

The W. L. Gilbert School Corporation

Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the W. L. Gilbert School Corporation was held on June 19, 2019 in the Library Media Center of the school. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Sedlack at 7:05 PM. Members in attendance were: Holly Cassaday, Jennifer Marchand, Charles Seaback, Dr. Richard Dutton, Doug Pfenninger and Theresa Padin. Also in attendance were Dr. Anthony Serio, Superintendent of the School, Susan Sojka, Principal and Diane Cook, Office of Business Affairs. Absent Excused were members Ellen Marino and Michelle Hintz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led and Vision and Mission statements were read by Jennifer Marchand.

Public Forum: None

Call for Agenda Items: Action on Food Service Program will be taken under item 11.A.5.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Jennifer Marchand, seconded by Theresa Padin, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 15, 2019 as clarified. Dr. Dutton requested clarification on the statement, "There is no contract between the W. L. Gilbert School Corporation and the Winchester Board of Education". In fact, there is a contract for the current year to expire on June 30, 2019. There is not yet a contract going forward.

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Unanimous Approval.

Monthly School Report

Dr. Serio reported on the complex issues regarding the of establishing of a School Resource Office for the school. He will continue to work with town and police officials to research and resolve the issues. The position is not likely to be in place for the start of school in the fall.

Committee Reports:

Finance – Charles Seaback reported that the Substitutes account will run to a significant deficit. Line item transfers will help reconcile the budget next month. The on-going deficit in the food services program was also discussed. Finalizing the 2019-20 budget is an important issue later on in the agenda. Doug Pfenninger clarified that Winchester BOE declined the one page offer due to the request for "sole designation" from the Gilbert team.

Personnel- A recommendation from this committee regarding an Administrative Salary Scale will be brought forth later in the agenda.

Policy-There are four policies that will be presented for adoption later in the agenda.

Buildings and Grounds – no meeting, no report

Celebration of Education-the event was successfully conducted on May 31st.

Approval of Certified Staff Hiring:

A motion by Dr. Dutton, seconded by Holly Cassaday, to hire Brooke Louis as a science teacher

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

A motion by Theresa Padin, seconded by Jennifer Marchand, to hire Marysol Saldana-Knipper as a teacher of Spanish

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

Second Reading of Policy Updates:

A motion by Dr. Dutton, seconded by Jennifer Marchand, to approve as presented Policy #5123, Grading/Graduation Requirements.

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

A motion by Jennifer Marchand, seconded by Theresa Padin, to approve as presented Policy #6146.21 Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examination.

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

A motion by Jennifer Marchand, seconded by Theresa Padin, to approve as presented Policy #6146.21 Form.

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

A motion by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Charles Seaback, to approve as presented Policy #6146.11 Grade Weighting/Class Ranking.

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Approved Unanimously.

Discussion 2019-2020 School Budget:

A. Administrative Salary Scale

Dr. Serio reviewed the proposed administrative salary scale as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

A motion by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Jennifer Marchand, to approve as presented the Administrative Salary Scale.

Discussion ensued including objections by Dr. Dutton and Doug Pfenninger.

Vote: Yeas: 5 Nays: 2 (Dutton, Pfenninger) Abstain: 0 Motion Approved.

B. Approval of 2019-2020 Budget

Two budget scenarios were presented for discussion. Both reflected reductions in the school budget that was approved by the board on April 10th.

A motion by Theresa Padin, seconded by Doug Pfenninger, to adopt the budget reflecting \$309,700 in Unresolved Reductions with an overall tuition to Winchester of \$6,849,086.

Discussion ensued with proponents and opponents of the motion expressing their views.

Vote: Yeas: 3 (Pfenninger, Dutton, Padin) Nays: 4 (Seaback, Cassaday, Marchand, Sedlack)

Abstain: 0 Motion Defeated.

A motion by Charles Seaback, seconded by Holly Cassaday, to adopt the budget reflecting a tuition to Winchester of \$6,943,193 but with Dr. Serio to hold \$102,700 in the Capital Fund and not in the Operating budget.

Discussion ensued with proponents and opponents of the motion expressing their views.

Vote: Yeas: 4 (Sedlack, Marchand, Seaback, Cassaday) Nays: 2 (Pfenninger, Dutton) Abstain: 1 (Padin) Motion Approved.

Principal Report

Susan Sojka presented information on a number of topics. There were 117 graduates and 70 students attended the Project Graduation event. Twenty-one faculty members received three days of training in Professional Development regarding Project Based Learning during the week of June 17th. SBAC results were recently received and scores showed significant growth. A more formal report on test scores will be presented at a future board meeting.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Serio reported there were 463 students enrolled from Winchester for the month of June. There is not yet a contract between the W.L. Gilbert School Corp and the W.L. Gilbert Trust Corp. There is also no new negotiated contract beyond 2019 between the School Corp and the Winchester Board of Education. The current contract ends on June 30, 2019.

Food Service Program

The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposals for food service management from Food Service Manager Lynne Metcalf and from Witsons School Nutrition. Dr. Serio briefly reviewed both proposals and recommended Witsons to provide food service to the school and to the International program.

A motion by Jennifer Marchand, seconded by Holly Cassaday, to instruct Dr. Serio to move forward with contract negotiations with Witsons School Nutrition to provide food service for the 2019-2020 school year.

Discussion ensued with proponents and opponents of the motion expressing their views.

Vote: Yeas: 5 Nays: 1(Dutton) Abstain 1 (Pfenninger) Motion Approved.

Winchester Board of Education Report

Doug Pfenninger noted there has been an influx in enrollment PK-6 from St. Anthony School, from magnet schools and from home schoolers. There is also a significant rise in NWEA scores.

School Corp Chairman's Report

Steven Sedlack commented that, based upon recent conversations with the WBOE, he would recommend the School Corp develop its own goals as a board. These goals could include, but not be limited to areas such as development of a five-year capital plan, increasing the school's communication to the larger community (PK-6), focus on analyzing and improving test scores, increasing transparency with documents, policies and procedures. A small ad hoc committee might draft such goals for approval by the full board.

Executive Session

A motion by Jennifer Marchand, seconded by Theresa Padin, to enter executive session for the purposes of conducting the Superintendent's evaluation and to discuss a legal matter involving attorney/client privilege and to invite Dr. Serio to attend.

Vote: Yeas 7 Nays 0 Abstain 0 Unanimously Approved.

The board was in executive session from 9:00 PM until 9:40 PM. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

Adjournment

A motion by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Theresa Padin, to adjourn the meeting (9:41 PM).

Vote: Yeas: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain 0 Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Cassaday

Recorder