

**Windsor Southeast SU Carousel Meeting  
Draft Minutes  
August 7, 2018**

**Present:** Nicole Buck, Beth Roy, Scott Richardson, Sarah Stewart Taylor, Elizabeth Burrows, Bill Yates, Nancy Pedrick, Sean Whalen, Heidi Remick, Jacqui Antonivich, Robin Tindall, Carl Malikowski, Sherrie Greeley, Beth Carter, David Baker, Angie Ladeau, Larry Dougher, Jenifer Aldrich, Tiffany Cassano, Christine Bourne, Ed Connor, Karen Woolsey

**Not Present:** Amy McMullen, Kris Garnjost, JeanMarie Oakman

Called to order at 6:35 PM by Vice Chair Elizabeth Burrows.

**Minutes:** Retreat Minutes of June 18, 2018. Elizabeth Burrows asked the board to approve the minutes. Minutes passed with one abstention.

**Changes:** Adding Kerrie Phillips, Sierra Ellis, Nikki White

**Public Comments:** None

**Discussion Items:**

Financials: Ed Connors

If something comes to vote only SU members should vote.

Assessments: Business Office over budget by \$24,000.

Special Education over budget by \$634,144.

ECP is under budget by \$80,570.28.

Look at all assessments and have to go back so ECP and general fund end at zero.

Schools done to date: Hartland surplus; Weathersfield surplus; West Windsor is \$153,916 in red; and Windsor \$110,760 in the red.

Windsor/West Windsor in the red and beginning budget work for unified budget. Beth Roy asked on assessment balances do you look at what dollar is per pupil at other area schools. Ed Connors mentioned we use equalized pupils.

General Fund and ECP: In general business office and special education revenues and expenses in here. Contracted services deficit as contracted with Tyler and then state went to another vendor.

Grants offset professional development at the SU. Ended up \$24,000 in the red.

Special Education - Contracted Services. Due to Social/Emotional Interventions needed at different schools. Special Education is obligated to provide transportation. More out of district placements. Over by \$314,826.94. Excess costs are school choice town children. Billed districts for overage.

All special education revenue comes to the SU and do not receive fourth quarter reimbursement until later. Last report was due August 1 and will not see payment until September/October. Special education reimbursement and extraordinary will change as used reimbursement rate for FY17 as state not calculated FY18 rate. Elizabeth Burrows asked about delay when put in new funding formula. Ed Connors mentioned next year will be reimbursed at 60% and then after that a block grant.

Overages will fall to fund balance. When close out a year at SU the goal is to close at zero. Early Childhood is at zero. In FY18 ending general and early childhood budgets at zero. As develop budget carry forward balances at SU the goal is zero so not carry forward. Surplus in FY17 of \$135,000 and came to SU Board that want to go with Tyler and need \$85,000-\$90,000 and used this surplus to fund the conversion. When end this year will be zero but will carry forward the \$135,000. You have to decide what to do with this money in FY19. If reimbursements exceed what thought will have to decide what to do and will talk to auditors about this.

For special education many referrals and those costs are driven by the needs. Sherrie Greeley mentioned more money on behavioral for kids and more out of district placements. Karen Woolsey mentioned did 79 evaluations and 10 not eligible.

Dave Baker suggested need a member from each board to be part of SU development committee. Karen Woolsey mentioned this is the first year special education had a deficit.

#### ECP Program:

Jan Crow had done a census of how many preschoolers would have. Saw an increase in program because of reimbursements to schools. Surplus in tuition of \$43,881.

#### Maintenance/Security Update:

Initiative is around security and met with all fire/policy chiefs to do updating on proper protocol for numbering rooms so when first responders arrive at the building would know where to go. Jim Taft is working with them to get numbering consistent around SU. First responders will go to buildings to look inside and out. Holding off on training for staff and personnel on best way to respond to situations; such as, active shooter. All building principals are running the drills they need to. The buildings in good hands and need to work on physical structures.

