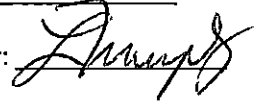


Date Approved/Released: 5/18/17

Date Approved/Hold: _____

School Committee Chair: _____



SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017
TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

1. Call to order: 6:02 P M.

Present: Danielle LaPointe, Janet Corbosiero, Dawn Fronte, Larry Murphy, Felicia Nurmsen
Steven Haddad, Superintendent, Richard Ikonen, Business Manager

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Audio/Video Recording Disclosure

3. Citizen Questions and/or Comments: None

4. Correspondence and Announcements: The committee members are invited to A Meet and Greet hosted by the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce. Representative Zlotnik, Senator Gobi and Town of Winchendon officials will speak and answer questions on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at The Winchendon School. The National Association of Letter Carriers is sponsoring the 25th Stamp out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 13, 2017. All Food collected will be donated to the Winchendon CAC.

5. Student Representative: None

J. Corbosiero moved to take Teaching and Learning Highlights (agenda item #7) out of order and have it now. Second by L. Murphy. Approved 5-0-0.

7. Teaching and Learning Highlights: Jamie Hobbs

Suzanne Michel, Assistant Director of Student Services, introduced Jamie Hobbs, the A. L. L. Program Teacher at the Memorial School. This program serves grades Pre-K through Grade 2. Noting that Autism severely impacts the area of communication, Ms. Hobbs showed how the students are taught communication, social and adaptive skills with the teacher, para-professionals and other students in the program. She showed a video of the students showing or telling what they do in class, pointing out successes and difficulties they encounter. The educators also generalize the learning to use outside of the classroom and eventually in the workplace. F. Nurmsen stated that technology is the great equalizer as long as the student has that support system in school, adding companies are hiring people with or on the autism spectrum. L. Murphy-reported that Ms. Hobbs' students put the weekend food backpacks together; they created a system that works very well. He added the students communicate with him without being prompted.

6. **Student Recognitions:** Blue Devil Cool Award (1st meeting of the month)
Student of the Month (2nd meeting of the month)

Blue Devil Cool Award: Jamie Hobbs, ALL Program Room Teacher. S. Haddad noted she is a news teacher in the system and is a true inspiration. Her support of her students has excelled far beyond what would be expected. S. Haddad listed her and the student's accomplishments, noting positivity and great communication with parents and guardians. F. Nurmsen commended the high level of expectation the students will rise to.

S. Haddad will arrange for the video presentation to be put on the website, with a Teaching and Learning Highlight link.

D. Fronte moved to take New Business C, Middle School Field Trip, out of order and present now. Second by Second by J. Corbosiero. Approved 5-0-0.

10. **New Business:**

- a. Field Trip - Middle School 7th Grade Field Trip- Calvin Miller, teacher, noted the 8th Grade Field Trip is on Friday, June 9th. The students will tour parts of Boston and go to the Red Sox vs. the Detroit Tigers baseball game. S. Haddad reviewed the 4th annual trip to the YMCA Camp Takodah in Richmond, NH from May 22-25, an outdoor education experience. S. Haddad explained the qualification process, the students fundraising efforts and the educational benefits. The school committee was invited to the Annual Parent and Guardian picnic on May 24th. J. Corbosiero moved to approve the trip to Camp Takodah. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.

7. **Superintendent Report:**

About 60 people came to the Opioid Abuse Awareness Forum sponsored by District Attorney Joe Early. It was very positive. Town Officials, Representative Zlotnik and Senator Gobi attended. He reviewed the speaker's stories, adding it was heart wrenching and insightful. The DA said this was one of the best forums he has attended.

The Town Meeting is on May 15th at 7:00 PM; there will be babysitting. He asked voters to approve Article 16. He explained the relationship between NSS and Educational Outcomes. Districts who receive additional funding are able to achieve better academic outcomes, and to reach Level 1; there is a direct correlation the higher above NSS district is. Winchendon falls into the 0%-1% above NSS and is at Level 3; other districts receiving that level of funding are Level 3, 4, or 5. Winchendon is at 1% due to the override in 2013. However, the district has to give \$236,000 back to the state toward the town's debt. Thus, it only has access to \$87,000. He stated 'We cannot prepare our students for life without the override' of \$417,675 to keep our schools moving in a positive direction. F. Nurmsen suggested the district pursue revenue sharing with the town as recommended by the Department of Revenue to gain additional funding. She also said the town needs to prioritize what it needs, adding that when the town does well the schools should do well too; it should be reflected in the entire community. She believes the children's' education is more important than the Sally Port and the new fire truck proposed.

