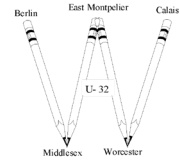


Washington Central Unified Union School District

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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WCUUSD Finance Committee Meeting 9.9.25 Central Office 1130 Gallison Hill Rd Montpelier, VT Virtual

Present: Susanne Gann, Rebecca Tatistcheff, Ursula Stanley, Steven Dellinger-Pate, Chris McVeigh, Zach Sullivan, Flor Diaz Smith, Daniel Keeney, Lila Richardson, David Rodgers

1. **Call to Order: Flor Diaz Smith called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM**
2. **Approve the minutes of 8.19.25: Ursula Stanley motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Chris McVeigh. The minutes were approved unanimously.**
3. **Informational Reports**
 - 3.1. **Monthly Reflections:** Susanne provided a written report and highlighted the hiring of Patricia Canada as payroll specialist and the challenges faced during the first payroll week. Susanne also mentioned the summer data collections and the addition of 22 new contracted employees since July 1, detailing the work involved in setting them up in the HR setting them up in the HR and payroll systems.
4. **Discussion/Action**
 - 4.1. **Discuss Combined FY 26 Capital Improvement Project Scope & Budget:** Susanne provided a detailed memo. She recapped the scope and budget development process and mentioned the two options for the replacement project at Doty focusing on the interior boiler room. Susanne explained the risks associated with the boiler at Doty and the two options presented Option 1: Make the oil boiler a backup while installing a new room downstairs for a pellet boiler or Option 2: Replace the oil boiler with a pellet boiler and a gas backup in a new room downstairs. Flor confirmed the cost estimate for option one is \$657,494 and option 2 is \$445,620. Chris McVeigh asked if the cost for dismantling the oil boiler is included in Option 1 and not in Option 2. Susanne confirmed that was correct. Chris also

questioned the significant increase in the kitchen reconfiguration and the inclusion of contingency in the updated numbers. Ursula asked why the soft costs and contingency are different for each proposal. Susanne explained that the soft costs and contingency are distributed based on the percentage of each project from the total combined project cost. Ursula also asked about the history of oil leaks at Doty. Susanne advised a previous small leak was mitigated and there has been an ongoing concern from the Facilities Director, Chris O'Brien about the oil boiler's risk. Chris asked about the cost efficiency of installing both new boilers at once versus splitting the project. Daniel Keeney advised he was comfortable with both options but was leaning towards Option 2. Zach Sullivan agreed with Daniel and emphasized the need to balance risks across staffing and facilities. Flor Diaz Smith called for a show of hands to determine the preferred option, majority favored Option 2. **Daniel Keeney motioned to recommend that the Board authorize the completion of the recommended projects for an amount not to exceed \$1,226,000. Zach seconded and the motion passed with one opposed.** Susanne will update the memo to include a paragraph summarizing the finance committee's recommendation on the Doty boiler project.

4.2. Discuss FY 27 Budget Timeline: Ursula Stanley suggests clarifying the board's steps in the budget timeline document. Susanne agreed to add a paragraph in the review section and focus on the recommended option in the final document. Daniel Keeney emphasized the need to define the baseline budget and its criteria, suggesting a more visionary and innovative approach. Susanne will include a separate document in the board packet that shows a full year round budgeting timeline, including the steps for the leadership team. Susanne and Steven will ensure the definition of "baseline budget" is covered in the budget training for the board.

5. Public Comments: Public comment was received from Lila Richardson.

6. Future Agenda Items

6.1. Next Regular Meeting: October 14, 2025

7. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by consensus at 9:35 a.m.