



Date ~~Approved~~/Released: 1-7-18

Date Approved/Hold: \_\_\_\_\_

School Committee Chair: MV

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 10, 2019 - 6:00 pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - Town Hall Auditorium

1. Call to order: 6:04 pm/ Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Dawn Fronte, Larry Murphy, Felicia Nurmsen, Roann Demanche,  
Greg Vine, Joan Landers, Interim Superintendent, Richard Ikonen, Business Manager

2. Audio/Video Disclosure: None

3. Citizen Questions and/or Comments: None

4. Student Representative Report Chloe Lawrence:

- a. Murdock Student Council will be attending a Unified Bocce tournament with our special education students at Oxford High School.
- b. There will be 15 students attending the MASC (Massachusetts Association of Student Councils) Conference in March.
- c. The Murdock National Honor Society and Student Council together raised 200 dollars for Wreaths Across America.
- d. The sophomore class is selling Little Caesar's Pizza kits at the end of the month. This money is raised for the sophomore class treasury.
- e. On January 20, there is a BINGO Night at the Elks Club to benefit the Travel Club.

5. Student/Staff Recognition:

6. Teaching and Learning Highlights: None

7. New Business:

a. Introductions:

G. Vine asked that J. Landers make the introductions of Megan Weeks and Jonathan.

- i. Megan Weeks, Assistant Principal at Murdock High School joined us on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. M. Weeks detailed her educational background and work experience over the past years. M. Weeks is meeting everyone at Murdock and connected well with Thad King, Principal in what education should be and educating the whole student, and every student has the right to pursue their dreams and receive a quality education. She is also a member of the School Committee in her town and runs marathons for fun. The School Committee welcomed Megan to the Winchendon Public Schools. J. Landers asked M. Weeks, "what lead you to come to Winchendon"? M. Weeks had taken a position in a software company and found it wasn't a good fit for her. Her heart and soul is in public education.

At the end of last year, she completed her second Masters at Worcester State in Educational Leadership. She was actively looking and the demographics were similar to Worcester and she applied here at the Winchendon Public Schools.

ii. Dr. Jonathan Landman, Interim Director of Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment

Dr. Jonathan Landman joined the district on January 2<sup>nd</sup> as well, and Dr. Landman detailed his educational background and career experiences. 10 years as a history teacher in Brookline and then completed his doctorate at Harvard. He then started his administrative career and has been hired as a principal, assistant superintendent and short time as a Superintendent. These positions included in high performing districts and districts that were in turnaround, Assistant Commissioner of Teaching and Learning at the Department of Education and most recently as an Instructional Assistant Superintendent for the city of Boston. J. Landman has worked in urban and suburban areas and working here allows him the experience of a small town. He is looking forward to working with the district staff and teachers. Most inspired by educational equity as Megan. G. Vine is encouraged by the enthusiasm and experience J. Landman brings to Winchendon.

### 5. Staff and Student Recognition:

The Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients were presented by Thad King, Principal of Murdock High School. Some of the recipients were able to attend this meeting and spoke to questions asked by the committee. All were congratulated for their hard work, accomplishments and what their future plans were with this scholarship award.

b. The following students are this year's precipitants:

- i. Izaria Alcantars
- ii. Yang Yi Chen
- iii. Nathan Cobiski
- iv. Lillian Dack
- v. Kaileen Dibble
- vi. Adam Digman
- vii. Linsey Gemme
- viii. Ciera Guild
- ix. Megan Houle
- x. Lily Hunt
- xi. Britney Jackson
- xii. Benjamin Lawrence
- xiii. Chloe Lawrence
- xiv. Nicole Lemire
- xv. Maria Polcari
- xvi. Timmy Quinn
- xvii. Cobie Rice
- xviii. Phebe Shippy

- xix. Ashley Signa
- xx. Lindsey Smith
- xxi. Jaelynn Stetson
- xxii. Ryan Thira

Recess at 6:28 pm

Back in session at 6:31 pm

c. Superintendent Contract:

G. Vine asked, for input and discussion regarding the removal of the interim title from J. Landers position. G. Vine asked for discussion because he wants to move forward and not lose J. Landers, but also if there is a search it should be done early. F. Nurmsen stated that she would like a search, because she feels it is the right thing, D. Fronte asked if it was required to search, L. Murphy said it is not required to search. The committee has an obligation to provide the community with the very best. Discussion around the School Committee reaching out for feedback from the town, parents, and staff regarding what they would like the committee to do. G. Vine wanted the people to be assured there will be consistency R. Demanche asked if there is a period of comment for the community. This will have to be done by January 15<sup>th</sup> as per the current contract. F. Nurmsen asked to have this put out for public comment.

