



## Winchendon Public Schools

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK  
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Date Approved/Released: 10/10/22

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School Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

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### School Committee Meeting

September 1, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Town Hall, 4th Floor Conference Room

#### Attendance:

Ryan Forsythe, Chair; Greg Vine, Vice-Chair; Larry Murphy; Karen Kast-McBride;  
Thad King, Superintendent

#### 1. Call to order

R. Forsythe reads audio visual disclosure.

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 3. Public Comment: None

#### 4. Consent Agenda:

L. Murphy moves to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by G. Vine. Chair declares a necessity to separate the minutes from July 11 and August 24 as K. Kast-McBride was not in attendance. L. Murphy withdraws previous motion and moves to approve the minutes of July 11 as presented. Seconded by G. Vine. Roll call vote: G. Vine - Y; L. Murphy - Y; Chair - Y. Minutes approved.

L. Murphy moves to approve the August 24 minutes. Seconded by G. Vine. Vote is unanimous.

L. Murphy moves to move agenda item 7a. before Superintendent's update. G. Vine seconds. Vote is unanimous.

#### 5. New Business:

##### a. Scott Laverdure & Nickolas Roy Basketball Scholarship:

Family of Nickolas Roy are present to request approval to form a scholarship in the names of the two young men, Scott Laverdure and Nickolas Roy, as they were Murdock alumni. R. Forsythe offers condolences to the families for their loss. The mother of Mr. Roy discusses her hope to create a fundraiser to make this an annual scholarship for a basketball player to attend college. Discussion is had regarding the timeline and how to go about setting up the scholarship. G. Vine moves to establish a Scott Laverdure and Nickolas Roy Basketball Scholarship for Murdock

High School. Seconded by L. Murphy. Vote is unanimous.

L. Murphy moves to move Old Business before Superintendent's Report.  
Seconded by G. Vine. Vote is unanimous.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a. Subcommittee Definitions/Charges:**

G. Vine presents subcommittee definitions and charges to the committee with the intent to have members look over them and make any additions or corrections and have a vote during the next meeting. The details for the finance subcommittee were missed, so he will have that ready for the next meeting. He wants to add the Academic Excellence subcommittee. K. Kast-McBride expresses concern about the SEPAC subcommittee. G. Vine states that Newton had something similar in which parents gather to discuss general policies as they relate to special education. K. Kast-McBride states that it may not be appropriate for school committee members to attend SEPAC meetings.

L. Murphy moves to table discussion for a future meeting after members have had time to review definitions. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

## **7. Superintendent's Report:**

T. King gives an update on transportation within the district. He states that at some point in years past, the district made it so that every student could take the bus, regardless of their distance from the school building. This put excessive pressure on the bus company and made the bus routes very long. This year, the district established a mile and a half threshold but is currently working with the bus company to make it a mile, which is more appropriate. Discussion is had regarding how the district examines enrollment; what happens if someone has a doctor's note that has a medical need for a bus pickup. T. King states that exceptions have been made for families with certain situations to make things easier for them. The bus company has been very accommodating. L. Murphy suggests that anyone who has questions about whether or not they need support should contact Central Office. T. King states that the district is also working with the town as well as on Safe Routes to Schools to install new sidewalks.

T. King states that in relation to two future agenda items, the town manager has hired a consultant to come in to look at existing systems to start from scratch on the capabilities of the town to offer remote meeting options. The other piece is regarding the financial share with the town, which is a discussion he and the town manager will have next Wednesday so that it can be furthered before next season.

## **8. Future Agenda Items:**

Future Agenda items are as follows:

- a. Data Presentations
- b. Star Renaissance Update
- c. MASC Delegate

G. Vine requests that faculty photographs be included on the district website. R. Forsythe requests

that the committee do the same and present photographs and brief bios on the district website.

**9. Closing Comments:**

K. Kast-McBride states that she will be wearing masks most of the time and encourages people to do the same.

L. Murphy thanks everyone who made the district's opening as smooth as it was, specifically custodians and facilities staff.

G. Vine thanks the families of Scott Laverdure and Nickolas Roy for coming and for setting up a scholarship for basketball students. He states that transportation has been much better this year and reminds everyone that we are just coming out of a very odd situation with the pandemic.

**10. Executive Session:**

G. Vine moves to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy and preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and to conduct bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and return to Open Session. R. Forsythe suggests an amendment to the motion, as the committee will not be preparing for negotiations. G. Vine agrees. Seconded by K. Kast-McBride. Vote is unanimous.

**11. AFSCME Council 93, AFL-CIO Agreement MOA:**

G. Vine moves to table item 12 until next meeting on September 15. L. Murphy seconds. Vote is unanimous.

**12. Adjournment:**

G. Vine moves to adjourn. Seconded by L. Murphy. Vote is unanimous. Meeting adjourned.

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

Documents Attached: None