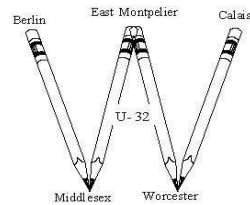


Washington Central Supervisory Union

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William Kimball
Superintendent



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

Washington Central Unified Union School District Transition Board

5.9.19

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

EMES, 665 Vincent Flats Road, E. Montpelier

Approved 5-15-19

Transition Board Attendees: Flor Diaz-Smith (East Montpelier), Lindy Johnson (East Montpelier), Susanna Culver (Calais), Dorothy Naylor (Calais), Scott Thompson (Calais), Will Baker (Worcester), Carl Witke (Worcester), Alison Cornwall (Middlesex), Chris McVeigh (Middlesex), Vera Frazier (Berlin), Nicolle Ferrier (Berlin)

Administration: Lori Bibeau (WCSU Central Office)

Guests: David Delcore (Times Argus)

1.0 Call to Order – Ms. Diaz-Smith called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

1.1 Reception of Guests – David Delcore

1.2 Agenda Revisions & Board Comments – Ms. Frazier shared that the Berlin school board may take action on the easement issue for town usage for building (like Calais). Ms. Cornwall noted that Rumney is also considering the issue.

1.3 Public Comments & Correspondence - none

2.0 Consent Agenda

2.1 Approve Minutes of 5.2.19 – Mr. McVeigh made a motion to approve the minutes of May 2, 2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cornwall. The motion passed unanimously.

3.0 Discussion Agenda

3.1 Develop FY20 Budget to Recommend to New WCUUSD Board – Ms. Bibeau shared a letter from Bill Kimball regarding the new budget booklet. She noted that this shares how the budget went from \$29 million to \$33 million. Mr. Kimball asked for feedback on how to help voters understand the current situation. Mr. Baker noted a typo on page 1 – the year was written as 2017. The board agreed that they would all like to be signers of the report. Mr. McVeigh asked that the last sentence before the graph be in bold. After the chart, there is a typo in the second sentence – it should be “working.” Also, references of “I” should be changed to “we.”

Ms. Bibeau reviewed the two articles that will be put out to voters. A discussion was held regarding setting up a WCUUSD Capital Fund.

A discussion ensued regarding tax rates. Mr. Baker suggested leaving out the equalized pupil chart, but add information about the local CLA. Mr. Thompson asked if a column could be added to show each town's CLA.

3.2 Vermont Retirement System – Ms. Bibeau shared that during negotiations, a new pension benefit was agreed upon for non-teaching staff. She asked the board to approve joining the Vermont Municipal Retirement System.

3.3 Articles of Agreement – Ms. Diaz-Smith noted that the options that the Act 49 Committee forwarded for Article 4B were as follows. 1. School closure must be approved by a majority of the school board and the town where the school is located. 2. The moratorium on school closure would be extended to five years. A short discussion was held regarding whether to amend Article 4A, but the board ultimately felt it was not necessary.

Mr. McVeigh offered his words of support for option 1. Ms. Cornwall offered thoughts that Calais and Worcester might feel better with option 1, and felt that it may make residents feel more inclined to work together and feel less resentful about this process. Further discussion ensued. Mr. McVeigh asked if a better protection would be to only allow school closure with an affirmative town vote in two successive years. Discussion ensued. Ms. Diaz Smith asked whether the board had any desire for a multi-year vote. Discussion ensued. The board was split 6 – 5 on having two consecutive votes versus one. Ms. Diaz-Smith will ask Chris Leopold to draft language for both. The options the board will send on are as follows:

1. School closure must be approved in two successive years by a majority of the school board and the town where the school is located. (Mr. McVeigh, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Naylor, Ms. Cornwall, Ms. Frazier, Ms. Ferrier)
2. School closure must be approved by a majority of the school board and the town where the school is located. (Ms. Culver, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Diaz-Smith, Mr. Baker, Mr. Witke)

4.0 Action Agenda

4.1 Authorize the Superintendent to Sign Documents to Join the Vermont Retirement System Group B Program – **Mr. McVeigh made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to sign documents to join the Vermont Retirement System Group B Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Witke. The motion passed unanimously.**

4.2 Approve the Recommendation of the FY20 Budget to the WCUUSD Board – **Ms. Cornwall made a motion to approve the recommendation of the FY20 Budget to the WCUUSD Board, as edited with Ms. Bibeau. The motion was seconded by Ms. Culver. The motion passed unanimously.**

5.0 Future Agenda Items - none

6.0 Board Communication – Ms. Diaz-Smith sent information about a VSBA training on June 1.

7.0 Adjournment – Mr. McVeigh made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cornwall. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Hollie Friot, Board Recorder