

Mount Ascutney Board Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2020

Minutes

Present at the Meeting:

Board: Amy McMullen, Kris Garnjost, Elizabeth Burrows, Bill Yates, Nancy Pedrick, Rebecca Roisman

Admin: David Baker, Jenifer Aldrich, Colleen DeSchamp, Katie Ahern, Angie Ladeau, Kate Ryan, Ed Connors

Special Guest(s): Chief Wm Sampson-WPD, Tom Marsh-Town Manager

Additional Attendees:

- I. Call to Order by Elizabeth Burrows @ 6:32 pm.
- II. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda
There were multiple additions and changes in the order of the agenda.
- III. Public Participation on Items Not Related to the Agenda
None
- IV. Announcements and Celebratory Comments from Board Members
Congrats to the Windsor Football Team on Divisional Championship. Congrats to Windsor FH Team on State Championship. Congrats to all fall sports teams for a successful season under very challenging circumstances. Also congratulations to Windsor HS, especially Greg Pickering and team, for becoming a College Board Approved site and hosting their first SAT Saturday 11/7. There were approximately 50 students in the building taking the test.
- V. Discussion/Possible Action Items
 - A. **SRO** (attachment provided)
The SRO does daily check-ins with the Windsor and Hartland School. The conversations will continue with Administrators and Chief Sampson/SRO Paul Favreau on how to best partner and utilize the SRO's services in the most effective and efficient way possible. From these conversations they hope to have a newly fine tuned job description.
 - B. **WSESU Strategic Plan Discussion** (attachment provided)
The board was provided with the documents in advance. During the meeting the board went through reviewing specific questions from the board on the plan. SAB refers to the Student Advisory Board, which is different from the Student Council. This is a dynamic document and there was discussion of the importance of making sure this plan and its timing make sense with set timing for achieving certain benchmarks.

- C. **WSBA Budget Webinar**
Board member Rebecca attended this webinar on behalf of the board. She presented her summarized findings to the board. There is an overall 60-70 million dollar shortfall for FY21 due to COVID-19, but this won't be impacting our FY21 budget. CRF funds should be available as early as next week, for those that applied for those grant monies. Efficiency VT had \$13.5 million available for HVAC improvements. Mt Ascutney took advantage of those offerings in making some improvements. There were no updates on a potential stimulus package coming.
- D. **Budget FY22**
Dr. Baker presented on the screen the budget document that Ed Connors had previously shared with the board. This is an early look at it, as many numbers are still tentative. There were questions on the Food Services Budget, that is calculated by taking overall expenses minus reimbursement and that balance is then shared over school districts. There were questions and answers about how to understand the different locations. Ed explained for example location 51 is location wide and would encompass Art and Music. And location 301 is Mt Ascutney and encompasses tuition for those grandfathered West Windsor students. This being the final year of that agreement.
- E. **Assistant Principal Status**
There was a request made by Dr. Baker to appoint our current Assistant Principals into a shared leadership position for the remainder of this school year. The appointment was carried out unanimously by the board. Welcome and thank you to our two Co-Interim Principals Colleen DeSchamp and Kate Ryan. This will be retroactive effective 9/1/20, and their salaries will be adjusted accordingly.
Motion-Nancy Pedrick
2nd-Amy McMullen
Vote 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain
- F. **COVID updates**
Dr. Baker mentioned that with the upcoming holidays and travel that Mt. Ascutney Hospital has graciously partnered with us and will be offering some drive-thru testing for staff following Thanksgiving. Also, as per the newly released guidelines, winter sports can begin practices effective 11/30. However, there is concern about starting practices so close to the holidays and (holiday) travelling.
- G. **Trauma Transformed**
Pushed this topic ahead to next month's agenda due to time and Jen says this will be a great topic to have amongst the budget conversations.
- H. **Looking Forward**
Elizabeth Burrows mentioned to the board that she has a contact, Lisa Ryan, who is a Restorative Justice Practitioner that she would like to invite to join the board for the next meeting. Utilizing her skill set in starting to work with the community to restore healing within a fractured community from the firing process of the former Principal Tiffany Riley. Lisa can't meet on Mondays, so the board agreed to push their meeting to a Wednesday next month to accommodate. Elizabeth polled the board for ideas on how to bring greater public participation. Some ideas shared were keeping agendas manageable for time and not allowing meetings to run long. Also to share the agendas more widely amongst the community and to try not to make changes and/or additions to

the agenda once it has been warned so community members know all topics being discussed when deciding if they want to attend. The board will continue to work for greater public participation.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of previous minutes

• October 14, 2020

Motion- Amy McMullen

2nd- Kris Garnjost

Vote- 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Future Agenda Items

Budget FY 22

Trauma Transformed

Lisa Ryan-Restorative Justice

COVID-19 Updates

Portrait of the Graduate

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn- Kris Garnjost

2nd- Nancy Pedrick

Vote- 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. Moody