

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY
NOVEMBER 17, 2011**

Board Members Present: J. Gile, T. Croteau, K. Whippie, C. Duquette

Absent: W. Hildreth

Administration Present: K. Dassau, J. Lewis, P. Bigelow, C. Paulin

The meeting was called to order by Chair, C. Duquette at 6:30 pm.

MINUTES:

K. Whippie MOVED to approve the public minutes of November 3, 2011; SECONDED by: C. Duquette, VOTED: 2-0-2 (J. Gile, T. Croteau - abstained).

Updates to Policies BB, BEAB, DGD, GCO, GCQA, GDS, GEA, IC, JEC - First Reading:

J. Gile MOVED to approve all updates; SECONDED by: K. Whippie, after discussion, policy GCQA will be deleted; Policy GDS should read *fewer not few*; Policy GEA will be deleted; K. Dassau will work on developing a Credit Card policy; VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

C. Paulin included a letter from the LGC regarding Property Liability insurance in the Board packets. The rate will stay the same. Advised the Worker's Comp rate will increase about eight percent. Not sure about Unemployment; will call LGC to find out. C. Paulin answered questions of the Board.

C. Paulin advised there will be a 4.7 percent increase/average rate change in Health Care. Advised that is a wonderful number.

T. Croteau asked if there is any information on revenues.

C. Paulin will bring it for the next meeting.

J. Gile MOVED to approve the manifest in the amount of \$395,125.21; SECONDED by: T. Croteau, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

2012-2013 Budget:

M. Upton has drafted a letter to the Select Board. K. Dassau distributed it to the Board for review.

K. Dassau explained the tuition number has changed; Special Ed students are moving in and out.

K. Dassau advised in final stages of MS25.

K. Whippie asked what is the State revenue forecast for the 2012-2013 budget?

K. Dassau advised exactly the same as last year.

K. Dassau proposed at the next Board meeting that they focus only on the budget and then schedule a couple of work sessions.

K. Whippie MOVED to send the letter as written, to the Select Board; SECONDED by: C. Duquette, VOTED: 3-1 (T. Croteau - no), MOTION PASSED.

K. Dassau distributed the Senate Bill 2 timeline and documents from the Budget Committee Chair for Board review.

K. Dassau advised the meeting date on January 12, 2012 won't be good as it is the last day to post a meeting under SB2. Advised can post it on the 10th and hold the meeting on the 17th.

K. Dassau suggested that when K. Whippie meets with the Budget Committee he can check with them regarding the date then.

C. Duquette asked about the new system; does it have the ability to specify new items for the budget?

C. Paulin - Yes; can print notes.

C. Duquette feels that will be helpful; can make notes on the accounts; i.e., cost for Regular Ed and cost for Special Ed.

C. Paulin advised he has fed historical information into the system.

C. Duquette advised at the next several meetings will concentrate on the budget; may need additional meetings.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

*Training for electronic report cards; will be a reality soon. Parent Portal will allow parents to see how their kids are doing.

*Head lice - will do checks after Thanksgiving and Christmas.

*J. Lewis will not be at the next Board meeting as he will be in Washington.

*There were 25-30 people at the last Cast Meeting from all over town. It is great to have so much involvement. The minutes will be typed up. The expectation is that Cast will become more action oriented.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

K. Whippie asked how the negotiations with support staff are going.

C. Duquette - friendly.

K. Whippie asked about the GED program.

K. Dassau explained they have taken three students out of Keene High School so far and they are working with tutors; which has taken \$137,000 out of tuition costs. The program is in the early stages, J. Miller, K. Dassau and others are working hard putting the program in place. The GED program is funded by Access Program grants.

C. Duquette thanked K. Dassau and J. Miller for doing that; it saves a lot of money and helps students.

K. Dassau advised Readiness will come up as a budget proposal.

K. Dassau advised will send budget information in the Board packets before the meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEE/REP REPORTS:

Joint Loss Committee:

Joint Loss meeting is planned for December; may have to play with that date. K. Whippie asked that K. Dassau let him know if any meeting dates are changing.

Budget Committee:

C. Paulin will include Budget Committee information each month. He will also send that information to Brian Moser for the Budget Committee.

Community Relations:

J. Gile advised the PTA will be holding a dance on December 16th.

J. Lewis advised that will be the same night for the Keep Winchester Warm distribution.

SAU 38:

*C. Duquette advised they haven't started the audit and won't until until December.

*Monadnock asked for the weighted vote and used last year's ADM numbers. C.

Duquette asked Jane to recalculate it.

*QED is a dead issue; won't show up on the agenda again. K. Dassau advised he put them on notice.

*C. Duquette explained SAU will charge districts for any time/benefits the SAU38 puts in on the district's behalf.

C. Duquette thinks someone will have to do some work for SAU38, but not a lot; should be charged proportionately.

K. Whippie feels if we do anything that relates back to SAU38 we should keep track.

*C. Duquette advised she sent a letter to SAU38 regarding Karen Craig's position.

*C. Duquette advised there will be a meeting in May. SAU 38 should be dissolved by June.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

None.

K. Whippie MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm; SECONDED by: J. Gile, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins
School Board Secretary