



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2006

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Present: Ginny Burley, Chair; Rob LaClair, Vice-Chair; Allen Gilbert, Clerk; Mark Berry, Susan Chickering, Stuart Savage, Tom Williams, Keith Gerritt, Principal; Tom McKone, HS Assistant Principal; Andrew Huckins-Noss, Student Representative.

Also Present: Carole Freeman, WCSU Curriculum Director

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.
 - 1.1. Ginny Burley welcomed Carole Freeman.
 - 1.2. Agenda Revisions – Ginny Burley noted that she wanted to talk to the board about the Central Vermont Civic Center.
 - 1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence – None.
- 2.0. **Rob LaClair moved and Tom Williams seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2006 school board meeting. Allen Gilbert commented on an item under 1.0 that was unclear (in the motion that passed that evening). He suggested the following correction for clarification:**
“if they fail to move in by that day, they agree to pay prorated tuition from that date (Feb 28th) until the date they move into their new residence.”
The motion carried with the change as noted.
- 3.0. Reports to the Board – Keith Gerritt circulated several packets of information for board members.
 - 3.1. Finance: Mr. Savage explained the handout reflected the end of last school year. He suggested that the board members come back with questions or comments at the next board meeting if necessary. He also noted that one item, oil cost, was “under-funded” and a suggestion is made by the finance committee for a board motion to put this in the budget from fund balance. Some discussion followed regarding the fund balance, a facilities/capital fund, and the upcoming roof project. Ginny Burley noted that the school received around \$80,000 in a Microsoft settlement.
 - 3.2. Curriculum Committee
 - 3.3. Vermont School Boards’ Association: Ginny Burley urged the board members to attend the upcoming regional meeting at Spaulding.
 - 3.4. Administrator’s Report: Keith Gerritt reported that today was the first in-service day of the year. He reported about a student who recently developed serious health issues and the plans that are underway to help incoming students deal with this traumatic news. Keith Gerritt also noted that he shared with the faculty his three goals for the year:
 - How to raise U32 to the “next level,” – he stated that department chairpersons met today to brainstorm about what “next level” means to them, he asked the board to set aside time to talk about this same issue, he talked about the necessity to be able to assess whether or not this goal is met;
 - Accountability: he expects everyone to conduct themselves in professional manner and to carry out his/her professional duties;
 - HSOM participation: High Schools on the Move: Dr. Richard Jones is speaking Friday morning and will talk about this concept and the “four Rs”: rigor, relevance, relationships, reflections. The board asked how this was received by faculty and Keith Gerritt stated that it was well-received and there is a broad spectrum of interested faculty members.Tom McKone reported that the keynote speakers during in-service will be tape-recorded for any board members, or others, who miss. Eleven U-32 teachers took the Differentiated Instruction course over the summer, and he is excited about getting a large group of teachers on board and looking to the following year to spread to a more school wide endeavor.
Ginny Burley asked Keith Gerritt in what forum he would like to receive the board’s input regarding the “taking U-32 to the next level” goal. He replied that he wasn’t sure of the protocol but he envisioned, for example, discussing during a board retreat. Board members noted that they were anxious to share in this discussion.
- 4.0. Discussion Agenda
 - 4.1. Students Exceeding the Standards Presentation: Carole Freeman gave a PowerPoint presentation “Report of the WCSU Students Exceeding the Standards Committee, Presented to the WCSU Executive Board, May 2006.” Some discussion followed; the board agreed this is an emotional subject and the board would like to have further discussion and input.
 - 4.2. 2006-2007 Student/ Parent Handbook: Ginny Burley invited comments. Allen Gilbert noted that he had several editing suggestions.
 - 4.3. Ginny Burley brought up for discussion the subject of the Central Vermont Civic Center and some state tax law related money issues. She asked the board’s opinion on writing a letter stating U-32’s usage and enjoyment of the civic center, as well as attending the meeting related to this issue. Allen Gilbert explained some legal aspects to this developing issue. The crux of the issue is whether the Civic Center continues to qualify as a non-profit entity. The board consensus was that writing a letter on behalf of the board in support of the Civic Center would be prudent.



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5.0. Action Agenda

5.1. Allen Gilbert moved and Stuart Savage seconded a motion to approve the 2006-2007 Student/Parent Handbook.

This motion carried unanimously.

5.2. Rob LaClair moved and Tom Williams seconded a motion to approve Fall Athletics Coaches.

This motion carried unanimously.

5.3. Stuart Savage moved and Rob LaClair seconded a motion to move \$15,800 from the fund balance into the facilities budget to cover costs.

This motion carried unanimously.

5.4. Resignations: None.

5.5. Appointments: None.

6.0. Allen Gilbert moved and Stuart Savage seconded a motion to approve the following board orders.

- **August 21, 2006 \$80.00**
- **August 23, 2006 \$73,426.73**

This motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Executive Session: None.

8.0. Ideas for Future Agenda

9.0. Board Comments

10.0. There being no further business, the board adjourned by consensus at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt
Board Recording Secretary