S. Haddad talked about the Plans, noting the administration will look at the action items every week. There will be a presentation at the end of the school year. A survey of students who choice-out will be presented by June, including a breakdown of what schools they choose to attend. F. Nurmsen noted they are not leaving to attend Level 1 schools and suggested the district 'may be missing the mark with the families' since academics do not seem to be the issue. S. Haddad explained the 'Wall of Fame' he plans to introduce at the Alumni Banquet.

Business Office Report: None

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business:

- a. Re-organization of the Committee-D. LaPointe reviewed the current school committee policy. D. Fronte moved to hold the reorganization to July 1 to follow the new charter of the town. Second by L. Murphy. Discussion included the legality of the motion based on the policy and concerns regarding the integrity of any votes taken from now until July 1. Motion failed 0-5-0.

J. Corbosiero nominated D. LaPointe for School Committee Chairperson.

D. LaPointe accepted the nomination.

F. Nurmsen nominated L. Murphy.

L. Murphy accepted, adding that D. LaPointe can give the graduation speech.

CHAIRPERSON

F. Nurmsen voted for L. Murphy.

D. Fronte voted for L. Murphy.

J. Corbosiero voted for D. LaPointe

L. Murphy voted for D. LaPointe

D. LaPointe voted for L. Murphy.

Larry Murphy was elected Chairperson 3-2-0.

L. Murphy assumed the chairman position, and thanked the committee for the support. He added that he will work with S. Haddad and be of any help he can. He noted that he has never been a superintendent by choice.

L. Murphy asked for nominations for Vice-Chairperson.

D. Fronte nominated J. Corbosiero. Second by D. Fronte.

F. Nurmsen nominated D. Fronte. Second by J. Corbosiero.

Vice-Chairperson

F. Nurmsen voted for D. Fronte.

D. Fronte voted for J. Corbosiero.

D. LaPointe voted for J. Corbosiero.

J. Corbosiero voted for J. Corbosiero.

L. Murphy voted for J. Corbosiero.

Janet Corbosiero was elected Vice-Chairperson. 4-1-0

L. Murphy noted how well the committee and Superintendent work together.

- b. Health Insurance Policy-GCBDA-1st Reading- D. LaPointe read the policy, noting the district didn't have one. J. Corbosiero moved to accept as a 1st Reading with the corrections that D. LaPointe made. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.

11. Citizens Questions and Comments: None

12. Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meetings Not Yet Approved or Released:

- a. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes March 30, 2017-J. Corbosiero moved to approve. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.
- b. Regular School Committee Meeting April 13, 2017 - J. Corbosiero moved to approve. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.
- c. Joint Meeting BOS/SC-April 19, 2017 - J. Corbosiero moved to approve. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.
- d. Public Hearing School Committee FY2018 Budget, April 20, 2017- J. Corbosiero moved to hold until the next meeting to make a few changes. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.

13. Questions and Comments by Members: D. Fronte noted she will not be able to attend Town Meeting or next School Committee on May 18th as she will be away. D. LaPointe will be late to Town Meeting but wants to make sure there is a quorum. J. Corbosiero and D. Fronte have gone over the agenda format -S. Haddad and L. Murphy will do it per policy. The policy needs to be looked at-the agenda does not have to be taken in order if that is stated.

J. Corbosiero moved to move the November 2, 2017 meeting to November 9, 2017. Second by D. LaPointe. Approved 5-0-0.

J. Corbosiero moved to move the April 19, 2018 meeting to April 12, 2018. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 5-0-0.

Winchendon has been selected as a ZipTrip on June 30th by Fox25 News. D. LaPointe asked that school groups participate.

S. Haddad congratulated the newly organized board. He reported that the Toy Town Flag needs to be replaced-it is very tattered. Jim Murphy will arrange the replacement. L. Murphy suggested acquiring a flag that has flown over a government building.

S. Haddad announced he is in the process of forming a committee to look at our schools; interested persons should contact Carolyn Hendricks at Central Office. All town residents are eligible.

The District Accountability Review Report suggested an ad hoc committee made up of stakeholders. The group was also suggested by the FinCom Chairperson Tom Kane.

F. Nurmsen recommended a-webinar titled "How Schools Improve by Engaging with Families". She will share it electronically and later present it to the committee.

14. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Monty Tech Update
- b. Student Exit Survey
- c. Health Insurance Policy GCBDA - 2nd Reading
- d. Webinar: How Schools Improve by Engaging with Families- F. Nurmsen (5/18/17)

15. Executive Session: None

16. Adjournment: 7:46 PM D. LaPointe moved to adjourn. Second by F. Nurmsen. Approved 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted: Barrie E. Martins, School Committee Recording Secretary