

**Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union #52
School Board
Approved Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Google Meet

Board Members Present: Mark Yuengling, Bill Yates, Elizabeth Burrows, Colleen Spence, Amy McMullen, Scott Richardson, Nancy Pedrick, AnneMarie Redmond, Davis McGraw, Nicole Buck, Rebecca Roisman

Administration Present: David Baker, Brian Martes, Katie Ahern, Christine Bourne, Kate Ryan, Larry Dougher, Brittany Preston, Lyndsie Perkins, Colleen DeSchamp, Jenifer Aldrich

Public Present: Keighan Eaker, Misty Boutin, Elizabeth Roberts, Allison Clough, Michael Boutin, Jennifer Bates, Kelsey O'Connor, Carrie Jewell, Kaitlyn Gould, Michelle Smith, Allen Howard, Tara Howard, Merideth Kelley, Catharine Engwall, Molly Matteson, Patrick Kelley

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Amy McMullen at 6:34 p.m.

II. Changes/Additions to the Agenda

Items added: Equity Audit, Special Education Procedures (Katie Ahern) – add to both Items for Discussion and Items for Action, Update on Masking

Items removed: Mary Gannon (unable to attend)

III. Approval of Minutes

a) January 24, 2022

Motion: Amy McMullen

2nd: Rebecca Roisman

Vote: Passed unanimously by roll call

IV. Public Participation/Announcements

a) Amy gave recognition to all board members who have put in time at meetings. For those who are running she wished good luck. Special thank you to Scott Richardson for all his many years of service on the Hartland School Board as well as the WSESU School Board.

b) Bill Yates is running a write-in campaign (MASD School Board).

c) Rebecca announced that the VSBA is sponsoring a webinar on Equity on March 3, 2022 between 4 and 5 p.m. Link is on the VSBA website.

V. Superintendent's Report

For a copy of the Superintendent's Report (PowerPoint presentation) please click [HERE](#).

Katie Ahern, Director of Student Services, presented on "What's New in Special Education." To see a copy of her PowerPoint presentation, please click [HERE](#).

VI. Items for Discussion

a) Masking Discussion

Lengthy discussion and input from the public regarding COVID masking expectations moving forward. At this point, all students and staff will remain masked while inside the buildings. This discussion will

be continued at the WSESU School Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2022, when more data is available and results are available from a WSESU parent survey regarding masking in schools.

- b) FY23 Calendar - Friday Early Release Days. Discussion tabled due to time. This will be on the agenda for the March 28th WSESU School Board meeting.
- c) C14 Policy on Section 504 and ADA Grievance Protocol for Students and Staff (1st Reading): Discussion tabled due to time. This will be on the agenda for the March 28th WSESU School Board meeting.
- d) C8 Pupil Privacy Rights (Review): Discussion tabled due to time. This will be on the agenda for the March 28th WSESU School Board meeting.
- e) A21 Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy (2nd reading): Discussion tabled due to time. This will be on the agenda for the March 28th WSESU School Board meeting.
- f) Equity Audit
The Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent out to all Board Members.
Comments on RFP: Springfield is getting a new superintendent, may not be able to join with WSESU in the audit. The proposal is in line with what the VSBA has put out. It was decided that with or without the Springfield School District joining, the RFP needs to move forward in order to keep the timeline intact so that work can begin by July or August of 2022.

VII. **Items for Action**

- a) Equity Audit RFP
Motion by Bill Yates and seconded by Davis McGraw that the WSESU School Board approve the Equity Audit RFP as written with or without partnership from Springfield School District. Passed unanimously by roll call.
- b) Special Education Procedures
Motion by Bill Yates and seconded by Nicole Buck that we adopt the Special Education Procedures Manual as recommended by the State of Vermont. Passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VIII. **Setting the March Agendas**

- a) March 21, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m. (Special Meeting)
 - Reorganization of the Windsor Southeast Supervisory School Board
 - Mask Protocol
- b) March 28, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.
 - Policies
 - C14 Policy on Section 504 and ADA Grievance Protocol for Students and Staff (first reading)
 - C8 Pupil Privacy Rights (Review)
 - A21 Public Participation at Board Meetings Policy (2nd reading)
 - Calendar – Early Release Days
 - Recovery and Data Report
 - ARP ESSER III Plan
 - Mary Gannon

IX. **Executive Session** (VSA.T11 Section 313) if needed: None needed

X. **Adjournment**

Motion made by Davis McGraw to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Seconded by Nicole Buck. Passed unanimously by roll call.

