

WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD

JUNE 4, 2020

VIA ZOOM

Board Members Present: L. Picard, T. Perkins, J. Rokes, Todd Kilanski

Board Members Absent: V. Cole

Administration Present: K. Dassau, V. Carey, M. Henry, I. Spencer

The meeting was called to order by L. Picard at 6:32pm.

L. Picard advised, with agreement of the Board, citizens comments would be held at the end of the meeting.

MINUTES:

L. Picard advised that the minutes of the 5/21/20 Board meeting will be approved at the next meeting. Also, the amendment to the 4/2/20 meeting will be added to the minutes for approval.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT- V. Carey:

*End-of-Year Celebration – The last day of school is tomorrow. Monday and Tuesday they are hosting the eighth grade graduation sessions. All eighth grade students are scheduled for June 8th or 9th.

There have been a lot of drive-thru celebrations including Kindergarten and Pre-School.

Students will be coming to the school to return supplies.

Chief Tollett will be giving Certificates for the DARE program to the fifth graders.

L. Picard and T. Perkins heard the Kindergarten team singing at the celebration which started on Saturday; it was adorable.

L. Picard asked about end-of-year learning.

V. Carey advised they are still working on a plan while waiting to receive final guidance from the State. Will get more answers next week. Have moved forward with scheduling the Summer program with some students who will need additional help now. Won't do that with all who will need services, but some haven't gotten as much from remote learning and need to meet face-to-face.

*Kindergarten registration – V. Carey advised it is going well. This week have had additional students coming in; need to keep a close eye on the number. If we get to 51, will need an additional staff member. It is difficult to plan; will get information out by social media and work with other agencies. Some kids come in without signing up beforehand.

BUSINESS MANAGER – M. Henry:

L. Picard advised the Finance Committee met and asked questions on the Manifest.

*MS22 – M. Henry advised Board members should have received an e-mail request for signatures on the MS-22 and to then return it to her.

L. Picard asked the Board to get the MS-22 back to M. Henry by tomorrow.

*M. Henry has done an estimate of the money that will be in the fund balance – at this point she estimates \$239,000, but that number could change. We do have a loss in revenues of \$110,000 which is mainly due to the loss of Medicaid monies. The year-end balance will go toward the deficit balance of \$385,000. The auditors are coming in in June to do a preliminary audit, then in September to do the final one. M. Henry explained they overspent Special Ed and underspent Regular Ed, so that is why they have some money from that line.

L. Picard – So \$129,000 could go toward Special Ed? We have to exhaust all monies before we can tap into the Special Ed reserve?

M. Henry – Yes, we have to spend \$239,000.

L. Picard advised it is a projection from a budget done 18 months ago.

V. Carey advised there was a change in the way schools can collect Medicaid monies. The original calculation was from the way it was done before.

*M. Henry explained she would like to increase the first three payments from the Town by \$280,000 each. This is due to Summer projects, payrolls that are due at the end of the year and the bond payment; there is a need for cash flow. There will be no payment from Adequacy Aid until August.

L. Picard advised she presented the RSA to the Selectboard and gave them a heads up about what the Board would be requesting.

M. Henry explained she spoke to the School Board Attorney. We have the right to ask the Town for additional funding.

T. Kilanski advised he is okay with that, but hopes the Town and the School will be on the same page so it is not a slap in the face.
M. Henry advised the School has worked with the Town on payments in the past.

T. Perkins MOVED to increase the payments from the Town to the School Board in the amount of \$280,000 for the first three installments; SECONDED by: J. Rokes

T. Perkins made a friendly Amendment and J. Rokes SECONDED: *in addition to the usual disbursements with reduced payments for the remaining nine months*; T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard MOVED to Approve the Accounts Payable Manifest of June 3, 2020 in the amount of \$132,177.24; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard put into the minutes the Payroll Manifest dated 5/29/20 in the amount of \$237,716.52.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – K. Dassau:

*K. Dassau gave Letters of Assurance to L. Picard for her signature.

*K. Dassau needs two non-public sessions and a non-meeting tonight.

