mercer read a statement expressing disappointment that an agreement has not been made regarding teacher contracts, and to urge the Negotiations Committee to resume negotiations.
- 2.0. **Mark Berry moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2009 school board meeting. Seconded by Emily Goyette. Discussion: A few edits were suggested. The motion carried unanimously with noted edits.**
- 3.0. Reports to the Board
 - 3.1. Finance – Allen Gilbert reported that the Finance Committee discussed the Capital Fund.
 - 3.2. Curriculum – None.
 - 3.3. Policy – None.
 - 3.4. Facilities & Capital Budget – Conrad Smith reported that the committee met earlier today and discussed parking lot and proposed tennis court issues, as well as other proposed items including microscopes for the Science Department. Conrad reported that the administration has suggested that the committee consider a plan for revising “lighting” at the facility, looking for “greener” options. Also discussed was a digital photo lab, as well as Central Office relocation issues. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14th.
 - 3.5. Negotiations – Mark Berry reported that negotiations continue.
 - 3.6. Vermont School Boards’ Association – None.
 - 3.7. Student Representative’s Report – Ben Daut reported that the Student Representatives had spoken to the student council earlier today and talked specifically about the busing proposal which is on the agenda tonight for discussion.
 - 3.8. Administrator’s Report – Keith Gerritt reported on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Federal Stimulus Package) workshop he had attended.

Amy Molina reported on the winter sports season ending and the spring sports season getting underway. Seniors Kelcie Bean and Jackson Cousins were honored as recipients of the Principal’s Awards at the Winter Sports Banquet. Mark Mooney reported on the recent visiting speaker/presenter on the subject of adolescent brain development, Michael Nerney.

Lisa LaPlante reported on the “Rising 7th Grade Parents” night.

Stephanie Taylor previewed the in-service activities planned for Friday.

Conrad Smith asked about the status of the discussion of “IB” or “AP” courses. Keith Gerritt reported that the Raising U-32 to the Next Level Committee continues to address this issue.

Emily Goyette reported that she had attended “Gizmo” and she congratulated the U-32 Theater Department.

Michelle McFadden reported that five U-32 14 and 15 year olds had competed in the “J2” Nordic Ski competition – and the Vermont team won.
 - 3.9. Strategic Plan – Keith Gerritt reported that a supervisory-union-wide Green Committee has been active as a result of the Strategic Plan
- 4.0. Discussion Agenda
 - 4.1. Central Office Facility Preliminary Drawings Presentation – John Rahill presented to the board: *Black River Design Architects Washington Central Supervisory Union Progress Report – Wednesday, March 18, 2009.*

Lori Bibeau explained some legal issues around this project.
 - 4.2. District-Wide Busing Proposal – Mark Mooney presented to the board: *WCSU School Start Time and Busing Proposals.* Discussion followed.
 - 4.3. Policy Reading
 - 4.3.1. Memorial Policy – Allen Gilbert presented this policy for its first reading. The board moved this policy to a second reading.



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5.0. Action Agenda

5.1. Award Tennis Court Project Bid – Keith Gerritt reviewed the March 10th memo regarding suggested board action around this project.

Mark Berry moved to award the tennis court project bid to Dirt Tech in the amount of \$174,800, pending final approval by the East Montpelier Zoning Board. Seconded by Conrad Smith. Some discussion followed. This motion carried unanimously.

5.2. Finance Actions

5.2.1. Mark Berry moved to authorize the Principal to utilize \$17,500.00 as a contingency amount for the Tennis Court Project, and to authorize the use of the Capital Fund for the additional \$42,443.00 fund support. Seconded by Conrad Smith, this motion carried unanimously.

5.3. Mark Berry moved to authorize Facilities & Capital Budget Committee to Expend Funds for Central Office Facility, up to \$35,000.00 from the Capital Fund for enterprise improvements at the supervisory union building that benefit U-32. The committee shall give regular and timely reports to the full board of all authorizations. Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.

5.4. Approve Spring Athletics Coaches - Keith Gerritt provided an updated coaches list.

Adrienne Magida moved to approve U-32 spring athletics coaches as presented. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.

5.5. Approve Fund Raising Policy Waiver – Tom Cate spoke to the board about concerns he has had about the fund raising policy as it stands.

Allen Gilbert moved to approve a waiver of this policy for the trip to NYC as presented. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried. Conrad Smith and Mark Berry abstained from the vote. Ginny Burley would like this issue discussed at a board meeting in the future.

5.6. Resignations – None.

5.7. Appointments – None.

6.0. Emily Goyette moved to approve the following board orders:

March 18, 2009 \$63,562.40 General

Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda – April 1st is the date for Policy Governance discussion.

8.0. Board Comments

9.0. Anticipated Executive Session for the purpose of discussing student discipline, legal and/or personnel matters – None needed.

10.0. Adjournment – There being no further business, the board adjourned by consensus at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt
Board Recording Secretary