

Winchendon Public Schools



Date Approved/Revised

10/30/24

Date Approved/Modified

School Committee Chair

K. Kast

School Committee Meeting

September 26, 2024 – 6:00 pm

2nd Floor - Town Hall Auditorium

Attendance:

J. Caitlin, Karen Kast-McBride, David Iannaccone, Eleni Marinelli, Mike Barbaro,
Marc Gosselin, Interim Superintendent, Liz Latoria, Business Manager

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Audio Disclosure

D. Iannaccone moves to move agenda item 6 to between 3 & 4. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote is Unanimous.

Before the next agenda item Dr. Gosselin introduces the student representative, Vinnie Vecchiarello

4. MASC – Superintendent Search Update: Tracy Novick

Discusses the information she gathered in the past month and they approval for the position description, and the appointment process of the search committee and the rest of the brochure. Also asks to move the timeline a bit as we have items outstanding. Discussed the concerns the staff, teachers, students and community have.

Comments on description:

M. Barbaro: Discussed the superintendent to be able to sustain strong relationship with the municipal government. And where to put this on the description.

J. Caitlin: Discussion of the last bullet should be move up

K. Kast: Discussion about the students

D. Iannaccone: Discussion the last two bullet points to after the second?

E. Marinelli: Discussion of working collaborative with the management

D. Iannaccone: Discussion of working with the administrative team.

K. Kast: Discussion of modeling for staff.

J. Caitlin: Discussion on the description being good and that doesn't think there should be too much more that needs to be added.

K. Kast: Discussion on need of being a part of the community.

M. Barbaro: Needs to understand a small community.

M. Barbaro motions to accept recommended positions descriptions. Second by J. Caitlin. Vote is Unanimous.

T. Novick gives a proposed list of search committee members and how to choose who will be on the search committee. Which include: Central Administrative, Principal, 3 teachers one from each building, 3 parents, non-teaching staff, community with no tie to the schools, 1 or more students on the search committee. Keep it an odd number and under 15 members.

Comments on Search Committee:

K. Kast: Would like to see the equal number of parents and community to the number of staff and teachers.

D. Iannacone: To balance it, we would have to add 2 non staff

E. Marinelli: To have two from the MMS/MHS building to get the perspective of the middle school long with the high school is important.

D. Iannacone: So, 3 teachers and parents would become 4

K. Kast: 4 buildings, 4 parents instead of 3

E. Marinelli: Thinks the teacher's perspective from each school is important

M. Barbaro: Bring us up to 4 each, will bring us to 13 members

K. Kast: no, because not just teachers I'm talking about the staff.

T. Novick: That would mean you would have 7 staff. How are you counting students?

K. Kast: If we have two students. We still may end up with 15.

M. Barbaro: We have no body from the town. We may want someone from the town hall.

E. Marinelli: what about inviting a union representative? Is that common?

K. Kast: If we do that, we will have to do that for each union. I don't think that would be far

J. Caitlin: I think we need to remove ourselves from the process of choosing the members.

K. Kast: When you looking at the teaching staff and parents, we look at the diversity side of things Special education...

E. Marinelli: If we want to add diversity, we should add another parent.

K. Kast: We may be able to fit three criteria into one person.

J. Caitlin: Would you (T. Novick) suggest having 13 members?

M. Barbaro: We can go 13 to 15 members

J. Caitlin: I think we are good

T. Novick: So far, we have 1 central admin – selected by central administration, 1 principal – selected by the principals, Selected by application - 4 teachers, 5 parents, 1 community member, 2 students.

Application online by Monday 9/30 and the search committee will meet 10/13. Application cut off is 10/11.

Timeline: Close applications on 11/1 and search committee meeting 11/4.

M. Barbaro motions to approve searcher committee make up. Second by D. Iannacone. Vote unanimous.

M. Barbaro motions to approve the new timeline as presented. Second by J. Caitlin. Vote unanimous.

M. Barbaro motions for a 5 min recess. Second by D. Iannacone. Vote unanimous.

5. Reorganization of School Committee Chair:

a. Nomination of Chair – Vote

D. Iannacone nominates K. Kast for Chair. Second by K. Kast. Vote unanimous.

b. Nomination of Vice Chair – Vote

K. Kast nominates D. Iannacone. Second by J. Caitlin. Vote Unanimous.

c. Subcommittee Appointments – Vote

M. Barbaro volunteers for 2nd in the finance subcommittee.

J. Caitlin moves to approve the finance subcommittee members as discussed. Second by D. Iannacone. Vote is unanimous.

CAPS & Keystone Representative – Dr. Gosselin

Sick Bank – D. Iannacone

WTA Negotiations – D. Iannacone and K. Kast
Secretaries Negotiations – E. Marinelli and K. Kast
Para Negotiations – K. Kast and E. Marinelli
Custodians Negotiations – M. Barbaro and Caitlin
Calendar – D. Iannacone
Policy – K. Kast and E. Marinelli
Communications – K. Kast and M. Barbaro
Curriculum – E. Marinelli

J. Caitlin motions to approve the sub committee assignments. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote is unanimous.

