



Winchendon Public Schools

Date Approved/Released: 12/20/22

Date Approved/Hold: _____

School Committee Chair: _____

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School Committee Meeting

November 3, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Town Hall, 4th Floor Conference Room

Attendance:

Ryan Forsythe, Chair; Greg Vine, Vice Chair; Alicia Jordan; Thad King, Superintendent; Angelina Dellasanta, Student Representative

1. Call to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

R. Forsythe reads audio visual disclosure.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Consent Agenda:

a. Minutes from October 6 Meeting:

R. Forsythe introduces the Consent Agenda. G. Vine requests to invoke the rule of necessity since he was not present for the meeting, which the minutes are from. A. Jordan moves to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by G. Vine. Vote is unanimous.

b. Out of State Field Trips:

T. King explains the high school band trip request to Milford High School and the Bridges to Community trip to the Dominican Republic. Stephanie Rondeau joins the discussion to give further details on the Dominican Republic trip and to present the itinerary for the London trip for April of 2024. G. Vine moves to approve the field trip requests as presented. Seconded by A. Jordan. Vote is unanimous.

G. Vine makes motion to move agenda item 8a up before the student report.
Seconded by A. Jordan. Vote is unanimous.

5. New Business:

a. Director of Finance and Operations Appointment:

T. King introduces Ms. Amanda Babinski, who was recommended by the hiring committee unanimously as the candidate for Director of Finance and Operations. Ms. Babinski gives a brief background on her experience in education and school business. G. Vine moves to accept the hiring of Amanda Babinski as our new

business manager. R. Forsythe asks to add pending successful negotiation of the contract to the motion. G. Vine agrees. Motion amended to appoint Amanda Babinski as the Director of Finance and Operations pending successful contract negotiation. A. Jordan seconds. Vote is unanimous.

6. Student Representative Report:

A. Dellasanta gives updates on MSU Student Council workshops. Additionally, the football team won versus Gardner on October 22, 56 to 20. Haunted Hallways returned to Murdock on October 27. Student Council and the Key Club sponsored the elementary Monster Ball on October 28. Juniors and Seniors will visit UMass Amherst on November 7. The National Honor Society will attend the state conference on November 16, and the NHS induction ceremony will be held on November 30. Updates are given on the Murdock athletics teams.

7. Superintendent's Report:

a. Budget Update:

T. King presents monthly budget update, outlining the salary line items and how they are finally closer to being squared away with employees' salaries being applied correctly for the most part. He mentions that there is no town accountant at the moment, so the corrections cannot be made until one is hired. Other overages are outlined and explained. G. Vine asks for clarification on why Murdock Middle High School's maintenance of equipment is over. T. King explains that some of those expenses were to be applied to a revolving account, such as repairs on football equipment. R. Forsythe states that the balanced budget compared to previous years gives a lot of confidence in the budgeting process.

b. District Leadership Update - IM Math:

T. King introduces Shauna LaPointe, who is now part of the district's leadership team. Mrs. LaPointe gives a detailed presentation on the new Illustrative Math curriculum. Discussion is had regarding the curriculum's usage in grades K-12 as well as how widespread the program is statewide. S. LaPointe states that IM is one of the hottest programs right now and is highly recommended by DESE.

8. Old Business:

a. Subcommittee Definitions/Charges:

G. Vine moves to approve the subcommittee definitions as presented. Seconded by A. Jordan. Discussion is had regarding the addition of a synopsis of subcommittee activities at the end of the fiscal year. Roll call vote is unanimous.

9. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Subcommittee updates
- b. Invitation to new Monty Tech Superintendent
- c. Tablets for School Committee Members

10. Closing Comments:

G. Vine states that he had a great time doing popcorn Friday and the Halloween parade at

Memorial. He reminds everyone that Tuesday is election day and encourages everyone to vote.

A. Jordan states that she enjoyed learning about the math curriculum and that while it can bring discomfort, change is good and means that we're growing.

R. Forsythe wishes the sports teams good luck, and the football team in the playoffs in particular. He thanks Greg for volunteering to be part of a school project: Third Grade Community Helpers. He thanks Alicia for being part of the DEI work as it is important to be inclusive and recognize all diversity in the way in which we can be equitable.

11. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by G. Vine. Seconded by A. Jordan. Vote is unanimous. Meeting adjourned.

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

Documents Attached: None