

WEATHERSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD
April 5, 2022
Google Meet and Weathersfield School
Approved Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/PLEDGE

Annemarie Redmond, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present in-person: Annemarie Redmond, Nichole Gagnon, Jaimie Turner, Brian Martes, Melissa Cole, Izzy Kotlowitz, Celine Guedj, Carrie Jewell, Meredith Kelley, Kristin Grace, Jaime Richardson, Ryan Gay, and BJ Esty.

Present online: David Baker, Mark Yuengling, Linda Reeves-Potter, Alena Martes, Kirsten McNamara, Kristen Huebner, Tim Knapp, Casey Dillingham, Susan Brown, Kelly & John Broker- Campbell, Amy Hill, Jessica Kischko, Nathan McNaughton, Jon Richardson, Naomi Richardson, Lora Powers, SAPA TV, Christian Craig, Jessica Brown, Brooke Breit.

The flag was pledged.

II. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

a) Minutes of 3/8/22

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion concerning the minutes of 3/8/22. Nichole Gagnon made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/11/22. Jaimie Turner seconded this motion. NFD. All in favor. This motion was approved.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) The public participation policy was read, emphasizing the importance of public participation, but how it is not a public debate or forum, and how it is a time for the public to discuss their concerns with the board.

V. LEAD LEARNER'S REPORT - Brian Martes

a) WISE

WISE will have prevention education regarding sexual violence at Weathersfield School. Examples of learning objectives, health standards, and content in lessons will be posted on the School District's website.

b) Spring Sports Update

Practices have started with third and fourth grade baseball, fifth and sixth grade baseball and softball, and seventh and eighth grade softball. Spring registration for soccer has been marketed and will continue to be as it does not start until after spring break. The maintenance department and possible parent volunteers would be assisting with getting the softball field prepared, weather permitting. Over 100 athletes are signed up and to watch for the second annual Panther Paws Pride night in June, date to be determined.

c) Eight Grade Business Update

There were six different groups with six different designs, sale ended April first, and they sold a grand total of 101 items, when their initial group was 25.

- d) Bus Evacuation Drill
Students and staff practiced bus safety by evacuating busses as they would in an emergency situation. All four busses took part in this drill.
- e) Leader in Me
Manchester provided a virtual model, with three members of the Lighthouse team were in a conference room together with staff from Windsor and Hartland, which provided a great insight and the opportunity to collaborate for a stronger program. Next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2022.
- f) Enrollment and Attendance
Through March 8, 2022– April 4, 2022, total enrollment was 240 students, the daily attendance was 92.7, and there were 2 new students in Kindergarten, 1 in third grade, and 1 in eighth grade.
- g) COVID Update
Fourth through eighth grades are eating in the lunchroom, students are using lockers, and COVID tests remain available when needed. If someone tests positive, an email will go out to families. There have only been 4 students and 2 staff members testing positive since last month. Students are mixing pods at lunch and recess and student clubs have been meeting, including Dungeons and Dragons and Weathersfield School Alliance, which is held at recess.
- h) Building Community
Brian Martes has a meeting with Chief Daniels regarding internet safety, has a monthly conversation with Chief Spaulding regarding fire safety, and is part of the Weathersfield Safety Committee. Students may have the opportunity to share at the Weathersfield Memorial Day Celebration.
- i) Parent/Teacher Conferences.
Conferences are finishing up and are important in meeting the needs of students.
- j) American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge
The students are participating where they do different activities during the week during their PE time.
- k) Mission/Vision/Core Values Timeline.
The students need more time to evaluate their input.
- l) School Improvement and Makerspace
Discussion around putting carpeting in the music room, offices, and the library, and Makerspace cafeteria tables, which are more collaborative. The board will review the packet provided.
- m) Upcoming Events
Spring Break is April 11-15, SBAC Testing grades 3-8 at end of April/Beginning of May. Talent Show June 6th at 6pm, and Eighth Grade Graduation is Tuesday, June 14th.
- n) Other
Time was provided to discuss items not on the agenda. Participants discussed, at length, school clubs, student safety, and parental rights.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – David Baker

a) General Updates

- COVID transmissions are a bit higher and the AOE recommended to stay the course in regards to masking and mitigation.
- Test kits will be handed out and testing encouraged. Equity audit RFP are out to ten vendors, with proposals due on April 15, with partnership with Springfield and participation of some board members and others from each district.
- Teacher and support staff contracts are signed and individual contacts went out.
- Parent teacher conferences are finishing up and going well.
- Free lunch Wednesday is appreciated by staff.
- Last day of school is on June 17, 2022 with early dismissal.

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Steam Camp

The district is currently getting the right staff and figuring out logistics. If they can pull it off, it'll be 4 weeks during the summer.

b) Spring Production

The Spring Production will be the June 6th talent show. There will also be a dance production. The possibility of a school dance was also discussed.

c) Hiring Update

There are a few great candidates in the interview process for the 5th grade teacher position and preparation to look for a new music teacher and foreign language teacher is under way.

VIII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

The board will assist the new board member with signing of warrants.

IX. SETTING THE NEXT AGENDA

The next meeting will be May 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Annemarie Redmond asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nichole Gagnon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jaimie Turner seconded the motion. NFD. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nichole Gagnon