J. Landers commented that she respects the process and the position the school committee and the community will need to go through and to please not worry about the January 15<sup>th</sup> date when making this decision. J. Landers explained that for the success of the Superintendent, the support of the community and the committee is needed especially when there are to be changes made in Winchendon. It is crucial that everyone is working together to be able to make the necessary changes. F. Nurmsen would like this item on the agenda for next meeting (January 17<sup>th</sup>) and there will be a decision made at this meeting.

d. Superintendent Goals:

J. Landers presented her goals and explained that the goals are aligned with the district goals.

- e. Capital Improvement Plan packet was discussed by J. Landers. All proposed school department projects are included and will be presented on January 16<sup>th</sup> to the Capital Improvement Committee. J. Landers will also be presenting both a roof and boiler project for approval by the school committee for the submission to the MSBA. J. Landers spoke about the Murdock Boosters submitting grant to Robinson Broadhurst on New Year's Eve for the renovation of the fields. Bob and Sue Polcari are on the boosters and their commitment to this project was amazing. J. Landers would like to invite them to a meeting to thank them both for their efforts.

- f. J. Landers discussed the FY2019 grant listing included in the packet. The grants will be discussed will be discussed at the next meeting.



- g. J. Landers attended the “The Tale of Our Ten Districts” forum at Fitchburg State University. J. Landers included the slides that pertained to the Winchendon Public Schools in the packet and reviewed the findings. The foundation budget calculations were shown in the graphs to provide less funding to low-income districts. This results in an inequitable portion of money. Discussion about the impact on our teachers, special education and buildings were shown in the slides. Healthcare was found to not be factored into the foundation budget, while other calculation did not cover the actual special education cost low income districts incur. J. Landers, G. Vine and R. Demanche stressed the importance of speaking to the legislative leaders to get this change so that we have equitable public education for all students.
  - h. Update – Negotiations: WTA, Custodians, Secretaries, Para-educators:  
  
G. Vine, R. Demanche both reported that teachers, custodians, and secretaries have all started the process and will be meeting over the next few weeks.
8. Consent Agenda:
- a. Field Trip – None
    - i. Minutes: School Committee Meeting, December 6, 2018
- L. Murphy motioned to accept the December 6, 2018 minutes as written, F. Nurmsen seconded. Vote to approved 5-0-0.
9. Superintendent Report:
- a. Civic Education:  
  
Ariel and Amanda Jennings of the Winchendon School leads their Service Learning Program. They are interested in launching a pilot Civics program at no cost to the Winchendon Public Schools. This would meet the Civic learning requirement and standards and ensuring we are in compliance. J. Landers believes this is a great opportunity for our schools. They also will be meeting with the Leadership Team to brainstorm implementation ideas. J. Landman was also in attendance and he was excited about the idea as well. J. Landers will be inviting them to present to the committee at a later date.
10. Business Office Report:
- a. Chartwells Monthly Report:  
  
R. Ikonen reported that the he met with Jason Yeagle of the food services department and reviewed the financial reports and the reported level of participation is currently down a little but this is a level for which they feel they can maintain. They are in the black and hopefully will stay this way for the rest of the school year. The food services department

has also began offering a supper program at the Clark YMCA program for our students who are attending their after school.

### 11. Policy Sub Committee:

- a. File: EEAA Walkers and Riders
- b. File: EEAEA Bus Driver Examination and Training
- c. File: FA Facilities Development Goals
- d. File: FF Naming New Facilities
- e. File: FFA Memorials
- f. File: GBA Equal Employment Opportunity
- g. File: State Ethic / Conflict of Interest
- h. File: GBED Tobacco Use on School Property by Staff Members Prohibited
- i. File: GBGB Staff Personal Security and Safety
- j. File: GBGE Domestic Violence Leave of Absence
- k. File: GCCC Professional Staff Family and Medical Leave – **Remove**
- l. File: Security Camera System

D. Fronte presented the policies for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and approval vote. J. Landers discussed the security camera policy and how the police would be able to remotely the during a crisis situation such as an intruder in our schools. F. Nurmsen asked about the capability now, and J. Landers explained that the capability is there now, but the district need to have the policy in place to be able to use this option.

L. Murphy motioned to accept the policy subcommittees recommendation listed A – l as written, seconded by F. Nurmsen, voted to approve 5-0-0

### 12. Old Business: None

### 13. Future Agenda Items:

- a. School Committee Executive Session Minutes, October 4, 2018 – Hold
- b. Superintendent Contract – Vote
- c. Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Representative Report
- d. Town of Winchendon and Winchendon Public Schools Elevator Bid - Update
- e. Audio Video Bid – Update
- f. Health Center Overview

### 14. Committee Member Comments:

15. J. Landers spoke about the Superintendent's Advisory Meeting update; it was well attended by teachers, parents, principals. Summit Learning was discussed. Thanks to everyone who attended and participation in the discussion. There were a lot of ideas brought forward. The Superintendent's Weekly Update is great, but parents wanted to hear her voice as well.

16. Executive Session: None

17. Adjournment: 7:31 pm

Submitted by: Carolyn Hendricks, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and School Committee

**List of Documents and Exhibits used:**

- Chartwells Invoice/Report
- Abigail Adams Recipient list

**Policies:**

- File: EEAA
- File: EEAEA
- File: FA
- File: FF
- File: FFA
- File: GBA
- File: GBEA
- File: GBED
- File: GBGB
- File: GBGE
- File: GCCC – *Removing*
- File: ECAE Security Camera System – New
- Superintendent Goals
- FY2019 Grants
- MUNIS Financial Update Report
- Tale of Our Ten Districts PowerPoint (Winchendon)
- Capital Improvement Proposal