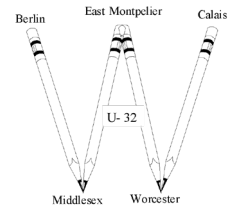


Washington Central Unified Union School District

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

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761

Meagan Roy
Interim Superintendent



**WCUUSD Finance Committee
Minutes
12.20.23 5:00-6:00 PM
In-Person
U-32
Rm 128/131
930 Gallison Hill Rd
Montpelier, VT**

Present: Flor Diaz Smith, Ursula Stanley, Kari Bradley, Superintendent Roy, Susanne Gann, Zach Sullivan, Daniel Keeney, Mckalyn Leclerc, Mark Kline, Steven Dellinger-Pate, Alicia Lyford, ORCA Media **Online:** Brian Fischer

1. Call to Order: Flor Diaz Smith called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Discussion/Action

2.1. Configuration Study: Flor Diaz Smith asked committee members to debrief on the WCUUSD activity at the previous meeting.

Ursula: similarity between what the committee came to and what the WCUUSD full board came to - lots of similar ideas

Diane: connection to connecting with the communities - thinking/ ideas related to community

Zach: a lot more variety in the dot choices - more scattered

Kari: fits into the matrix of improving efficiency and expanding opportunities; this affirmed discussions we have had to date

Daniel: in the exercise we are taking off our "money" hats and looking at things from a blank slate irrespective of budget

Zach: the idea of maintaining "status quo" was put on the table and received ONE vote

Flor Diaz Smith asked the committee to participate in an activity to consider the question: Given our focus on robust student programming, sustainability, and keeping the broader community in mind, what are some criteria to use to help the committee narrow down which configurations to study?

- Equitable Opportunities: Class Size, Staffing, Outcomes (no part time teachers)
- Expanded Opportunity
- Focus on Learning / Results / Collaboration
- Consensus in Transparency: critical
- Honoring Community: Place/ People
- Make sure our community feels our guidance was objective: critical
- Equity Lens
- Sustainability

Dan: What question about outcomes does each of the themes address?

Superintendent Roy suggested: Committee look at models: this model would have class sizes ____, staffing ____, and opportunities ____.

Kari: translate the categories to metrics (which is why class size is so appealing to us; it is easily quantified). What do you see in the models that would address the desired criteria that has been established? Hard to measure each model by the same focus/ theme.

Superintendent Roy feels the administration can bring back some models based on the information that was sifted out in this exercise. By the February meeting?

Diane: Are there tasks that could be done outside of the central office, please share so that some committee members can take some of the workload off.

Superintendent Roy - the committee will likely next ask questions such as "What else can we do?"
Some discussion about merging with other districts.

Superintendent Roy - realistically any type of merger requires many steps; we would need to have fleshed out this process before we embark on that.

Flor: move into that discussion with more data

Zach: not so much we should merge with Montpelier - but we have a neighboring high school sitting in a flood plain - we do not want to cut off the option of merging with them in the future.

Steven Dellinger-Pate suggested starting with class size and create a model from there.

Flor Diaz Smith - we have a class size policy; this is what can guide the admin in modeling.

Superintendent Roy - the board might want to consider the class size policy, as the memo does not match the class size guidance provided in Ed Quality Standards

The committee will not meet on January 17th.

Summary: Exercise to come up with criteria to provide guidance to look at options:

- class size
- equitable staffing
- expanding opportunities
- equitable opportunities
- cost
- long term: equity lens/ sustainability of the district
- honoring community (place/ people)
- outcomes

3. Future Agenda Items

3.1. Next Regular Meeting: January 9, 2023

3.2. Configuration Study Meeting: January 17, 2023 (this will not take place)

4. Adjourn: The committee adjourned by consensus at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Grace, Committee Recording Secretary