



TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

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**Worthington Public School District  
R.H. Conwell Building  
School Committee Meeting  
December 08, 2014  
Minutes**

**Board members present:** Chairman John McDonald, Maria Bebee, Debbie Carnes, and Alex Lak.

**Regrets:** Amanda Brooks Clemeno.

**Present:** Fran Gougeon and Tom Wisnauckas.

1. John McDonald opened the meeting at 6:38 P.M.

2. The Westhampton School Committee meeting was canceled for this month. This makes it impossible to attain a vote of approval before the deadline. John emailed DESE requesting that they recommend that the Commissioner approve their plan without the Westhampton vote occurring.

If a response is not received by Wednesday, Fran Gougeon will call Chris Lynch. Fran will inform Chris that four out of five towns have voted in favor of the MOA and are on their way.

**3. Business Affairs**

**3.1 Minutes:** Minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

**3.2 Member Updates:** Alex Lak attended the Constitutional challenge to the chapter 97 law meeting held at Gateway. DESE was there to talk about the needs conference for Gateway. Alex stated that someone asked DESE if Worthington was responsible to pay transportation costs for Worthington school choice students. Jay Sullivan responded that there was no law requiring this.

Debbie Carnes requested that the agenda be posted by Friday for a Monday meeting. Debbie reminded everyone that all emails should be carefully worded.

The Selectboard meeting tomorrow evening will include a conference call with Sullivan, Hayes and Quinn Attn. John will attend to recommend that the town hire this firm as the School Committee Counsel for general legal services and contract negotiations with Hampshire.

**3.3.2 Preschool:** Fran has an appointment with the Principle Brian Glazer at Heath Elementary School on December 16. Heath is very similar to R.H. Conwell in size and has a good pre k program. He will also be observing a pre k-k class.

**3.6 Old Business**

**3.7.2 Dec.10 forum:** The forum has been posted as a meeting.

**3.8 New Business**

**3.8.3 Policy Adoptions:** Maria Bebee and Debbie Carnes met Friday in a posted open meeting and reviewed A, B and C sections of Hampshire's school policy. They have submitted sections B and C to the Board.

Punctuations and changing names can be worked on automatically. Debbie and Maria marked pages in the policy to be reviewed by the Board as follows: BEDH, BAA, BIA, BA, BHC and CHCA-E. A conversation about school improvement plans will be deferred to when a Principle is hired. Fran suggested that the general rule is to have three readings of the policy, to give people an opportunity to reflect.

Debbie will draft a sign-up sheet.

**3.8.4 Foundation Reserve Grant program:** Craig drafted an application for the FY 15 Foundation Reserve program that could be used to mitigate the costs of the transitional budget. The application requires the signature of the Selectboard before it is sent in.

**4.2 Next meeting:** Maria made a motion to meet on December 17, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. Debbie seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

**Adjournment:** Debbie made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 P.M. Maria seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux  
Recording Secretary