



TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

**Worthington Public Schools
R.H. Conwell Building
School Committee Meeting
October 06, 2014
Minutes**

Board members present: Chairman John McDonald, Maria Bebee, Debbie Carnes, Alex Lak, Amanda Brooks Clemeno

Present: Fran Gougeon, Tom Wisnauckas and Dick Wagner

John McDonald opened the meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Minutes: Maria made a motion to defer the September 24 minutes until the next meeting. Debbie seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

Audience Participation:

The current location of the C.O.A. at the R.H. Conwell Building was discussed. It will not be a problem for this coming year. If there is an overabundance of children enrolled, it will make a difference.

Liability Insurance: An elected official of the town needs to be covered under the town's liability policy. If the official is sued because of action taken as a member of the board, the town can protect you in case a settlement is reached and also provide you with counsel.

School Operation bills: The Selectboard will provide the School Committee with the current invoices that will show the costs of the day to day operation of the R.H. Conwell School.

Correspondence (Special Town Meeting Warrant): The Finance Committee recommended that the warrant article for the October 21st STM be split in two warrants.

1. \$80,000 for Transitional expenses
2. \$10,000 for Transactional expense account includes insurance and advertising costs.

Educational plan: Fran Gougeon announced that the state has accepted the Educational Plan filed by the Town of Worthington. The plan has been reviewed and all the questions were answered satisfactorily. The plan is sitting on the Commissioners desk. As soon as he signs it, it will be sent to the Town of Worthington. D.E.S.E wants to see the Memorandum of Understanding with Hampshire Regional and also the vote on the part of the Hampshire Committee and Worthington to accept the MOU. Superintendent Jurgenson is now working on the MOU with the emphasis being on getting the language and conceptual framework right. The Deadline to submit the MOU is December 31, 2014.

Transition Budget 2014-2015: Fran explained that the Budget covers all of the start-up from the school side. The budget includes pro- rated salaries for the superintendent, principal and secretary.

Worthington's personnel policy was discussed.

Roles of the Business Manager, Technology Director and the Curriculum Director were discussed.

The Business Manager at Hampshire Regional will be setting up all the accounts. They do all of the accounting, cut the checks and make the reports to the school committee from the town.

Advertising for staff is adequate.

There could be extra advertising costs for students' and extra time for the secretary for registrations.

Amanda made a motion to approve the budget as amended. Maria Bebee seconded the motion. The amendment was to add \$15,000 to the last line item for a total of \$80,000. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

A grant application was filed yesterday by Hampshire Regional for \$25,000 which could defray some of the costs.

Training: A Hampshire Regional training is scheduled for Saturday, November 15.

Furnishings: Tom Wisnauckas suggested dates to pick up file cabinets, desks, tables and chairs, nursing table couches and teacher's desks at the Williamsburg school. There are office chairs available at Hampshire Regional. The furniture will be stored in the basement of the R.H. Conwell Building. Tom will research truck availability for Nov. 1st

Miscellaneous: The School Committee requested voicemail, a mailbox at the Town Hall and a key for the Conwell building.

Next meeting: Thursday October 16 at 6:30 P.M.

Maria made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 P.M. Alex seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux
Recording Secretary