

Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union #52
Board Meeting
Monday, July 26, 2021
Approved Minutes

Present at the Meeting:

Board: Amy McMullen, Nicole Buck, Scott Richardson, Elizabeth Burrows, Bill Yates-Ab, Mark Yuengling, Rebecca Roisman-Ab, Annemarie Redmond, Jaimie Turner, Colleen Spence, Nancy Pedrick.

Admin: Katie Ahern, Angie Ladeau, David Baker, Christine Bourne, Jen Aldrich and Brian Martes.

Public: Brittany Preston, Davis McGraw and Julie Cahoon.

I. **Call to Order @ 6:34 p.m.** by Amy McMullen.

II. **Changes/Additions to the Agenda**
None

III. **Approval of Minutes**
a) June 28, 2021
Motion: Nancy Pedrick
2nd: Scott Richardson
Vote:8-0-1

IV. **Public Participation/Announcements**

Weathersfield School's new principal, Brian Martes, started on July 1. He is welcomed to the community and to the entire SU.

V. **Superintendent's Report**

a. *New Hires:* No updates to report from Katie Ahern, still have some professional openings.

b. *Update on Equity Work*

There has been a bit of a break for the task force as they are all busy completing a small group homework exercise that was pretty complex. They are reviewing terms and definitions contained within the policy. The large group meets again 8/18 and will review next steps from there, brainstorm topic ideas for the board retreat, and discuss the process for non-compliance. Dr. Melissa Crum has been secured for 4 more hours of work after that date, and the admin team has some thoughts on how best to utilize that time. The admin team feels it is too early to hire an equity coordinator. There are funds in the ESSER II budget to hire this person. In reviewing the procedures document that accompanies the antiracism policy, it seems to be a great step in laying out a job description for this position. There is consensus that the procedures need to be reviewed as thoroughly as the policy.

c. *Summer Academy* has had an average daily attendance of 113 students, grades

Pre-K through 9=115 students and grades 9 through 12=24 students. Majority of the students are showing up each day. The end of academy is Aug 5th and they will celebrate with a lunch at the Windsor Common that day prepared by food services.

d. *ESSER III*

A survey was sent out to families soliciting feedback on these plans. The recovery coordinator reported there were 25-30 responses within hours of it being sent, and as of now there are 148 responses. The response rate has slowed over the past few days, and they are happy with the feedback gained thus far. Much of which indicates there are needs to address mental health issues for a variety of reasons. There will be a post made with the question and answers submitted. Informational sessions, scheduled around back to school time, would be beneficial in sharing more information.

e. Reporting out is in the *strategic plan/POG* so more to come on that. Should have a better idea in Sept/Oct of what that will look like on a longer timeline.

f. There was a new *SU organizational chart* shared. Larry Dougher has been promoted to the Director of Finance and Operations, effective 9/1/21. He will oversee the following departments: Business, Food Service, IT, HR, Buildings and Grounds, and Transportation. Mike Walker has been promoted to Manager of IT, and the managers of the other departments remain the same. The IT department is no longer servicing the town of Plainfield. The IT department continues to service the Town of Windsor and Town of Cornish, under contracts that bring in \$40K in the 1st year and \$39K in the second year. Those revenues will offset the salary increases for Larry and Mike.

VI. **Items for Discussion**

a. *Retreat and/or Goal Setting*

8/23@5pm Outdoor classroom or Room 210 (inclement weather). The board will discuss Strategic plan/POG, Anti Racism task force, board goals, and format for recovery plan goals.

b. *Anti-Racism Committee Update*

There was a question raised about how to implement an SU policy with a subcontractor. Example used was a bus driver with southern heritage flying a confederate flag. The simple response was that in our contract with subcontractors there is language expecting them to adhere to our school policies. Additional discussion on a potential situation if another school doesn't comply, i.e. not providing a safe space for their students, and how would that be handled. In general non-compliance to this policy would follow the same path as non-compliance to any of the SU policies.

VII. **Items for Action**

No formal actions. Board members are encouraged to review the strategic plan in preparation for the upcoming Board Retreat in August.

VIII. **Setting the Next Agenda**

Date: Monday, 8/23/21, @ 5:00 p.m. Board Retreat

Items: Strategic Plan, Board calendar for policy review, Anti Racism Task Force Update

- IX. **Executive Session (VSA.T11 Section 313)**
Motion (enter): Elizabeth Burrows 7:58 p.m.
2nd: Nicole Buck
Vote: 9-0-0
- Motion (exit): Nicole Buck 9:10 p.m.
2nd: Colleen Spence
Vote: 9-0-0

- X. **Adjournment**
Motion: Nicole Buck 9:11 p.m.
2nd: Colleen Spence
Vote: 9-0-0