6. Consent Agenda - Vote

a. **Minutes** – D. Iannacone motions to approve the minutes from the August 15 and August 29 2024 meetings. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote is unanimous.

b. **Washington, DC Field Trip Request**

c. **Market Basket Field Trip Request**

Two teachers explain both field trip requests, the reasoning, how many students and costs. And the option of students being sponsored for the trip.

M. Barbaro motion to approved both field trips as presented. Second by D. Iannacone. Vote is unanimous.

7. Superintendent's Report

a. **Interim Superintendent's Update: Dr. Gosselin, Interim Superintendent**

Attended the board of CAPS and Keystone directors.

Walked the buildings with B. Croteau. Discussed the on going needs and opportunities.

Discussed updates that are needed in the elementary buildings.

Discussed updates that are needed in the Middle and High School.

Discussed fundraising

Discussed grant proposals

District approval plan currently in the works.

Attended the Social, Emotional, Behavioral Academy and discussed the program

Joined a Promise Webinar. Discussed the details of the webinar.

Visiting another district tomorrow to see how they use the pouch for cell phones.

Striving to be in each building once a week, Sit and have lunch with the students to give insight from the students, ideas, suggestions they have.

Discuss the messages that he put on parent square.

MCAS Scores – J. Landman will share a presentation

Discussed Fall Sports Teams.

M. Barbaro – Comments and discusses state and federal funding for early reading and infostructure.

Dr. Gosselin – We will pursue what we can for grant money but we also have to be careful as well.

E. Marinelli – Wants to have the ____ Clarified.

Dr. Gosselin – Discusses what ____ is and how it would be used.

b. **Budget Update: Liz Latoria, Business Manager**

Discusses the encumbered amounts in the FY25 accounts.

Requested a one-month extension on the year end report due to the town not ending FY24

8. New Business:

a. **Discuss Actions in response to theft from Treasurer's Office**

L. Latoria – Connecting with the Town Treasurer, and is seeing improvement in communication. The town is working hard to clean things up. Keeps things collaborative relationship with the town.

M. Barbaro – We have an auditor and make recommendations and not one thing is being

done. Recommend the town bring in a consultant to clean up the accounts, but this is not being done. Hard for me to understand.

J. Caitlin – If we are not going to get someone in here to help, I don't know how they are going to get the act together.

K. Kast – We have 0 oversight. We can draft something for the board of selectmen and have it approved.

D. Iannaccone moved to approve M. Barbaro and K. Kast put together a proposal for the board of selectmen. Second by J. Caitlin. Vote is Unanimous.

J. Caitlin moves to skip over the next item (8b) on the agenda. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote is Unanimous.

b. Mass Dept of Public Health School Unit and Controlled Substance Registration (Signatures)

c. Discussion of Ballot Question 2 regarding MCAS

J. Caitlin motions to table this to the 10/2. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote is unanimous.

d. Consider cancellation or rescheduling November 7 meeting due to MASC Conference.

J. Caitlin move 11/2 to 11/14. Second by M. Barbaro. Vote unanimous.

9. Old Business:

a. Subcommittees

10. Public Comment:

Resident: Where going to be posting the superintendent search and how are we going to let the community know when they are going to be looking for volunteers?

K. Kast on our and town website, and all social media.

Resident: Clarifying if she heard correctly that the state audit was free.

K. Kast: Explains the state audit and what information they have on the audit.

11. Future Agenda Items:

a. Consider for adoption the 2024-2025 Student Handbooks

b. Athletics

c. Regionalization

E. Marinelli – suggest going forward student report would be in the beginning of the agenda.

Student report: Student Councils' elections last week. Freshman/Senior week.

Homecoming is on 10/15-10/19. Semi Formal is on 10/19 at Toy Town. Haunted

Halloween is 10/26 6-9pm. Admission \$5. College Fair.

12. Closing Member Comments:

D. Iannaccone – Football game tonight, wear yellow and come support the team

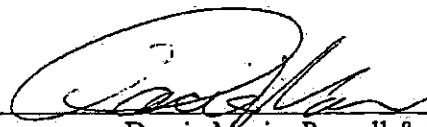
M. Barbaro – Was at the town appreciation event. Thank you to everyone who put things together.

K. Kast – Thank you to everyone coming to the meeting and remind everyone who can and wants be on the search committee to apply.

13. Adjournment:

M. Barbaro motions to adjourn. Second by D. Iannaccone. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted:



Darcie Morin, Payroll & Data Specialist

Documents Attached: None