



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2008

PAGE 1

Board Members Present: Ginny Burley, Chair; Mark Berry, Vice-Chair (arrived at 7:15); Conrad Smith, Clerk (left at 8:00); Allen Gilbert, Adrienne Magida, Mike Stridsberg (arrived at 7:45).

Administrators Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal; Tom McKone, HS Assistant Principal; Lisa LaPlante, Guidance Director.

Student Representatives Present: Benjamin Daut

Also Present: Andrea Bonamico, Tom Cate, Anne Decker, Joanne Greenberg, Liz Snell, Paula Dolan, and Jeff Rubin

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.
 - 1.1. Ginny Burley welcomed those present.
 - 1.2. Agenda Revisions – None, except that the order of items will be changed in order to accommodate the department presentations.
 - 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence – Board members commented on graduation. Mike Stridsberg noted that trying to have both Montpelier's and U-32's graduation on the same night caused some hardship for those who couldn't get to Montpelier's as early as it started. A parent asked about the 8th grade "Step Up" night being held in the auditorium which imposes a limit on guests. She was told that students are able to get more than three tickets if they check with their TA or the middle school administrative assistants.
- 2.0. **Allen Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2008 school board meeting. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg. One edit was noted. This motion passed unanimously, as amended.**
- 3.0. Reports to the Board
 - 3.1. Finance: Allen Gilbert reported that the Finance Committee has three items for action on the agenda tonight.
 - 3.2. Curriculum: No report.
 - 3.3. Vermont School Boards' Association: Ginny Burley reported briefly on recent happenings at the VSBA.
 - 3.4. Facilities Report: Conrad Smith shared a copy of the "Capital Budget" plan for the board's perusal. It is not ready for board action or approval at this time. Some discussion followed regarding items on this list. Allen Gilbert noted that the board should be credited for using good management strategies in this respect.
 - 3.5. Negotiations: No report.
 - 3.6. Student Representative's Report: Ben had no report tonight. The board thanked Ben for the job he did this year as a student advocate with the board. Ben heads for Alaska tomorrow!
 - 3.7. Administrator's Report: Keith Gerritt reported that the annual DC trip was very successful. Keith also reported on a water monitoring project underway, and several other end of year happenings. The board thanked Tom McKone for his contribution to the school. Tom McKone reported that he is meeting several times with Stephanie Taylor in the next couple weeks. Lisa LaPlante stated that the Capital Plaza had sent a letter of thanks after the prom, saying that this was the first year that students had stayed and helped clean up after the prom. She reported on her chaperoning of Project Graduation and proctoring of the ACT that same weekend. Lisa also reported to the board on the status of students who have not graduated. Conrad Smith asked about the progress of scheduling and she reported that she believes it is going well.
- 4.0. Discussion Agenda
 - 4.1. Department Review Presentation – Theater Arts: Liz Snell presented "U-32 Program Review – 2008: Theater Arts, curricular and co-curricular programs." The teachers spoke about their wishes for the program – first, to be able to offer enough sections of current courses to honor all student requests. Secondly, to offer a wider variety of theater arts courses. Discussion followed regarding males choosing visual/ performing arts. Some discussion of the grading system followed. The board thanked the teachers for their dedication.
 - 4.2. Department Review Presentation – Music: Ann Decker presented "U-32 Program Review 2008: Music Department." Teachers spoke about scheduling difficulties. The board asked whether incoming 7th graders are prepared for the music programs at U-32. The answer was unanimously "no." Tom Cate suggested a summer recertification course where schools in the supervisory union could work collaboratively on common curriculum. Some discussion followed regarding digital technology. The board thanked the teachers.
 - 4.3. WCSU Roles & Responsibilities: The board reviewed the Roles and Responsibilities draft. Conrad Smith asked that the WCSU Executive Committee compare the By-Laws with this document for inconsistencies. Discussion followed regarding common curriculum, supervisory union-wide. Ginny Burley suggested that board members look over this document and provide feedback to her before the next WCSU Executive Committee meeting.
 - 4.4. Policy First Reading:
 - 4.4.1. Allen Gilbert introduced this policy: Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Check Policy – D1- for first reading. The board discussed this draft and provided some input for the Policy



**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2008**

Committee's ongoing discussion. This policy is moved to a second reading; Allen Gilbert abstained from this vote.

5.0. Action Agenda

5.1. Finance Actions

5.1.1. Award Revenue Anticipation Note Bid: Allen Gilbert moved to award the Revenue Anticipation Note bid to TD Banknorth Vermont for the time period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, for the loan amount of \$3,545,124 at the interest rate of 2.59%. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.

5.1.2. Award Investment Bid: Allen Gilbert moved to award the Investment bid to TD Banknorth Vermont for the time period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, at a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 3.25%. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.

5.1.3. Approve Transfer from Fund Balance to Capital Fund: Allen Gilbert and Conrad Smith presented the impetus behind this recommendation from the Finance Committee. The long-term plan and the purpose of the Capital Fund were discussed. The board agreed to seek advice from the auditors with respect to planning the capital fund several years out.

Allen Gilbert moved to transfer \$250,000 from the Fund Balance to the Capital Fund. Seconded by Conrad Smith. This motion carried unanimously.

5.2. Resignations: This action will be taken after Executive Session.

5.3. Appointments: Allen Gilbert moved to appoint the following:

5.3.1. Xiomara Blakely Custodian

Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

6.0. Mark Berry moved to approve the following board orders:

June 17, 2008	\$144,467.85	General
June 17, 2008	\$332.32	Athletic Officials

Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda: None.

8.0. Board Comments: The board discussed the proposal to hold both the U-32 board meeting and the WCSU Full Board meeting on September 17th. Adrienne Magida will host the U-32 retreat in August.

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

Mark Berry moved to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

Mark Berry moved to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

Mark Berry moved to accept the resignation of Barbara Kohn-Saxe with regret. Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

10.0. Adjournment: There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m. without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt,
Board Recording Secretary
&
Ginny Burley
Board Chair