

Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union #52

Board Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2021

Approved Minutes

Present at the Meeting:

Board: Amy McMullen, Nicole Buck, Kris Garnjost, Scott Richardson, Elizabeth Burrows, Bill Yates, Mark Yuengling, Rebecca Roisman, Anne Redmond, Kristen Bruso

Admin: Katie Ahern, Angie Ladeau, David Baker, Christine Bourne, and Colleen DeSchamp.

Staff: Julie Cahoon

Special Guest(s) :

Additional Attendees : Heather Findlay

I. Call to Order by: by Amy McMullen @ 6:33 pm

II. Changes/Additions to the Agenda

Added items: Town Meeting, Ratification of Master Agreement, and Legislative Updates.

III. Public Comments not Related to the Agenda

None

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

a) December 28, 2020

Motion: Colleen Spence

2nd: Bill Yates

Vote: 10-0-0

V. Discussion/Action Items

A. WSESU Anti-Racism Policy/Task Force Updates

Task Force revised the draft. Laurie Brown made some additional grammatical corrections. The updated version will be reviewed by Righting Wrongs, LLC. Then the Task Force will meet again to discuss rollout to boards and plan for wider disbursement into communities.

B. COVID Updates

The extended day began today. According to building principals most went smoothly, minor transportation issues. Dr. Baker said that vaccination and getting to that “herd immunity”

state is critical to get through this pandemic. So when it's your turn please consider getting vaccinated. The latest staff wellness survey data was shared. It continues to identify that a significant percentage of staff and teachers are feeling moderate to high levels of stress. The Superintendent and Administrators continue to support, listen, brainstorm and do all things possible to help people in any way they can. The extended day should help alleviate some stress as attempting to do WIN time in the afternoons remotely was stressful. The Administrators and Superintendent will continue to provide weekly surveys to check in on staff and will keep working at finding creative ways to alleviate stress and anxiety when possible. Everyone is doing a wonderful job of taking care of each other and working as a team.

C. Policy Review/Audit Discussion

The plan moving forward for policy review is to try to review 1-3 policies each month on a rolling cycle. With that schedule the hope is that all policies would get reviewed in a 2 year cycle. The board chair with the administrative assistant will carve out the policies to be reviewed each meeting, with consideration of length of policies so as not to overwhelm the agenda or board members. The order of policies to be reviewed will be determined using the criteria of comparing VSBA adoption vs WSESU adoption date. At the next meeting, the policies below will be reviewed for a 1st reading in the WSESU formatting. 1) Policies Required by VSBA but not adopted by WSESU

- a) C12 Prevention of Sexual Harassment as Prohibited by Title IX
- b) C13 Homeless Students

D. FY20/21 Ratification

The board ratified the master agreement for FY20/21 . The negotiations team has one member from each district. The final contract settled was slightly more than anticipated in the budget, and made huge gains in streamlining the definition of a work day across all the SU.

Motion: Elizabeth Burrows

2nd: Nicole Buck

Vote: 9-0-0

E. Town Meeting

The SU board will reorganize positions amongst them once all town meetings have happened in respective towns, which will mean in June. Hartland town meeting will be May 4th with voting by Australian ballot. Weathersfield town meeting day is Saturday, February 27th, school (virtual) portion at 10 am and town 12:30 pm. Voting will take place on Tuesday, March 2nd. Mt Ascutney School District will have their virtual meeting on Thursday Feb 25th @7pm. Voting by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday March 2nd in Windsor at Rec Center and in Brownsville at Story Memorial Hall.

F. Legislative Updates

It is very early in the session so there are lots of topics on the table for consideration, and only a few have had a chance yet to go to committee for study. One of the most recent

changes was the legislation put into law that is allowing for a different format for Town Meeting days. Some of the topics up for consideration are: Teacher retirement system, the funding formula for schools and equalized pupil, requirements for African American course and certification for teacher licensure, and allowing 16 year olds to make vaccination choices without parental consent.

G. Executive Session (VSA.T11 Section 313)

For employment matters. The WSESU board authorized the Superintendent to offer Ms Katie Ahern a 2 year contract for the position of WSESU Director of Student Support Services.

Motion to offer: Nicole Buck

2nd: Bill Yates

Vote: 9-0-0

Motion to enter @8:51pm: Bill Yates

2nd: Nicole Buck

Vote: 9-0-0

Motion to exit @9:05pm: Bill Yates

2nd: Nicole Buck

Vote: 9-0-0

VI. Adjournment 9:11pm

Motion: Nicole Buck

2nd: Bill Yates

Vote: 9-0-0

Next Meeting Date: 2/22

Agenda: Negotiations, Policies, COVID updates, Antiracism Task Force, Legislative Updates, Food Program funding and how students are counted in formula in each respective district.