



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2008

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

Administrators Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal; Stephanie Taylor, HS Assistant Principal.

Others: Rick Hopkins, John LaRosa, Michael Woodfield.

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.
 - 1.1. Ginny Burley welcomed all guests and our new administrator, Stephanie Taylor, to her first board meeting.
 - 1.2. Agenda Revisions – None.
 - 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence: Rick Hopkins spoke to the board about the U-32 Tennis Court Project. Some discussion followed regarding the process to this point. Ginny Burley reported that the Finance Committee would like to put this issue on the next board agenda and discuss in more detail.
- 2.0. Consent Agenda
 - 2.1. Allen Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2008 School Board Meeting. Seconded by Adrienne Magida. Discussion: Allen Gilbert suggested an edit for clarity. The minutes were approved unanimously, with noted edit.**
- 3.0. Reports to the Board
 - 3.1. W. C. S. U.: Keith Gerritt reported that a large focus for the supervisory union this year will be implementation of the Strategic Plan.
Ginny Burley reported that the LEAD-IT team attended a conference at UVM.
 - 3.2. Policy: No report.
 - 3.3. Personnel: No report.
 - 3.4. Co-Curricular: No report.
 - 3.5. Curriculum: No report.
 - 3.6. Facilities Report: No report.
 - 3.7. Negotiations: Ginny Burley reported that the negotiating parties had declared an “impasse” in the spring and that meetings will resume, presumably in September.
 - 3.8. Student Representative’s Report: No report.
 - 3.9. Administrator’s Report: Keith Gerritt reported on professional development teacher in-service days at the end of this past school year. He reported that the Administrative Team will go on a retreat next week to work further on the WCSU Strategic Plan. Keith also reported that hiring committees have been busy this summer.
Keith Gerritt reported that next week he is going on a two-day retreat to participate on the Activities Standards Committee of the VPA.
Stephanie Taylor stated that she has enjoyed getting acquainted with the school and the administrative team this summer; she commented on how thoroughly the building and grounds team works over the summer.
 - 3.10. Finance Committee: Allen Gilbert reported on planning for the Capital Fund. He reported on the effect of oil and wood chip price increases for FY09. He explained that the cafeteria will hire another part-time employee to accommodate the semester scheduling, as discussed earlier this year.
- 4.0. Discussion Agenda
 - 4.1. Policy Second Reading
 - 4.1.1. Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Check Policy – D1
This policy is moved to a third reading. At that reading Allen Gilbert will have his notes on edits and discussion points that were brought up previously, for the board to reconsider. Emily Goyette suggested a few edits for clarity; Allen Gilbert made notes and will send an electronic draft to board members before the next board meeting.
- 5.0. Action Agenda
 - 5.1. Approve New Authorized Signer for Petty & Special Accounts: Mark Berry moved to approve removing Tom McKone and adding Stephanie Taylor as an authorized signer on the Petty and Special accounts. Other authorized signers will remain unchanged. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried unanimously.**
 - 5.2. Approve 2008-2009 Student/Parent Handbook Draft: Mark Berry moved to approve this draft. Seconded by Emily Goyette.**
Discussion: Mike Stridsberg noted that his name was incorrect on the first page. Board members will clarify with Kristie Ferguson about their preferences re: email address publication. Some discussion followed as board members reviewed the draft. A brief discussion of composting at U-32 followed.
Stephanie Taylor asked the board to provide comments/suggestions to Kristie Ferguson or herself by Monday, August 11th.



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This motion carried unanimously.

5.3. Approve 2008-2009 Bus Routes: Keith Gerritt noted that bus routes are still tentative at this point. Allen Gilbert moved to accept the bus routes as drafted and to authorize Keith Gerritt to make any further revisions to the route. **Seconded by Mark Berry.**

Discussion: Mike Stridsberg suggested that spellings of names on the bus route should be double-checked – Keith Gerritt suggested that names be omitted from the bus route altogether. Discussion followed regarding bus routes; also the possibility of vans or smaller busses for those routes with low ridership.

This motion carried unanimously.

5.4. Approve Fall Athletics Coaches: Mike Stridsberg moved to approve this list, dated 7-30-08. **Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.**

5.5. Resignations: Allen Gilbert moved to accept these resignations, with regret. **Seconded by Mark Berry.**

A discussion of “exit interviews” followed.

- 5.5.1. James Segar 1.0 FTE Physical Education Teacher**
- 5.5.2. Tracey Witherspoon 1.0 FTE Social Studies Teacher – MS**
- 5.5.3. Jamie Caron 1.0 FTE Math Teacher – MS**
- 5.5.4. Becky Goddard Food Service Worker**

This motion carried unanimously.

5.6. Appointments: Allen Gilbert moved to approve these appointments. **Seconded by Adrienne Magida.**

Discussion: Keith Gerritt commented that he is very pleased with the quality of the candidates. Ginny Burley suggested that she would like the board to host a breakfast early in the year for new staff. Mark Berry suggested the “picture board” that has been discussed in the past.

- 5.6.1. Judy Abiatti 0.9 FTE Physical Education Teacher**
- 5.6.2. John Antonucci 0.4 FTE Business Education Teacher**
- 5.6.3. Katie Babic 1.0 FTE Guidance Counselor**
- 5.6.4. Robert Blankinship 1.0 FTE Science Teacher**
- 5.6.5. Danielle Ferreira 1.0 FTE Visual Arts Teacher**
- 5.6.6. Cathy Guiffre 1.0 FTE Math Teacher – MS**
- 5.6.7. Amy Koenigbauer 0.7 FTE Visual Arts Teacher**
- 5.6.8. Erin Mooney 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher**
- 5.6.9. April Peet 1.0 FTE Social Studies Teacher – MS**
- 5.6.10. Stephen Towne 1.0 FTE Physical Education Teacher**

This motion carried unanimously.

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

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|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| June 13, 2008 | \$20,803.20 | Phone Contract |
| June 25, 2008 | \$14,426.52 | Food Services |
| June 30, 2008 | \$60,732.05 | General |
| July 30, 2008 | \$144,908.85 | General |
| August 6, 2008 | \$499,631.14 | General |

Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda: None.

8.0. Board Comments: Mark Berry asked board members to let him know of any dietary restrictions as he prepares to host the board retreat.

Ginny Burley spoke about a student issue regarding driver’s education, and she reiterated that this is an issue for the school administrators and not for the board. Ginny Burley commented that if there are exceptions to the policy, then the board should clearly communicate the process.

The board expressed condolences to the Garand family for the loss of their home to fire.

9.0. Executive Session: At 7:35 p.m. Mark Berry moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. **Seconded by Adrienne Magida, this motion carried unanimously.**

At 8:00 p.m. Mark Berry moved and Adrienne Magida seconded a motion to come out of executive session. This motion carried unanimously. No further action was taken.

10.0. Adjournment: By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt, Board Recording Secretary &



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Allen Gilbert, Acting Board Clerk