



**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008**

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

Administrators Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal; Tom McKone, HS Assistant Principal; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; Amy Molina, Athletics & Recreation Director, Nancy Thomas, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Special Services

Student Representatives Present: None

Also Present: Cody Caccio, Wes Cate, Ali Freeman, Sarah Gauthier, Sam Gile, Randy Herring, Barbara Korecki, Cheryl Lamberti, Kyle Lawson, Kirsten Lawson, Maureen Lawson, Casey McAllister, Cecelia Puleio, Jeff Rubin, Cheryl Rus, Michael Rus, Michael John Rus

1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.

1.1. All guests were welcomed.

1.2. Agenda Revisions – Add to discussion agenda: Fundraising.

1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence – Ginny Burley let the board know of a public forum on internet safety tomorrow evening in Montpelier; Mike Stridsberg shared an anonymous letter he had received from a student.

**2.0. Adrienne Magida moved to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2008 school board meeting. Seconded by Emily Goyette. Discussion: A few edits were pointed out. The minutes were approved unanimously as edited.**

3.0. Reports to the Board

3.1. Finance: Ginny Burley reported on the annual operating budget versus the capital budget and the efforts of the committee to plan for both separately.

3.2. Curriculum: has not met; no report

3.3. VSBA: Ginny Burley reported that Senator Doyle had visited the VSBA to speak about the current issues around the Commissioner and the State Board of Education. She reported that the VSBA's opinion is to "slow down" on this change.

3.4. Facilities: No report

3.5. Negotiations: Mark Berry reported: "we continue to negotiate." Some discussion followed regarding a timeline and the length of the contracts.

3.6. Student Representative's Report: No report

3.7. Administrator's Report: Keith Gerritt congratulated the middle school on the spaghetti dinner; the attendance broke past records and the event went very well. Keith Gerritt commended Stage 32 production of the musical "The Wiz." He wished the students en route to France "bon voyage."

4.0. Discussion Agenda

4.1. Administrator Evaluations: Barbara Korecki presented to the board "Administrator Evaluations; Suggestions by Barbara Korecki, 4/20/08."

The U-32 Staff Association also prepared a memo dated April 16, 2008, re: Administrator Evaluation.

Robbe Brook reviewed the process that is followed currently for administrator evaluations.

Keith Gerritt also reviewed the process that he currently follows for supervision and evaluation of U-32 Administrators.

Conrad Smith made some suggestions for changes to the document presented by the superintendent.

Discussion followed. The distinctions between feedback and evaluation were discussed, especially the idea of seeking feedback; for example, teachers seeking feedback from students and administrators seeking feedback from teachers.

The board suggested that the administrative leadership team take a look at the administrator evaluation process and provide input on developing a process that includes feedback from students and teachers.

4.2. Trimester 1 & 2 Substitute Reports: Tom McKone presented the board with U-32 Substitute Report, Trimester 1, and U-32 Substitute Report, Trimester 2. Brief discussion followed.

4.3. Memorial Request: Cheryl Rus presented a request for a donated, engraved bench in memoriam of a recently deceased student. Ginny Burley spoke about some of the history and the need that has arisen for a policy or framework to handle such requests. Mark Berry stated that this has been a "dormant" issue for several years and, due to recent events, needs to be revisited. Some discussion followed. The students present stated that they would like to see this resolved so the bench might be in place before they graduate. Mark Berry invited any interested to attend the next Policy meeting, which is Friday, April 18th at 7:30 a.m. A parent asked the board to accept this donation and then go forward with developing a policy for the future. Barbara Korecki spoke on behalf of the students present. More discussion followed.



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The board agreed to put this request on the next agenda as an action item (as warning such action is a legal requirement), and in the meantime the Policy Committee will address this issue, for consideration at the next board meeting on May 7, 2008. The Policy Committee will report to the board at this meeting and the action agenda will include this issue. More discussion ensued.

4.4. Policy First Readings:

4.4.1. Drugs & Alcohol Policy F7

4.4.2. Prevention of Harassment of Students Policy F20

4.4.3. Vehicular Idling Policy H12

The board agreed to move policies F7 and F20 for adoption under the action agenda, and policy H12 to a second reading at its next meeting.

4.5. Policy Second Reading:

4.5.1. Co-Curricular Drugs, Alcohol & Tobacco Policy F7a

Amy Molina presented information regarding this policy for the board's discussion. The board moved this policy to a third reading at its next meeting.

4.6. Policy Third Reading:

4.6.1. Student Conduct & Discipline Policy F1

The board agreed to move this policy for adoption under the action agenda.

4.7. Fundraising: Mike Stridsberg spoke about the fundraising policy and some concerns that students have about inequity and unclear instructions. The board agreed to take another look at this policy. The idea of not having fundraisers at all in the school was discussed. The board agreed that this warrants further discussion.

5.0. Action Agenda

5.1. Finance Actions: None

5.2. Adopt Policies

**5.2.1. Student Conduct & Discipline Policy F1: Mark Berry moved to adopt this policy. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried.**

**5.2.2. Drugs & Alcohol Policy F7: Mark Berry moved to adopt this policy. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried.**

**5.2.3. Prevention of Harassment of Students F20: Mark Berry moved to adopt this policy. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried.**

**5.3. Approve Spring Coaches: Keith Gerritt distributed a U-32 Spring Coaches list for the board's information. Adrienne Magida moved to approve spring coaches as presented. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**

5.4. Resignations: None

5.5. Appointments: None

**6.0. Conrad Smith moved to approve the following board orders:**

**April 16, 2008                      \$79,008.61                      General**

**Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.**

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda:

8.0. Board Comments: Mike Stridsberg commended those involved in "The Wiz." Conrad Smith encouraged people to attend the school musicals at neighboring schools as well.

9.0. Executive Session: Upon motion of Conrad Smith, seconded by Emily Goyette, and approved unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

At 9:09 p.m., upon motion of Mike Stridsberg, seconded by Adrienne Magida, and again approved unanimously, the Board came out of Executive Session.

**Emily Goyette moved to approve a one-year leave of absence for Randy Brown as requested. The motion was seconded by Adrienne Magida and was passed by the Board with one abstention.**

10.0. Adjournment: At 9:12 p.m. without taking further action, upon motion of Mike Stridsberg, seconded by Adrienne Magida, and approved unanimously, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt, Board Recording Secretary & Conrad Smith, Board Clerk