#### State Board Presentation: August 15

Agenda item is to review recommendations in secretary report specific to Weathersfield/Hartland. In that report the last page was about redesigning SU and feels 20 minutes allotted to us feel it is Weathersfield/Hartland that have to make a similar presentation as made to the AOE. Weathersfield/Hartland need to decide who will be spokespeople and who will go. Secretary's report is not final say but the state board will make final recommendation. Windsor/West Windsor should have a voice. Nicole Buck feels a show from the SU makes sense. It is scary thinking that redrawing lines as worked very hard together. Bill Yates feels not looking at the big picture. Elizabeth Burrows asked Weathersfield/Hartland to share their statement with the rest of the board members. Nicole Buck feels should say we want to stay

together as an SU and not tear apart as work well together. Dave Baker feels there should be representation from Windsor and West Windsor. Hartland/Weathersfield need to decide on a process to write up recommendation. Scott Richardson mentioned it is important to state purest facts and in secretary's report there were recommendation/decisions and appendix on other ideas. Recommendation for Hartland/Weathersfield was to be alternative school districts and be part of SU and not merge. The Secretary did amend this. Do we agree not merging and left alone, but are interested in something else. Bill Yates feels this affects Windsor/West Windsor and if state redistricts we could be left by ourselves. Scott Richardson wants to focus meeting that people who watch what the acting secretary recommendations are why could not merge, but do not want to say that, but leave alone. Bill Yates mentioned in response we agree with recommendations and appendix but that in the future we have no interest in splitting up our SU. Scott Richardson feels Hartland/Wethersfield might want to start 706 process again. If want to stray from recommendation but need to be more proactive and merge Hartland/Weathersfield or with Windsor/West Windsor. Feels report was nonsensical. Bill Yates mentioned Hartland/Weathersfield were not interested in merging. Nicole Buck feels need to go with Act 46 recommendation. Sarah Stewart Taylor mentioned we were put on agenda as they want to hear our reaction. Bill Yates agrees the main focus is on recommendation and at this point everyone is in agreement. No harm in indicating that do not want SU broken apart. Dave Baker mentioned the state board hearings are specific to Act 46 and which structures wanted to stay. Hartland/Weathersfield asked for alternative plan and this is what addressing that day. Focus should be on Act 46 piece but should be statement about us wanting to go somewhere else.

Food Service Update: Beth Roy

Committee did survey. Received responses from 449 community members and 215 students. Top answers most important to you: tasty, fresh, filling, nutritious and healthy, many choices.

Factors influence: quality and taste, healthiness, price.

Willing to support increase in funding: 87 yes, 24 no

If Cafe Services changed one or two things:

- Think about families that don't eat:
- Theme that arose was allergies, not enough choices, menu changes unannounced.
- There is not enough time to eat and line too slow, quality (homemade, whole food), less communication.
- What in school meal, quantity.
- What do students like and cannot get.
- More communication around what is happening.

Next step is looking at documents state has that can use if go on own. We can repeal changes. When have independent what does that look like. Get a hold of Cafe Services to respond to these survey results and work with them around communication and allergies. Dave Baker mentioned the committee will get together one more time. Beth Roy will get the document to the committee. Budget committee would have to make some decisions.

**Policy Process:**

Dave Baker mentioned SU would have one set of policies and local boards would rescind their policies. There would be some exceptions. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned the idea is that Windsor/West Windsor to transition to new board has to dump all prior policies and just go through SU policies. Talked about reviewing all policies by the end of the calendar year to dump policy, revise, update, or approve. If each member would take five and partner can trade policies with could do this. Can categorize by the end of the year by doing this. Nicole Buck mentioned from Hartland standpoint we went through all SU policies to align them with Hartland. Nicole feels should go straight to the VSBA policies. Look at everything not on VSBA list and re-adopt those that need to be and not review every policy again. Heidi Remick mentioned in Weathersfield have had policies adopted at SU and local administration says cannot comply with this. Feels we need input from administration. Nicole Buck feels in local policy book would be a policy to adopt the following policies from the SU. Bill Yates mentioned when go through would take care of redundancy. Nicole Buck feels all board chairs should get together and make recommendations. Elizabeth Burrows asked Larry Dougher to put all SU policies in one place with an index.

**Resignations:** Marissa Navedo, Annalise Ennis, Emily Urquhart  
Elizabeth Burrows asked for a motion to accept the resignations. Sean Whalen moved; seconded by Nancy Pedrick; motion passed.

**Appointments:** Eve Anderson, Donna Hatch, Jennifer Sprague, Nikki White.  
Elizabeth Burrows asked for a motion to approve the appointments. Sean Whalen moved; seconded by Nancy Pedrick; motion passed.

**Agenda:**

Food service  
Policy process

Elizabeth Burrows adjourned the meeting at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Tessier, Board Secretary