

# Washington Central Unified Union School District

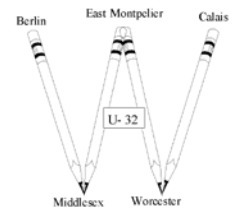
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*WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.*

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Bryan Olkowski  
Superintendent



## **WCUUSD Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Unapproved 6.22.21 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Committee Members Present:** Chris O'Brien, Bryan Olkowski, Flor Diaz-Smith, Chris McVeigh, Scott Thompson, Suzanne Gann, Lori Bibeau, Steven Dellinger-Pate

- 1. Call to Order:** Flor Diaz Smith called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
- 2. Approve Minutes of 5.18.21:** Scott Thompson moved to approve the minutes of 5.18.21. Chris McVeigh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Discussion/Action**

#### **3.1. Financial Update & ESSER Funds:**

Lori Bibeau spoke about the ESSER Grants. She briefly went over the ESSER I and ESSER II grants indicating that these grants covered nurses, the one-time payment to staff, replaced local money and helped build the fund balance. The ESSER III grant for \$2.4 million must be used by September 2024. There is no specific guidance from the Agency of Education as of yet on how these funds are to be used. There were no findings by the audit. Lori gave an overview of the financial reports to include capital funds, community connections, food programs, technology, and fiscal software conversions. Lori went over the list of ESSER III eligible allowable costs. The software conversion will be deferred six more months by the state.

**Chris McVeigh motioned to recommend to the School Board to authorize reserving fund balance for the Doty .86 FTE Para educator position for \$31,368 less projected reimbursement of \$17,566 amount net \$13,802.00 Scott Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Scott Thompson motioned to recommend to the School Board authorization to transfer to the capital fund \$1 million. Chris McVeigh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

- 3.2. Food Service Financial Reports:** Lori looked into the food program deeper as requested in the previous meeting and the findings were that many students are not eating even though universal meals are being provided, particularly at the high school. She gave percentages for breakfast and lunch at each of the schools.

**Berlin:** 34% breakfast, 72% lunch (highest in the district)

**Calais:** 30% breakfast 48% lunch

**EMES:** 34% breakfast 50% lunch

**Rumney:** 36% breakfast 55% lunch

**Doty:** 32% breakfast 57% lunch

**U-32:** 7% breakfast 24% lunch

There was discussion surrounding the differences between schools. It was suggested that a student survey be created to identify reasons why students are not choosing breakfast and/or lunch. It was recommended that a nutrition committee be created.

### **3.3. Comparative Information**

**3.3.1. Education Spending per Equalized Pupil:** WCUUSD has the highest per equalized pupil cost compared to neighboring districts. Our district ranked 11<sup>th</sup> out of 114 for FY 20-21. WCUUSD is \$2700.00 above the average spending in the state. The cost for WCUUSD is at \$19,531 per equalized pupil.

**3.3.2. Special Education Financial Information:** We have one staff member for every three students on IEP's. There is a 28% increase over a two-year period. An 11% decline in IEP students. Lori advised she was unable to attain any state comparative information for special education as they stopped providing that information in 2018. It was recommended that a program review be considered.

**3.4. School time Proposal:** Steven Dellinger-Pate proposed that 20 minutes be added to the school day. There is an associated cost with transportation; however, this will add more student instructional time (40 additional days over 6 years). He advised silent sustained reading would be added to Middle school for this time and would not take away from Core time. Some discussion surrounding issues with transportation in regards to elementary and high school students riding the same buses. **Chris McVeigh motioned to recommend to the School Board to allocate \$241,000 from fund balance for additional transportation needs in order to extend the current school day as recommended by Steven Dellinger Pate. Scott Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **4. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items**

**4.1.** Next Meeting Date: TBD

**4.2.** Energy Project Consultant

**4.3.** Net Metering Proposal

**4.4.** ESSER Funds Use

**4.5.** U-32 Storm water Bid (in the budget)

**4.6.** U-32 Bathrooms (not in the budget)

**4.7.** Rumney Baseball Field Upgrade (not in the budget)

**4.8.** VSBA Dues

## **5. Adjourn: The committee adjourned by consensus.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Tuller  
Administrative Assistant