



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2008

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

Administrators Present: Keith Gerritt, Principal; Stephanie Taylor, HS Assistant Principal; Tim Flynn, Special Services & Programs Director; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; Lori Bibeau, WCSU Business Manager

Student Representatives: Ben Daut, Kaitlyn Couture

Others Present: Nancy Disenhaus, Tom Cate

1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley.

1.1. Ginny Burley welcomed guests present.

1.2. Agenda Revisions – None.

1.3. Public Comments and Correspondence – Nancy Disenhaus read a letter from students who asked that Stephanie Taylor, as an administrator, follow their schedules for a few days to see how confusing and stressful it is. Tom Cate spoke about the issue of fundraising and fairness/ equity. The Policy Committee will meet on Friday, December 12th at 7:30 a.m. and invites him to attend to provide input regarding this policy. Mark Berry commended Tom Cate on U-32 band performances.

2.0. Allen Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 school board meeting. Seconded by Emily Goyette. Some edits were provided. This motion carried unanimously, with noted edits

3.0. Reports to the Board

3.1. W. C. S. U.: Ginny Burley shared the latest developments on the WCSU budget proposal for 2009-2010. She reported that the WCSU By-Laws have been approved by the Executive Committee. Central Office Facilities planning continues to move along; analysis of the proposed site is planned. Conrad Smith gave a brief preview of the transportation proposal(s) that will be “unveiled” December 11th.

3.2. Policy: Allen Gilbert reported that policies currently under consideration are: student medication, substitute teachers, “lice” policy. This Friday the committee plans to look again at a policy regarding memorials. Ginny Burley stated that U-32 should have a policy regarding visiting students taking part in “home stays” (and who is liable.) The board agreed to talk about this at a later date.

3.3. Finance: Allen Gilbert reported that the financial report for this year is relatively unchanged.

3.4. Curriculum: Adrienne Magida reported that the committee met earlier this evening. She reported that “text book,” “honor roll,” “internet,” “materials selection,” “achievement testing,” and “attendance” (because it refers to trimesters) policies will be reviewed.

3.5. Personnel: No report

3.6. Negotiations: No report

3.7. Facilities: Keith Gerritt reported that the committee met before Thanksgiving. He reported on the Capital Budget and some of the purchases recently made, along with some in the near future (specifically, theater stage rigging work.)

3.8. Co-Curricular: No report

3.9. Student Representatives’ Report: Ben Daut reported that the HS Student Council is busy planning the Crystal Ball scheduled for January 18th.

3.10. Administrators’ Report: Stephanie Taylor reported on the “Word of Mouth.” She also reported that the Marine Biology trip to Bermuda leaves on Saturday morning, with another group planning to go in May. The next student assembly will be put together by the ninth grade class.

Keith Gerritt reported on possible changes to the daily/weekly schedule for semester 2. Some discussion followed.

3.11. Strategic Plan: Robbe Brook reported on progress so far this year on the Strategic Plan.

The Board congratulated U-32 teachers Mark Chaplin, Kathy Topping-Weise and Adam French for attaining National Board Certification.

4.0. Discussion Agenda

4.1. FY 2010 Budget Draft #2: Lori Bibeau presented enrollment information and the draft budget.

Tim Flynn provided the board with a packet of information regarding Ninth Grade Academy. Some discussion followed regarding this program.

Lori Bibeau continued to explain/discuss the draft budget figures. Keith Gerritt explained the *U-32 Summary of Budget Changes FY 2010 versus FY 2009*.

Discussion followed regarding the position of “Technology Integrationist.”



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Keith Gerritt stated that this is the leanest budget he has presented in his ten years as a school principal. Some discussion followed regarding class size in light of declining student enrollment. Conrad Smith said he would like to look at class size lists. The directive the board gave to the administration is to prepare a budget that would avoid the “two vote” scenario. Keith Gerritt will also provide information regarding what a 1% reduction in the actual budget increase from the 3.87% to 2.87% would look like for comparison.

5.0. Action Agenda

5.1. Finance Actions: None

5.2. Approve Winter Athletics Coaches: Adrienne Magida moved to approve the winter athletics coaches as presented. Seconded by Emily Goyette, this motion carried. Ginny Burley abstained from this vote.

5.3. Resignations: None

5.4. Appointments: None

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

December 3, 2008 \$131,490.68 General

December 3, 2008 \$19,175.68 Food Services

Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried unanimously.

7.0. Ideas for Future Agenda: None

8.0. Board Comments: None

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

At 8:35 p.m., Mark Berry moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Seconded by Allen Gilbert, this motion carried unanimously.

At 9:03 p.m. Allen Gilbert moved to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg, this motion carried unanimously.

10.0. At 9:04 p.m., without taking further action, the Chair adjourned the Board meeting, without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt
Board Recording Secretary
&
Conrad Smith
Board Clerk