

WEATHERFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Google Meets

Approved Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order by Annemarie Redmond at 6:03 p.m..

Those present were: Kristen Brusco, Annemarie Redmond, Mark Yuengling, Jaimie Turner, JeanMarie Oakman, David Baker, Ed Connors, Angie LeDeau, BJ Esty, Brooke Hindinger, Brooke Breit, Candy Fuller, Carrie Jewell, Diana Stillson, Heather Garrett, Wendy Allen, Jessica Kischko, Emily Milligan, Julian Villa, Kirsten McNamara, Kristen Huebner, Kristina Hughes, Laura Berry, Leanna Robinson, Lora Powers, Meredith Kelly, Michelle Jarvis, Ryan Santangelo, Myla McNaughton, Tara Smith, Zachary Shambo, Wendy Allen, Dave Fuller, SAPA and Becky Chrisinger.

II. CHANGES ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to approve the minutes from 3/9/2021. Kristen Brusco made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/9/2021. Mark Yuengling seconded. NFD. All in favor. This motion was approved.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. MetLife Grant

BJ Esty said they applied for a grant from New York MetLife for grief counseling. They received the Grant so they need approval from the Board to accept this Grant. See Items for Action A for approval of this grant.

B. Pride Flag Request

JeanMarie Oakman said that some eighth grade students wrote a letter in regards to wanting to fly the Philly Pride Flag as this flag incorporates Black Lives Matter and the LGBTQ flag. The students want to make sure that all people are accepted and welcome at our school. JeanMarie said she is very proud of these students and their efforts in this area. The Philly Pride flag only costs \$20 and would be flown under the American and Vermont flags. Two of the students shared statistics and thoughts about why they believe flying this flag is important. There was discussion about this being only one part of showing acceptance to all people. The students would like to be involved in training and further education in this area. There was discussion on the difference of the understanding and education involved with students of different ages. JeanMarie Oakman said there is no policy that would prevent the flying of this flag. Mark Yuengling asked the students what they need to feel safe at the school and encouraged the students to look into other efforts to support and educate beyond flying the flag. The students were asked why they chose this flag and they said it seemed to incorporate aspects of inclusion that need to be represented and they are also willing to look into different flags if the Board would like them to. JeanMarie Oakman said the SU is looking at an Equity and Race Policy and she'd like some of this to be worked into the school's curriculum. There will probably need to be a policy developed. There was discussion around not everyone having the same ideas. See Items for Action B for approval of this request.

C. PTO Fundraiser - Jaime Richardson

Jaimie presented a Fundraising request from the PTO that will be online, hands free and cost free. The company is Square 1 Art and it involves ordering supplies to make mugs or other art

gift items and can be done throughout the year. The PTO will receive 38% of the profits from this fundraising event. See Items for Action C Under Items for Action.

V. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- A. JeanMarie Oakman talked about various tests coming up for students and how they provide breakfast and water bottles to facilitate better testing conditions. She will be sharing and sending information to families on healthy ways to prepare and take tests which can be helpful for students.
- B. The whole SU has mapped out kindergarten screening for this year so that will look different.
- C. There will be more information from the Risk Management team about whether there can be an in person graduation. Will know more after 5/10/2021.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. David Baker said we are moving forward with the SU summer program. This program will have social emotional, academic and recreational components.
- B. Angie Ledeau talked about the Recovery Plan we are submitting and that there will be funds attached to this plan.
- C. Jacqui Antonivich has continued to represent the Board for Negotiations and is doing a wonderful job.
- D. Bills
 - 1. The Health Care Bill passed.
 - 2. Universal Meals Bill is taking a one-year hiatus as we will have support from the federal level for one more year. We have to make efforts to have people complete the free and reduced lunch application in order to receive funding attached to these applications.
 - 3. State Funding for Literacy - The state is putting funding into literacy.
 - 4. School Construction is going to Committee
- E. Annemarie Redmond asked about the school days for next year. David Baker said he will have more information later this week. He does believe there will still be some safety precautions in place for the next school year. There was some discussion on the pros and cons of having students switch classes and which is more beneficial for students.

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Financials - Ed Connors

Ed Connors went over a PowerPoint of the financials to date for this year. There were questions about various aspects of the budget. Ed went through the budget and gave explanations. There was discussion on various allocations coming from grants related to COVID. Ed said there is a lot of work involved to obtain these funds and also we are usually audited about the use of these funds. David Fuller shared some information he had about various funds.
- B. Covid-19 Updates

The school will continue to follow state and federal guidelines regarding safety procedures in schools. It is helpful that more and more Vermonters are getting vaccinated.

- C. COVID Stress - Angie LeDeau
Angie discussed the last staff survey that was given and it seems that stress levels are going down. Parent-teacher conferences were the week before and people were anticipating the spring break.
- D. End Of Year Activities - JeanMarie Oakman
JeanMarie Oakman said we will know about this by the May meeting.
- E. Spring Sports - Jessica Kishko
Jessica said we have quite a few players for various teams by joining with Windsor and Hartland.
Softball - 10 and they are getting team masks and team shirts.
Baseball is fielded.
Track - 30-40 students involved in this, which will take place in Windsor.
The various sports will take place at different schools. David Baker said he appreciates all of the AD's moving this forward. The teams will need to still follow all restrictions.
We also have the younger students paying some and will have K-1 T-ball, 2,3,4 softball and baseball and 5 and 6 softball.
- F. Recovery Plan
The summer program will be the kick off of our Recovery Plan.

VIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

- A. New York MetLife Grant Request
Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion concerning this grant. Mark Yuengling made a motion to approve accepting the \$500 in grant money. Kristen Bruso seconded this motion. NFD. All in favor. This motion was approved.
- B. Request from Students to Fly the Philly Pride Flag
Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion concerning the request to fly the Philly Pride flag. Kristen Bruso made a motion that the students be able to fly the Philly Pride flag or another flag approved under the guidance of JeanMarie Oakman. NFD. Three ayes and one nay. This motion was approved.
- C. PTO Fundraising Request
Annemarie asked for a motion for the PTO fundraising request. Jaimie Turner made a motion to approve the PTO fundraising request as presented. Kristen Bruso seconded this motion. NFD. All in favor this motion was approved.

IX. SETTING THE NEXT AGENDA

- A. COVID-19 Updates
- B. COVID Stress
- C. Recovery Plan
- D. Graduation
- E. Review of Test Scores - JeanMarie Oakman
- F. Scheduling/Restrictions

X. TENTATIVE EXECUTIVE SESSION VSA T.11 Section 313 - Personnel

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Mark Yuengling made a motion to go into Executive Session. Kristen Bruso seconded. NFD. All in favor. The Board went into Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mark Yuengling made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Kristen

Bruso seconded this motion. NFD. All in favor. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:39 p.m. No action was taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Yuengling made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kristen Bruso seconded this motion. NFD. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Chrisinger