*K. Dassau explained that the District lawsuit is not dead, but the State has been requesting extensions. Now they have a voter registration issue. Hopefully it will be good for us and we will get funding from the State. Feels it could go on ad infinitum.

T. Kilanski asked about the busing contract.

M. Henry advised they could discuss it in non-public session as it is a contract issue.

COMMITTEES:

Negotiations:

They will get going soon.

Facilities:

L. Picard asked if there would be a Joint Loss meeting soon.

I. Spencer advised definitely should have one; could meet the week after next.

L. Picard asked T. Kilanski, J. Rokes and I. Spencer to look at the week of the 15th and let Marie Braley know the date and time.

Finance/Budget Committee:

L. Picard advised they have started a conversation; as it stands right now the first Budget Committee Meeting will be held on July 7th at 6:00 pm.

L. Picard asked M. Henry for a year-end printout of the 2019-2020 budget for the Board meeting on June 18th. If any Board Members want one, M. Braley can print a copy off for them. For the meeting she will bring the 2020-2021 budget they will be working with. The Board will review it at the 7/2/20 Board meeting.

Professional Development:

L. Picard explained they are coming out of a three year plan. They were ready for a new plan, but she wants to see what is left from the prior plan and the impact from the loss of staff.

V. Carey thinks it is good for Professional Development to meet before the next school year. Thinks it would be helpful to meet after Title 2A funds are received.

L. Picard went to the Selectboard and discussed disbursement; looking at ending the fiscal budget and looking at the new budget. Discussed end-of-year information and ACCESS. The Selectboard appreciated the Board seeing the ACCESS issue through. She reviewed the loss of staff and will continue to remind them. There will be an impact; new staff won't have the same level of knowledge as those that were in Winchester.

Stephanie Tommila advised there is horse hair plaster on the third floor.

Ian Spencer advised most of the third floor as been gutted.

An anonymous participant had two questions.

L. Picard felt they needed to identify themselves.

K. Dassau advised they also would not know if the person is a Winchester resident and entitled to speak.

L. Picard advised the person would need to log in and give their name and then she could answer the questions.

Heather is concerned about lack of transportation and truancy next year. What is the plan?

L. Picard advised the Board will continue to discuss the busing contract and the impact the budget cuts have on students.

Emily Henderson asked if the Budget meetings will be broadcast.

L. Picard – Her opinion is yes. She thinks the same person who does the School Board meetings will do it.

L. Picard as she understands it, the meetings are held in person.

V. Carey advised she is happy to set the meeting up and make L. Picard the host.

Jonathan Gallup asked if the Budget Committee meeting is a public meeting.

L. Picard – Yes and it is posted.

L. Picard advised the Board tries very hard to update everyone and the School Board rep could provide an update.

L. Picard did hear from the Sentinel; have a new Education Provider. They were looking for an update on the budget cuts.

L. Picard thanked them for their involvement and getting the word out. L. Picard reminded the Board to refer any questions to her.

L. Picard MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA91-A:3 (a) and at 7:25pm; SECONDED by: T. Kilanski, T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard MOVED to leave non-public session at 7:48pm; SECONDED by: T. Kilanski, T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

While in non-public session the Board discussed a request for Maternity leave - congratulations to Ashley Nicholson. The Board also discussed a nomination and a contract.

T. Kilanski MOVED to seal the nomination portion of the non-public minutes until appropriate notice has been given; SECONDED by: L. Picard, T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard MOVED to seal the contract portion of the non-public minutes until the contract has been finalized; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, T. Kilanski – yes, J. Rokes – yes, T. Perkins – yes, L. Picard – yes, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard and V. Carey gave an update on COVID 19. The Task Force has completed their survey. There are a lot of different stakeholders. The Task Force will meet next week and set recommendations. We will be preparing to use frameworks to prepare three different models of what things could look like and then choose one that matches what is needed.

L. Picard appreciates everyone's hard work. Understands there are a lot of challenges.

V. Carey will bring the proposed plan to staff, the board and parents for feedback.

L. Picard MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm; SECONDED by: T. Perkins, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins
School Board Secretary