Below is a copy of the “chat” that occurred during the February 23rd WSESU School Board (Virtual) Meeting. To view a copy of the virtual meeting, please go to:

<https://www.wsesu.net/supervisory-union/su-board#fs-panel-6451>

Keighan C Eaker6:44 PM

Thanks for your support and service, Scott!

Scott Richardson6:45 PM

@ Keighan Baker, You are welcome!

Nancy Pedrick6:51 PM

I’m trying to get audio

Micheal Boutin6:56 PM

I missed the last meeting, just want to see how much time the public will have to weigh in? Individual speaker times?

Keighan C Eaker7:00 PM

This is such a gift! Outstanding! Wonderful news for our students!

Elizabeth Burrows7:02 PM

Is ABA the only program available for kids on the autism spectrum?

Micheal Boutin7:06 PM

It wasn’t clear when you all agreed on the previous minutes for discussions to some that missed the prior meetings, just want to know what we the public have for stating our concerns and ideas.

Catharine Engwall7:24 PM

Thank you, Amy

Keighan C Eaker7:24 PM

Thank you, Amy

Elizabeth Roberts7:28 PM

It’s important on both, being able to go inside and that masks should be choice.

Elizabeth Roberts7:29 PM

Wearing the masks now it’s not a choice

Elizabeth Roberts7:30 PM

But how is the health of our children having to wear the masks 7-8 hrs a say

Micheal Boutin7:31 PM

Thank you Bill

Elizabeth Roberts7:31 PM

*day

Mark Yuengling7:35 PM

The success of unmasked schools has to be measured in lost lives, and time in hospital of family members contracting the virus through contact with pupils.

Michelle Smith7:42 PM

it IS important Misty. Thank you for speaking up!

Allison Clough7:42 PM

Thank you for speaking up for our kids Misty.

Elizabeth Roberts7:42 PM

Misty!!! Woot!!! Thank you!!!

Jennifer Bates7:43 PM

Great job Misty. Very good points and thank you for speaking up.

Elizabeth Roberts7:43 PM

Wearing masks has a health risk, especially during sports!!!

Micheal Boutin7:45 PM

The board does not have kids in the school...

Preach

Elizabeth Burrows7:46 PM

untrue

Nancy Pedrick7:46 PM

Untrue for me, too.

Annemarie Redmond7:48 PM

Untrue for me as well. Both my children are fine wearing masks and would continue wearing them indefinitely find a mask that fits right and breathing will not be an issue

Elizabeth Roberts7:48 PM

Masks should be optional!

Elizabeth Burrows7:48 PM

Yep, both my children are fine with masks.

Elizabeth Roberts7:49 PM

Mine two children hate the masks they wish they could see others faces

Nicole Buck7:49 PM

Untrue for me too. My kids both attend the schools and wear masks during intense sports.

Micheal Boutin7:49 PM

Can we see the credentials of the Covid TASKFORCE?? It seems to be the crutch of the administration

Allison Clough7:50 PM

If your child or family is fine with it then continue to wear masks. It should be OPTIONAL.

Elizabeth Roberts7:51 PM

Our choice! Our childrens choice!

Elizabeth Roberts7:52 PM

We should get a vote, parents should choose

Elizabeth Roberts7:54 PM

Show us the credentials that the task force has and what science shows them to relay to us

Allison Clough7:54 PM

I don't really understand when the board got to take over parental decisions.

Micheal Boutin7:55 PM

They will not publish the information. Dr Baker is a pawn. Very sad to see. Almost 50% of the country is lifting mandates

Elizabeth Roberts7:55 PM

The board shouldn't make decisions for all children! They need to get OUR input! All the parents!!!

Misty Boutin7:56 PM

O<http://www.urgencyofnormal.com/>

Allison Clough7:56 PM

I thought all the staff was required to be vaccinated? That's why I got the boot.

Elizabeth Roberts7:57 PM

They aren't all vaccinated? I thought so too

Jennifer Bates7:57 PM

A friend of mine has kids in a school in MN. No masks all this year in the school, except on school buses.

Michelle Smith7:57 PM

I agree. We want to see the credentials - the "science" that backs up your information. Parent input is important. It should be parent / family choice whether to mask or not. Same goes for staff members. It should be their choice.

