



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 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 Services & Programs Director; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; Carole Freeman, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Student Representatives Present: Benjamin Daut and Caitlyn Couture

Others Present: Mary Ellen Hill, Michelle McFadden

1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley following the tennis court groundbreaking.

- 1.1. Reception of Guests: Ginny Burley welcomed the guests present.
- 1.2. Agenda Revisions: Mike Stridsberg suggested discussing H1N1 (Swine Flu.)
- 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence: None.

2.0. Consent Agenda

- 2.1. Allen Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2009 school board meeting. Seconded by Conrad Smith. Discussion: Allen Gilbert suggested a few edits. The minutes were approved unanimously with the noted edits.

3.0. Reports to the Board

- 3.1. W. C. S. U.: Ginny Burley reported on the recent meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 3.2. Policy: Allen Gilbert previewed a few items on tonight's agenda regarding policy.
- 3.3. Curriculum: Adrienne Magida reported that the committee looked at a couple of policies and plans to forward them to the Policy Committee.
- 3.4. Personnel: No report.
- 3.5. Negotiations: Contracts to be acted on for ratification tonight.
- 3.6. Facilities & Capital Budget: No report.
- 3.7. Central Office Building: Conrad Smith reported that the meetings have been moving forward; many decisions have been made; RFP for general contractor has been put out already.
- 3.8. Vermont School Boards' Association: Ginny Burley reported that the association is meeting next week. Allen Gilbert reported on some budget-related discussions at the State House recently.
- 3.9. Student Representative's Report: Ben Daut reported that students are preparing for the end of the school year. Caitlyn reported on a presentation this morning on cultural diversity by Armando Vileseca, the new Commissioner of Education.
- 3.10. Administrator's Report: Keith Gerritt updated the board on the H1N1 virus, especially as it relates to the U-32 students and staff who recently traveled to Mexico. He stated that the students' trip to Mexico was fantastic. Keith also reported that an automated U-32 Alert Now call had been made on Tuesday sharing information about the issue of H1N1. Some discussion followed regarding the issue of pandemic. Keith Gerritt complimented the nursing staff at U-32 for how they have continued to monitor students' health during this incident.
Regarding safety and security measures – Mark Mooney reported that: the middle school main entrance is locked during the school day and the amphitheater doors are kept locked during the school day. Mark also reported on measures around securing the loading dock.
Keith Gerritt told the board that he would be proposing a new Front Door Monitor position for the school for the next school year.
Mark Mooney reported that transition activities have begun in the middle school.
Stephanie Taylor reported on the Music Department's recent trip to NYC, and on the Marine Biology class's safe return from their Bermuda trip.
Tim Flynn reported that the Branching Out end of year presentations have begun. He offered to get schedules of these presentations to board members and administrators.
- 3.11. Strategic Plan: Robbe Brook reported that the committee is beginning to plan the second year of this 5-year plan.

4.0. Discussion Agenda

- 4.1. Fundraising: Mark Berry shared the existing policy with the board and asked the board whether anyone had an opinion about this policy as it stands. Discussion followed regarding fundraising. Some board members are interested in seeing the expenses of field trips to consider whether the school operating budget could include the monies for all field trips in order to eliminate fund raising altogether.
- 4.2. Administrator Evaluation & Review Process: Conrad Smith shared some changes he proposed to the current document *Washington Central Supervisory Union Evaluation Process for Administrators and Directors*. Robbe Brook responded to his suggestions and provided a history of the evolution of this document/ process. Allen Gilbert and Conrad Smith recalled that while a revision of the draft to this document had been promised, no revision has been



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given to the board or the Policy Committee of the board. Some discussion followed regarding creating/ revising/ approving this document and/or creating a new procedure related to this document. Conrad Smith asked for a revision to this document with a more “360 degree” input into evaluation. Ginny Burley would like to see more objective criteria in the document. Robbe Brook asked for a time frame. Keith Gerritt asked for at least the summer to work on revisions to this. Robbe Brook suggested having a document for the Executive Committee to approve by August.

- 4.3. Curriculum Development & Adoption: Conrad Smith stated that he feels that curriculum decisions are the core of school board governing. Keith Gerritt responded to Conrad Smith’s concerns, specifically about the issue of “AP” and the role of the supervisory union versus the role of the U-32 board when making decisions around these types of curricular issues. Ginny Burley stated that clarity regarding statutes and roles and responsibilities is still needed. Ginny Burley asked the Policy Committee to look at U-32’s G1 Policy to see if it is current. Who will make decisions regarding AP curriculum? The order of decision making re: this issue will be: Committee – Admin Leadership Team – U-32 Board.
- 4.4. Drugs & Alcohol Policy Discussion: postponed to the next board meeting. Tim Flynn did ask the board to consider the edits that were suggested to this policy, specifically, the issue of “tobacco.”
- 4.5. Policy First Reading
 - 4.5.1. Home School Credit and Placement

5.0. Action Agenda

- 5.1. Approve the ratification of the Negotiated Teachers’ Agreement for 2008 through 2010: Mark Berry moved to approve ratification of the Negotiated Teachers’ Agreement for 2008 through 2010. Seconded by Conrad Smith, this motion carried unanimously.
- 5.2. Approve the ratification of the Educational Support Personnel Agreement for 2008 through 2010: Mark Berry moved to approve the ratification of the Educational Support Personnel Agreement for 2008 through 2010. Seconded by Conrad Smith, this motion carried unanimously.
- 5.3. Authorize a board member to sign Negotiated Agreements on behalf of the Board of Directors: Conrad Smith moved to authorize Ginny Burley to sign Negotiated Agreements on behalf of the Board of Directors. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.
- 5.4. Approve 2009-2010 ESP Staffing: Keith Gerritt stated that this is to indicate that we plan to retain all current staff. Mark Berry moved to approve 2009-2010 ESP Staffing. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.
- 5.5. Set Summer Board Meeting Schedule: Keith Gerritt provided the board with a handout for the board’s consideration. Adrienne Magida moved to approve the summer schedule as presented without an August 26th meeting. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.
- 5.6. Resignations: None.
- 5.7. Appointments: None.

6.0. Allen Gilbert moved to approve the following board orders:

May 6, 2009	\$108,964.42	General
May 6, 2009	\$20,499.96	Food Services
May 6, 2009	\$1,740.00	Athletic Officials

Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda

8.0. Board Comments: Ginny Burley reported that Steven Metcalf has resigned as Superintendent of Schools in Montpelier, due to health issues.

9.0. Anticipated Executive Session for the purpose of discussing student discipline, legal, personnel and/or negotiations matters.

At 9:00 p.m. Mike Stridsberg moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel and student issues. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.

At 9:29 p.m. Mike Stridsberg moved to come out of executive session. Seconded by Emily Goyette, the motion carried unanimously.

10.0. Adjournment: Without taking further action the board adjourned by consensus at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt



Board Recording Secretary

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