



## Winchendon Public Schools

Date Approved/Released: 4/7/2022

Date Approved/Held: \_\_\_\_\_

School Committee Chair: [Signature]

### **School Committee Meeting**

February 3, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Town Hall - 2nd Floor Auditorium

**1. Call to order**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Attendance:**

Larry Murphy, Chair; Ryan Forsythe; Mike Barbaro; Karen Kast-McBride; Thad King, Superintendent.

L. Murphy reads audio visual disclosure.

**3. Public Comment: None**

**4. Student Representative Report:**

Student representative gives update on events at Murdock High School, including community service projects, National Honor Society, Student Council, the Little Shop of Horrors musical, as well as sporting events.

**5. Consent Agenda:**

L. Murphy introduces Consent Agenda.

M. Barbaro makes Motion to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. No discussion. Vote is unanimous.

**6. Superintendent's Report:**

**a. COVID Update:**

T. King gives the current COVID numbers for WPS.

Discussion by R. Forsythe, M. Barbaro and K. Kast-McBride regarding the COVID numbers and protocols in the Winchendon area.

**b. Budget Update:**

T. King reports that there are five negative balances across the budget; however, we are still on track in terms of the amount spent for where we are in the year. Reclassifications have been requested for these accounts. The district is also working to close out grants from previous years.

Discussion by M. Barbaro on how to most effectively use the COVID funds and take some of the weight off the superintendent's office. K. Kast-McBride asks what the payroll and data specialist position has fulfilled. T. King explains that payroll is primarily what is done in this position as well as some of the state reporting data. He explains the payroll system utilized by the district and how it requires manual entry by the town accountant's office. K. Kast-McBride indicates that the job descriptions should be more clear. T. King elaborates that the job description did state that payroll would be a part of the job, and that there are several places that need to be cleaned up in the budget by the town accountant's office, that would allow more understanding about what each line item is intended for.

## **7. Old Business:**

### **a. Appointment to Subcommittees:**

L. Murphy states that there are subcommittees with room on them and invites M. Barbaro to be part of this. M. Barbaro states that he would like to be on the subcommittee for custodian contract negotiations.

K. Kast-McBride clarifies that they are skipping an agenda item. M. Barbaro makes Motion to table Agenda Item 8a. Virtual School Committee Meetings. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

R. Forsythe makes Motion to appoint school board committee member, Mike Barbaro to the wellness committee, the custodian negotiating committee and the finance committee. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

## **8. New Business:**

### **a. School Committee Frequency:**

M. Barbaro makes Motion to table School Committee Frequencies under new business. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

### **b. Executive Session – The Winchendon Public Schools' School Committee will meet in Executive Session under M.G.L. Ch. 30, Sec. 20 (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.**

### **c. School Committee exits Executive Session:**

L. Murphy calls for Motion for Custodian Memorandum of Understanding. M. Barbaro makes Motion to create Memorandum of Understanding between the Winchendon School Committee and AFSCME Council 93, Local 1717 AFL-CIO Custodial Workers' Union for the remainder of FY22. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

**9. Future Agenda Items: None**

**10. School Committee Closing Comments:**

R. Forsythe thanks the staff within the schools despite the difficulties surrounding COVID. He also thanks the new member of the school board who participated with others in the negotiations with the Custodial Workers Union, as well as the custodians and those who represented them in what has been a successful negotiation.

K. Kast-McBride encourages everyone, especially the students, who have been working so hard on the musical. She encourages everyone to get tickets and thanks all the staff for everything they do to keep students and staff safe that in turn keeps the community safe. She also thanks her fellow board members for their well wishes when she had her fall. Finally, she reminds everyone that there is no school tomorrow.

M. Barbaro thanks the DPW and custodial staff for getting the buildings ready after a major snowstorm over the weekend. He also appreciates all the staff that have worked through the difficult years of COVID. He reminds everyone that the state has mandated masks and that the district has no control over it. He thanks the custodial staff for working in negotiations and for their hard work in the district.

L. Murphy echoes the other school committee members. He appreciates the work that has been done and understands the social emotional needs of students and families. He is very proud of the staff that work to address these needs, as well as the work that Superintendent King has put in as the leader of our district.

**11. Adjournment:**

R. Forsythe makes Motion to adjourn. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous. Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted: Liz Latoria  
Liz Latoria, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Documents Attached: None