Elizabeth Roberts7:59 PM

We should make the choice for OUR CHILDREN!!! We are responsible for their well-being not the school! The school is required to TEACH!

Carrie Jewell8:00 PM

Angie, can you share the data from the survey per school, please?

Elizabeth Roberts8:00 PM

But the parents should be able to have their say! You say it is a discussion

Elizabeth Roberts8:02 PM

Why weren't the parents ALL OF THEM told about this DISCUSSION?!?!

Unknown8:02 PM

They don't care about the kids ! I feel like that

Misty Boutin8:02 PM

No one knew about the meeting. My husband and I handed out flyers at the school.

It's amazing because even some staff were unaware.

Elizabeth Roberts8:03 PM

I found out from a friend who doesn't have a child in the public school system

Michelle Smith8:03 PM

I think that was on purpose Misty. Do they care about parent input? Because their actions are telling me that they don't.

Allison Clough8:03 PM

Thank you for making sure people knew Misty. It appears our board doesn't care what we have to say.

Elizabeth Roberts8:04 PM

The board should be supporting the families and children WHO ATTEND THE SCHOOL

Michelle Smith8:05 PM

...and this is why my son is now homeschooled. And why I left the SU. I wonder how many more students and staff have to leave before our voice is heard.

Elizabeth Roberts8:05 PM

I feel the VOTE should be from THE PARENTS

Allison Clough8:06 PM

No, the board doesn't want anyone to vote so that we can't have any say.

Allen Howard8:06 PM

Been in that "direction" for two years. Keep dangling the carrot

Allison Clough8:07 PM

You are making the division!

Elizabeth Roberts8:08 PM

There should be an email discussing everything that was said in the chat! We need our voices heard, THE PARENTS NEED TO VOTE

Micheal Boutin8:09 PM

So sad that Baker can't let us know anything. We definitely were surprised that we had a vacation!!!! Hit from no were....

Totally unplanned school vacation.

Allison Clough8:09 PM

We can vote all we want Elizabeth. They will dictate whatever they want. It is obviously not up to parents at all.

Elizabeth Roberts8:10 PM

Los Angeles is lifting its mask mandate this Friday!!! California!!!

Misty Boutin8:11 PM

Bravo!! 🙌🙌

Elizabeth Roberts8:11 PM

I am appalled at the board.. apparently our voices as the PARENTS aren't being heard
Are our opinions actually going to matter?

Micheal Boutin8:12 PM

We are the majority that want to be heard and do not care about the minority that are scared.

Misty Boutin8:12 PM

Yes!!

Elizabeth Roberts8:13 PM

!!! YOU ARE NOT SUBSTITUTE PARENTS!!!

NO school is there TO TEACH

Misty Boutin8:13 PM

Then you are responsible for their mental health as well!

My daughter was hospitalized due to this crap!

Allen Howard8:13 PM

More serious than their actual parents

Elizabeth Roberts8:14 PM

MOST STUDENTS HATE THE MASKS

Misty Boutin8:14 PM

Are you guys asking the students? Do a student survey

Elizabeth Roberts8:14 PM

it causes so much hate, like it was stated before

Micheal Boutin8:15 PM

That would hurt his feelings.

Jennifer Bates8:17 PM

Don't you think kids have gotten Covid in schools all year so far?!

Allison Clough8:17 PM

A lot of students feel pressured by their friends and even the staff not to say anything against masks or even vaccines because then they are looked at as the villain.

Misty Boutin8:17 PM

How about a mental health law suit?

Micheal Boutin8:17 PM

Please get rid of the masks. And please let that go, pay the Covid crap

Elizabeth Roberts8:18 PM

But it will cover a mental/emotional health law suit

Michelle Smith8:18 PM

Yes, Mental Health Law Suits!

Micheal Boutin8:19 PM

Please look at the chat

Elizabeth Roberts8:20 PM

it's not technically Covid related just a result of what rules regulations and mandates due to Covid have created

Michelle Smith8:21 PM

YES! Thank you Molly!!!!

Misty Boutin8:21 PM

Molly you're amazing!

Allison Clough8:21 PM

Thank you Molly

Misty Boutin8:22 PM

Ya we got that now... lol

Micheal Boutin8:22 PM

Please vote!

