



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008

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Board Members Present: Ginny Burly, 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; Robbe Brook, Superintendent; Lisa LaPlante, Guidance & Counseling Director; Lori Bibeau, WCSU Business Manager

Student Representatives: Ben Daut, Kaitlyn Couture

Others Present: Nancy Mercer, Linda Couture, Kate McCann

- 1.0. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Chair, Ginny Burley
 - 1.1. Ginny welcomed guests present
 - 1.2. Agenda Revisions – None
 - 1.3. Public Comments & Correspondence – Ginny discussed some calls she received from parents regarding policies on students watching “R” rated movies in class. There is no specific policy but Ginny suggested to other board members to think about for the future.
- 2.0. Consent Agenda
 - 2.1. Adrienne Magida moved to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2008 School Board meeting. Seconded by Mike Stridsberg. Some edits were provided. This motion carried unanimously, with noted edits.**
- 3.0. Reports to the Board
 - 3.1. Finance – No report
 - 3.2. Curriculum – No report
 - 3.3. Policy – Discussions continues on memorials and working on the correct language for the student medications policy.
 - 3.4. Facilities & Capital Budget – No report
 - 3.5. Negotiations – No report
 - 3.6. Vermont School Boards’ Association – Discussed in Executive Session
 - 3.7. Student Representatives’ Report – Ben Daut spoke to the topic of this year’s new schedule. Nancy Mercer and Kate McCann shared their thoughts on how the schedule has affected them and some of their students.
 - 3.8. Administrator’s Report – Lisa LaPlante gave the board an update on recent activities and events in the Guidance Department.

Stephanie Taylor told the board about the in-school middle school holiday concert that had taken place, with the evening concert that evening. The high school concerts will be tomorrow. Stephanie explained that there are 175 middle school and 125 high school students involved in the holiday concerts, making up more than one third of our students.

Keith Gerritt reported to the board that a combined boys and girls varsity ice hockey trip is being planned to Iceland and Sweden in February 2010. Joy Wilcox will again organize the trip.
 - 3.9. Strategic Plan – Robbe reported on the progress of the Green & Wired project with more to report after the January 12, 2008 meeting.
- 4.0. Discussion Agenda
 - 4.1. FY 2010 Budget Draft #3 – Lori Bibeau discussed changes from draft #2 and explained the effect of the budget and actualized student numbers on the tax rate for each town. Keith Gerritt indicated to the board that the present draft #3 of the budget was extremely responsible and contained no unnecessary expenses. Consequently, any further cuts in the budget would require cutting program. Keith provided a list of possible programs that could be cut and the dollar figure represented by each program. He also provided a copy of the current class size printout for the high school. Discussion followed regarding the impact of staff cuts and the increasing class size.

The Board recommended budget draft #3 as presented by the administration be approved at its next meeting on January 7, 2009.
 - 4.2. Review of District Warning Draft – Lori Bibeau discussed/explained revisions. The board set the date for the Budget Informational Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2009
- 5.0. Action Agenda
 - 5.1. Approve Tuition Waiver Request –Discussed in Executive Session. No Action Taken.
 - 5.2. Approve Winter Athletic Coaches – To be discussed in Executive Session
 - 5.3. Retirement/Resignations:
 - 5.3.1. Mike Stridsberg moved to accept the retirement of Eleanor Woodfield, 0.8 FTE science teacher, with deep regret. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**
 - 5.3.2. Mike Stridsberg moved to accept the resignation of Robert Blankinship, 1.0FTE science teacher. Seconded by Mark Berry, this motion carried unanimously.**

