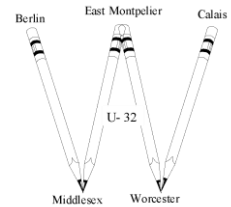


Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

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Bryan Olkowski
Superintendent



Washington Central Unified Union School District Board Meeting Minutes Approved August 26, 2020

Present by Teleconference*:

Board Members: Flor Diaz Smith, Lindy Johnson, Scott Thompson, Diane Nichols-Fleming, Dorothy Naylor, Stephen Looke, Chris McVeigh, Kari Bradley (exited at 7:20 p.m.), Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Jaiel Pulskamp (arrived at 7:00), Townes DeGroot, George Gross, Jonathan Goddard

Administrators: Superintendent Bryan Olkowski, Technology Director Keith MacMartin, Principal Cat Fair, Business Administrator Lori Bibeau

Others/Public: Glenn Gannon, Dennis Hill, Karoline May, Kathy Christie, ORCA Media

1. Call to Order: Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He explained the purpose of this special meeting: to select a new representative from Middlesex, to review some needs for air ventilation, and for personnel issues.

2. Public Comments: none

3. Board Operations

Interview and Appoint New Interim Representative from Middlesex:

Both Karoline May and Dennis Hill spoke to the board about their reasons for offering to serve on the board. Board members asked questions and interviewed the candidates. Some board members expressed a desire to discuss in Executive Session.

At 6:50 Stephen Looke moved to go into Executive Session for discussion of a Personnel Matter. Seconded by Jonas Eno-Van Fleet. Discussion: Scott Thompson reviewed Roberts Rules. A vote was called and this motion carried.

At 7:12, the board came out of Executive Session by consensus.

Scott Thompson indicated that the board will vote on candidates; however he noted that the board is grateful for and impressed by both candidates.

Scott Thompson asked for board members to indicate their vote in favor of appointing Karoline May as Middlesex representative to the board, as soon as sworn in, and until Town Meeting Day, 2021. 11 votes in favor.

He asked for board members to indicate their vote in favor of appointing Dennis Hill. 1 vote in favor.

Scott Thompson indicated that the board based its decision on experience, familiarity with the community, understanding of the situation, and the school board's role, values and commitment to public education. He thanked both Dennis Hill and Karoline May.

4. Efficiency Vermont - Air Ventilation

Superintendent Olkowski invited Lori Bibeau to update the board on facilities. Superintendent Olkowski and Lori Bibeau had prepared a memo, 8-21-20, *School Reopening Facility Updates*. Lori Bibeau shared that ERV and ventilation projects as proposed are expected to be reimbursed by Efficiency Vermont. She stated that board action to support the project is sufficient. Superintendent Olkowski shared that he and Lori Bibeau have also discussed how to cover these expenses if this funding does not come through from Efficiency Vermont.

Chris McVeigh moved to support proceeding with the Calais ventilation system project. Seconded by Dorothy Naylor. Stephen Looke asked, when is the work in Calais expected to be done? Superintendent Olkowski stated that the goal is to complete it before December 30th, but he does not know for sure yet. Stephen Looke would like to discuss this further after the board votes. **Board members voted in favor, unanimously.**

Stephen Looke stated that he is interested in hearing what is the plan to meet the current air exchange requirements, while the project is underway. Lori Bibeau stated that these details are to be uncovered as part of the bid specification. Superintendent Olkowski shared that he had explored short, medium, and long term air ventilation issues with Roy Swain. Doty School was the only immediate issue. Some of the short term: replacing filters and adjusting ventilation flow. The Calais issue was deemed a medium to long term issue. Stephen Looke stated that he is looking for assurance that the air quality at Calais will remain healthy for students and staff even during the work. He would like to see what the contingency plan is, should the construction, while underway, interfere with the air quality. Superintendent Olkowski will follow up with John Hemmelgam. Lindy Johnson asked whether contingency plans are in place for schools after reopening, should facilities issues arise or should buildings need to close altogether. Superintendent Olkowski indicated that this is an ongoing consideration.

5. Personnel

Flor Diaz Smith moved to approve the hire of Sara Ford, Social Studies U32 and Kerri Zurowski, PE Calais. Seconded by Diane Nichols-Fleming. This motion carried unanimously.

Jonas Eno-Van Fleet moved to accept the resignation of Sherry Newton. Seconded by Diane Nichols-Fleming. Discussion: Diane Nichols-Fleming asked whether this is a position that U32 is looking to replace. Superintendent Olkowski indicated that it is not presently. He shared that he and Steven Dellinger-Pate have discussed this issue of

prioritizing hiring, Middle School Math being top priority at this time. Diane Nichols-Fleming expressed that, with the emphasis on social emotional learning upon the reopening of school, the absence of this position may be felt.

A vote was called; this motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Olkowski indicated that the board may have some action to take around retirement at a meeting in the near future.

George Gross asked whether there is any updated information about elementary school sports. Superintendent Olkowski will prepare an email response to this.

6. Adjourn: The board adjourned by consensus at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Stoudt, Board Recording Secretary