Allen Howard8:22 PM

Thank u Molly.

Unknown8:22 PM

Thank you Molly !

Jennifer Bates8:22 PM

Thank you, Molly.

Elizabeth Roberts8:22 PM

Thank you molly!!!

Meeting is in person right

No masks

Our choice

Michelle Smith8:24 PM

You could utilize your phone notification system (the one you use for school cancellations) to notify parents about important meetings such as this. Just a thought.

Elizabeth Burrows8:24 PM

IN fact, prior to the press conference the governor said he was not going to discuss COVID today.

Elizabeth Roberts8:24 PM

Yes Michelle!!!

Misty Boutin8:24 PM

Yes!

Elizabeth Roberts8:25 PM

Basic individuals?

Allen Howard8:25 PM

Why haven't you been asking us ?

Allison Clough8:28 PM

The data shows that the only mask that actually works to stop transmission are N95/KN95. They have only been tested in a sterile laboratory setting. This is per the CDC website

Thank you Patrick! Yes. I've been telling my son to take the mask off when outside. It's the only time they can get fresh air.

Allison Clough8:29 PM

But he was told he had to wear one.

Michelle Smith8:29 PM

yes they were required outside!

Michelle Smith8:30 PM

EXACTLY!!!! AMEN!

Misty Boutin8:32 PM

Yes! My daughter told me this too after Christmas break.

Allison Clough8:33 PM

It is endemic.

It's not going anywhere. Furthering these restrictions for another week or two isn't going to do anything.

Allison Clough8:35 PM

Thank you Allen

Misty Boutin8:36 PM

<http://www.urgencyofnormal.com/>

Please view this information!!

Jennifer Bates8:36 PM

And YOU as school board and saying you're second parents to our kids should hear what Allen is saying and care that these kids are impacted.

Nancy Pedrick8:40 PM

I'm here~

You8:42 PM

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vjdcInmoFPFF_Agkx5Hq6LWkJZzp4En/edit

Nancy Pedrick8:42 PM

I don't think my. Audio is working

Angela Ladeau8:50 PM

\$40,000 in ESSER II for Equity

Bill Yates8:50 PM

Thank you Angie

Colleen Spence8:54 PM

that's huge! exciting drop

yes, thank you, Katie

you rock!

Nicole Buck8:55 PM

Totally agree, great job Katie!

Nancy Pedrick8:57 PM

No audio for me

Katie Ahern8:57 PM

Thank you everyone for all the ayes!

Bill Yates8:57 PM

Nancy, I know you are clairvoyant

Nancy Pedrick8:58 PM

Thanks,Bill

Davis McGraw9:00 PM

3/21 works for me!

Misty Boutin9:01 PM

I think with students it would be need to be worded right because some are hiding in their masks.

Keighan C Eaker9:04 PM

Thank you for holding the space for this evening's conversations and discussions. With respect—

Brittany Preston9:08 PM

The 14th may be a tight turn around to get the public survey data

Davis McGraw9:09 PM

I have a conflict on the 14th, for what its worth. 15th I'm good.

Kaitlyn Gould9:15 PM

that's 4 almost 5 weeks out. will you be planning to vote on the mask protocol at this time? you might find more emotionally charged parents the longer you wait...

Nancy Pedrick9:15 PM

A bit of family help needed and I must leave the meeting.

Misty Boutin9:16 PM

I had my hand up because one member said they want to see parents show up. My husband and I had to hand out flyers to parents because they had no idea about the meeting. Could there be a better way to reach families?

Kate Ryan9:16 PM

hi misty - I saw the idea about the robo call

Misty Boutin9:16 PM

We handed flyers to all parents picking up their children.

That is a great idea, and fully support that!

Kate Ryan9:17 PM

I thought that was a good idea. I typically put the links in the parent update but it can def can lost in all that info

Colleen Spence9:17 PM

robo call sounds good too

Misty Boutin9:17 PM

Yes!

Such a great way to reach parents.

Kate Ryan9:18 PM

I can do a separate email with just the links moving forward
thank you :)

Colleen DeSchamp9:22 PM

Thank you for serving Scott.

Mark Yuengling9:24 PM

Thank you Scott.

Larry Dougher9:24 PM

Thank you Scott for your years of service. I am going to miss your principled view the work and issues and how
you always get to the heart of an issue.

*of the work