

Weathersfield School Board
December.14.2021
Google Meet and Weathersfield School
Approved Minutes

I. Call to Order / Introductions / Pledge

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Annemarie Redmond, at 6:08PM.

Present: Annemarie Redmond, Jaimie Turner, Jacqui Antonivich, Kristen Brusio, Mark Yuengling, David Baker, Brian Martes, BJ Esty, Kristen Huebner, Linda Kelly, Jessica Brown, Deanna Dexter, Jessica Kischko, Candy Fuller, Pat Kelly, Susan Brown, Kirsten McNamara, Linda Reeves Potter, Sean Perry (We R H.O.P.E.), Carrie Jewel, Jessica Brown, Naomi Morse, Jaimie Richardson, Ed Connors, SAPA and Becky Chrisinger.

The flag was pledged.

II. Changes/Additions to the Agenda: None.

III. Approval of Minutes

a) November 9, 2021

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion concerning the minutes of 11/9/21. Jaimie Turner made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/9/21. Annemarie Redmond second this motion. NFD. 3 ayes and one abstention. These minutes were approved.

IV. Public Participation: None.

V. Principal's Report

a) Student Presentations

Jessica Wilmot's 4th Grade student, Gwendolyn Kelly, gave a presentation on Weathersfield local history. Gwen gave her presentation on the last dairy farm in Weathersfield, which is Dave Fuller's dairy farm. Dave Fuller thanked everyone for the wonderful presentation. Mrs. Fuller's first grade class read a page from their Weathersfield ABC books, which was presented via a video presentation. Both of the presentations were greatly appreciated by all.

b) Mental Health Focus

Sean Perry, from We R H.O.P.E., thanked Brian Martes for inviting him to the meeting. Sean Perry said they have been a part of the Weathersfield School for four years now. Their goal is to help as many individuals as possible with their anxiety and mental health. The staff work with the students on a daily basis. They have supported 12 students so far this year and as students graduate (from 8th grade), new students can become a part of the program. Sean Perry thanked David Baker for his support in this program becoming part of our supervisory union.

c) Leader in Me

The teachers are working on using seven habits in their teaching.

d) COVID Update

Three classes have been affected by Covid and TTS has kept children in school.

e) Building Community

Brian Martes thanked Craig Locarno, Julie Beachain and Heather Gokey for the wonderful community dinner tonight. Brian Martes spoke at the Veteran's Day Ceremony in Perkinsville. The state snow plow named by Weathersfield School, Big Bessie, came to visit the school. Brian Martes met with Chief Spaulding about fire safety and with the Town Manager about the town report.

VI. **Superintendent's Report**

a) COVID Update / Test-To-Stay (TTS)

TTS is more time consuming than predicted. It is good for us to remember to go back to basics such as masking, sanitizing, distancing and taking quarantining seriously. Second doses of the vaccine are being deployed. 96% of the staff are fully vaccinated. Staff stress continues and the administration is offering support.

b) Negotiations

The teachers settled last week on their contract and it needs to be ratified tonight. Support staff negotiations start tomorrow. We are cautiously optimistic these will go well.

c) Equity Task Force Update

The Equity Policy that the task force came up with was adopted by the SU Board. We will be partnering with Springfield to do an equity audit.

VII. **Items for Discussion**

a) Athletic Update - Jessica Kischko

7 & 8 Girls Basketball - Started practice

7 & 8 Boys will play with Windsor as not enough participants

K-6 will start practicing in January.

3 & 4 and 5 & 6 will be co-ed

At this time, there will be no spectators and masks are required for the players. They are figuring out how to stream so parents can see their children play.

Jessica Kischko also mentioned Ski Vermont which offers a \$20 passport for 5 & 6 graders for alpine or Nordic skiing at various resorts.

b) FY23 Budget

The local budgets are in development. We are waiting for state numbers to come in. Brian Martes went over the budget and the difference if the BAC recommendations are put in the Budget.

FY23 Proposed Budget BAC Budget

Dollar Increase: \$106,116 \$276,597

Percent Increase: 1.61% 4.21%

Total Budget: \$6,679,891 \$6,850,372

Ed Connors is waiting for information from the state for exact numbers. There was a question about high school tuitions and Ed said that the amounts coming in are close to the estimates that Ed put in the Budget. Annemarie Redmond thanked the BAC for all of their hard work.

VIII. Items for Action

a) Ratify the 3-Year Teacher Contract

David Baker reported that this contract was worked on for six months.

- Year 1 (2021/22): 3.6% increase
- Year 2 (2022/23): 3.7% increase
- Year 3 (2023/24): 3.7% increase.

Jacqui Antonivich mentioned that only Hartford had an annuity match. Now all teachers will have a 1% annuity match. The changes in steps were explained as the three highest steps will be dropped with one being dropped over the next three years. The three steps dropped will be: 27, 25 and 23. This will help us offer new teachers more competitive starting salaries.

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to ratify the teachers' contract as presented by the negotiating team. Mark Yuengling made a motion to ratify the teachers' contract as presented by the negotiating team. Kristen Brusco second the motion. NFD. All in favor. This motion was approved.

IX. Setting the Next Agenda

The next meeting will be held January 11, 2022.

Agenda items:

- FY23 Budget (Will invite the BAC and Ed Connors)

BJ Esty said that the Board meeting recording where the term times of the Hicks Nichols Committee was discussed. She said that the committee would decide on their term times.

X. Tentative Executive Session VSA.T11 Section 313: None needed.

XI. Adjournment

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jaimie Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jacqui Antonivich second this motion. NFD. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Chrisinger

Radar List

- Teacher/Staff recognition
- School and town working together - Veteran's Day, fire safety and town report
- Middle school model
- Mental health help - We R H.O.P.E
- Health class
- Foreign Language - BAC suggested putting back in budget for next year
- Community outreach - Thanksgiving baskets and community meals