



## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008

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**Board Members Present:** Ginny Burley, Chair; Mark Berry, Vice-Chair; Conrad Smith, Clerk; Allen Gilbert, Emily Goyette, Adrienne Magida, and Michael Stridsberg

**Administrators Present:** Keith Gerritt, Principal; Stephanie Taylor, HS Assistant Principal; Mark Mooney, MS Assistant Principal; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; and Lisa LaPlante, Guidance Director

1.0. The meeting was called to order by Chair Ginny Burley at 6:03 p.m.

1.1. Guests were welcomed

2.0. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a student discipline matter:

**At 6:04p.m., Allen Gilbert moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing student discipline matters. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.**

**At 6:55 p.m., Allen Gilbert moved to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**

**Student Representatives Present:** Ben Daut and Caitlyn Couture

**Others Present:** Angela Shea, Student Assistance Program Counselor, Ed Deegan, and John Pandolfo

3.0. The open meeting began at 6:57 p.m.

**Allen Gilbert moved to accept the administration's recommendation regarding the first student disciplinary matter. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg. This motion carried unanimously.**

**Mark Berry moved to accept the administration's recommendation regarding the second student matter. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg. Discussion: Allen Gilbert stated that he intends to vote "no" because he is not prepared to vote "yes" without more information. A vote was called. This motion passed with one vote against.**

3.1. Reception of Guests: Ginny Burley welcomed those present and introductions were made.

3.2. Agenda Revisions: None.

3.3. Public Comments and Correspondence: Ben Daut read an invitation for board members to attend Stage 32's fall play "Comic Potential" this weekend.

4.0. Consent Agenda

**4.1. Mark Berry moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2008 School Board Meeting. Seconded by Allen Gilbert. Discussion: Some revisions were recommended. This motion carried unanimously, with noted edits.**

5.0. Reports to the Board

5.1. W. C. S. U.: Ginny Burley reviewed the WCSU By-Laws. Board members suggested a few edits.

5.2. Policy: Allen Gilbert reported on the recent work by the committee.

5.3. Curriculum: Adrienne Magida reported on a proposed revision to a high school social studies course. Allen Gilbert asked how those courses align with other grades. Ginny Burley noted that these curriculum revisions came out of the department program review process.

5.4. Personnel: No report.

5.5. Negotiations: Mark Berry reported that negotiations continue.

5.6. Facilities: Conrad Smith reported on some facilities items. He stated that the Capital Budget is still being developed and will be presented to the board as part of the entire budget proposal. Keith Gerritt reported on the tennis court project: the proposed location is moved from the softball field area to the practice football field area. Next meeting is November 26th, 10:30 a.m.

5.7. Co-Curricular: No report.

5.8. Student Representative's Report: Ben Daut reported on having spoken to the Student Council this morning. He stated that students say that study hall is more widely chosen as time goes on (versus U-Band activities) because the U-Band activities are not as compelling. Ben thanked the board for the purchase of the light board for the theater.

5.9. Administrator's Report: Mark Mooney reported on the middle school's "Mocktail" activities.

Stephanie Taylor reported that she had attended a bullying/harassment prevention training last week. She also shared how the staff had used part of the recent professional development day for NECAP assessment score analysis. Discussion followed regarding the district's new automated telephone notification system *AlertNow*.



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Keith Gerritt reported that the budget development process is well under way. He reported that the Raising U-32 to the Next Level committee has met twice already this year. Conversation has expanded from the issue of Advanced Placement courses to the broader issue of how to continue to challenge our most academically skilled students.

Robbe Brook reported that she, Nancy Thomas, and Ginny Burley had attended the VSBA conference.

- 5.10. Strategic Plan: Robbe Brook reported on the WCSU Strategic Plan and the development of a "Green Committee" as part of the Plan. Adrienne Magida suggested putting an ad in the paper to recruit people to this committee. Some students are interested in taking part in this effort.

6.0. Discussion Agenda

- 6.1. Student Assistance Program Presentation – Lisa LaPlante & Angela Shea: Angela Shea reported to the board on her role in this grant-funded position. She provided a written summary of her role and her plans, as well as a sample referral form. Lisa LaPlante and Stephanie Taylor complimented Angela on her work so far this year at U-32.  
 Allen Gilbert expressed his concern with bringing a K9 unit to the school, even for the purpose of demonstration. He also expressed concern with portions of the sample referral form. Discussion followed regarding the referral form. Angela Shea is going to work with Lisa LaPlante to edit the form.
- 6.2. 2008-2009 Action Plan: Keith Gerritt distributed and reviewed the latest draft of the Action Plan.
- 6.3. Clarify Role of Facilities Committee: Some discussion followed regarding this issue. The board agreed to more clearly define capital budget items versus facilities items and to rename this committee the Facilities & Capital Budget Committee.

7.0. Action Agenda

- 7.1. **Approve 2008-2009 Action Plan: Adrienne Magida moved to approve this as edited earlier. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried unanimously.**
- 7.2. **Approve 2008-2009 Equity Coordinators. Adrienne Magida moved to approve the two Equity Coordinators. Seconded by Emily Goyette. Discussion: Allen Gilbert asked more specifics about this proposal. This motion carried unanimously.**
- 7.3. Resignations: None.
- 7.4. **Appointments: Adrienne Magida moved to approve the following appointment. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**
  - 7.4.1 John Lakey PT Maintenance & Mechanic

8.0. Mike Stridsberg moved to approve the following board orders:

November 5, 2008	\$544,583.11	General
November 5, 2008	\$27,690.04	Food Services
November 5, 2008	\$2,135.56	Athletic Officials

**Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**

9.0. Ideas for Future Agenda: Keith Gerritt suggested that the board view the film "The Apartment: Admit One to Adulthood" and have a presentation/discussion at a board meeting. The board agreed that February would be the best time to address this, in light of budget development taking precedence right now.

10.0. Board Comments

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

At 8:07 p.m., upon motion of Mark Berry, seconded by Mike Stridsberg, and approved unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

At 8:21 p.m., upon motion of Adrienne Magida, seconded by Mark Berry, and approved unanimously, the Board came out of Executive Session.

**At 8:22, in open session, Adrienne Magida, seconded by Mark Berry, moved to approved the changes to the "Supplemental Contracts and Stipends 2008-2009" included in the Board's meeting package (as corrected). The motion passed unanimously.**

12.0. Adjournment: There being no further business, the board adjourned by consensus at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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