

WEATHERSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD
September 8, 2020
Weathersfield School and Google Meetings
APPROVED MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Sean Whalen, at 5:33PM. Those present were: Sean Whalen, Kristen Brusco, Annemarie Redmond, RobinTindall, Mark Yuengling, David Baker, Lora Powers, Linette Shimmel, Jessica Brown, Lori Small, Angie LeDeau, Jaime Richard, Kristen Huebner, Patricia Kelly, Kenzie Wescott, Patricia Kelly, Katie Ahern, SAPA and Becky Chrisinger. The flag was pledged.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A. 04/14/20 - Sean Whalen asked for a motion concerning the minutes of 04/14/20. Sean Whalen made changes to the minutes. Kristen Brusco made a motion to approve the minutes of 04/14/20 with changes. Annemarie Redmond second this motion. No further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved.

B. 07/14/20 - Sean Whalen asked for a motion concerning the minutes of 07/14/20. Sean made changes to the minutes. Annemarie Redmond made a motion to approve the minutes of 07/14/20 as amended. Sean Whalen second this motion. No further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved.

C. 08/11/20 - Sean Whalen asked for a motion concerning the minutes of 8/11/20. Annemarie Redmond made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/11/20. Sean Whalen second this motion. No further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved.

III. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Under Grants the Donor/Name should be anonymous.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Principal's Search

David Baker said he would like to go into Executive Session to go over the data received from the surveys on what the community is looking for. Will be ready at the October meeting to approve and advertise. We will have the names of the

stakeholders. The Board authorized the Search Committee. See Items for Action A.

B. Financial Update

David Baker said that Ed Connor's didn't get an Agenda for tonight so isn't going to be able to address COVID related expenses. David hopes that by October Ed can give input about these expenses for this fiscal year and next year. We can only claim unbudgeted expenses for last year. David said he feels this fiscal year is the critical year. The good news is we are in the black for FY20.

C. Town Letter Clarification

Sean Whalen reviewed the letter from the town. The main points of the letter are: There are people who are late in paying their property taxes. The town and school have both taken out Tax Anticipation Notes. Our SU has more than 900 students so redistricting won't happen to our SU for the town's question about redistricting.

D. Athletics - Jessica Kischco

Jessica reported that we had 88 responses about playing sports and 81 would like their children to participate. Jessica is working on registration and it will be sent out tomorrow. They will need to be back on the 16th. Jessica is also sending out a request for coaches. There will need to be masks, special whistles and hand sanitizer. So far, 20 people want to help. The first two weeks will be inner squad practicing. We need people to officiate at the games. The porta potties will need to be cleaned every day they are being used. The coaches will most likely be responsible for this. David Baker said that Jessica deserves a lot of credit since this came about so late. She has done a great job.

E. Opening/First Day of School - David Baker

JeanMarie was out today and David Baker filled in some during the drop off and he went around and welcomed all of the students. BJ Esty kept everything going. The drop off plan was impeccable and went very smoothly. The parents were positive. It was amazing how the teachers welcomed their students. The students were attentive to social distancing and wearing their masks. If JeanMarie is unable to come in tomorrow, David will go back in the morning. Annemarie Redmond said that drop off went well and Mark Yuengling said he heard the first day went very well. It was very hard for JeanMarie not to be present on the first day.

F. Poison Ivy
Sean Whalen asked if this was addressed. It has been addressed by Bryan Woodbury.

VI. PRINCIPAL REPORT - JeanMarie Oakman not present.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - David Baker

Financials are still being sorted out for last year and this year due to COVID related expenses. A bill was passed that dropped the student days from 175 to 170. The remote learners will start tomorrow. David said he got to say "Hi." to the remote learners. The remote learning this year is a little more stringent. David thanked Angie LeDeau for all of her hard work in this area. Angie asked if there were any questions about remote learning. Katie Ahern said that the special education teachers wrote IEP' for the various methods of learning that could take place this year. Sean Whalen said there is a third group of families that have chosen to homeschool this year and how every family in our school had to make a choice.

VIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Authorization for Principal Search Committee

Sean Whalen asked for a motion concerning the Principal Search Committee. Mark Yuengling made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for Principal Search Committee members among staff, the community and parents . Annemarie Redmond second this motion. There was no further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved.

B. Approval of Anonymous Grants

\$5,000 Cross Country Skis

\$3,000 Outdoor Pavilion

\$8,000 Outdoor Pavilion

Sean Whalen made a motion to approve the grants listed above. Robin Tindall second. There was no further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved. Annemarie Redmond thanked the anonymous donor for being so generous.

IX. Setting the Next Agenda

A. Financial Update - Ed Connors

B. Principal Search Committee

There was discussion about the meeting being at the school and via Google Meets. David Baker will see if the meeting can be held inside the school by checking to see if the school can be opened to the general public.

X. TENTATIVE EXECUTIVE SESSION - VSA T.11 Section 313 - Personnel
Sean Whalen asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Annemarie Redmond made a motion to go into Executive Session. Sean Whalen second. No further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved and the Board went into Executive Session at 6:45PM. Sean Whalen asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Robin Tindall made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Kristen Brusco second. No further discussion. All in favor. This motion was approved. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:43PM. No action was taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Sean Whalaen asked for a motion to adjourn. Robin Tindall made a motion to adjourn. Kristen Brusco second. No further discussion. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Chrisinger