



TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

**Worthington Public School District
R.H. Conwell Building
School Committee Meeting
May 4, 2015
Minutes**

Members present: Chairman John McDonald, Maria Bebee, Debbie Carnes, Alex Lak and Alison Todd.

Guests: Gretchen Morse-Dobosz, Tom Wisnauckas, Sue Levreault, Maryce Pommenville and Bruce Todd.

1. Call to Order: Meeting was opened at 6:45 P.M.

2. Audience Participation – for items not on agenda: Sue Levreault questioned the postings on School Spring. The Secretary's position will be posted tomorrow and the preschool and kindergarten's description is being worked on. Sue also questioned the pamphlet that Alison handed out, outside the building at town meeting and expressed her concerns about preschool affecting Worthington's withdrawal. Discussion ensued.

3. New Committee Reorganization and Elections: John stepped down as Chair and Gretchen will run the elections. Gretchen is calling for the School Committee to elect a Chair, Vice Chair and a Correspondent Secretary. Maria made a motion that John McDonald be voted Chairman for one year? Alex seconded. All in favor of John staying as Chair: Roll Call Ballot: Alex Lak Aye, Maria Bebee Aye, John McDonald Aye, Debbie Carnes Aye, and Alison Todd Aye. Unanimous

Alex nominated Debbie Carnes as Vice Chair. Maria seconded the motion. All in favor of Debbie Carnes be voted as Vice Chair for one year? Roll Call Ballot: Alex Lak Aye, Maria Bebee Aye, Debbie Carnes Aye, John McDonald Aye, and Alison Todd Aye. Unanimous

John nominated Alison Todd as Correspondence Secretary. Maria seconded. It was agreed that Alison would not be responsible for creating the minutes. All in favor of Alison Todd be voted as Correspondence Secretary for one year? Roll Call vote: Alex Lak Aye, Maria Bebee Aye, Debbie Carnes Aye, Alison Todd Aye and John McDonald Aye. Unanimous

4. Routine Matters

4.1. Approval of past minutes: 04/23/2015 minutes were reviewed. Debbie made a motion to table the minutes. Maria seconded. All were in favor. Unanimous

4.2 Correspondence: Surveys of applications, Sullivan, Hayes and Quinn sent a bill for \$1,758.50. Amount will be covered by Town's legal expense account.

4.3 Town Meeting results: The budget and purchasing fixtures from the CEC passed with very few questions. Appropriating money to Seed a revolving fund for Preschool passed as well. Setting up a preschool was discussed. Alex made the motion to have Gretchen set up a preschool subcommittee consisting of four people for the purpose of making recommendations to the school committee about setting up the public preschool and report back by the next meeting. Maria seconded. Sue Levreault voiced her concerns about the costs to parents. All in favor? Aye Unanimous. Also agreed Gretchen will establish a committee of up to five members for hiring staff. Maria is interested on being on the committee.

4.4 Transportation: Joy Winnie didn't receive the bus route from Lecrenski. Joy wasn't sure about the five mile limit but thought that they might be able to do a "Tiered Route" by adding a second bus. She thought that would be within their capacity. John sent her the roster of bus stops for this year.

4.5 Superintendent/Principle Update: The Principle Gretchen Morse-Dobosz spent her time at Hampshire Regional reviewing SPED folders to see which students will need summer services. She will speak with the SPED director to find out where and what those services look like and then reach out to the families. She will be talking to Gayle Lucie to discuss curriculum. She also plans to talk to the IT person at Hampshire Regional on how to get more visibility. It was suggested to ask them after June 30th to redirect people to Worthington's site. Gretchen feels that Worthington needs its own web page. Gretchen met with Gail the CEC secretary who is interested in applying for the School Secretary position. Open house was discussed. It was agreed to set up an open house with an ice cream social on Saturday May 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Schedule: Craig's schedule for School Committee attendance is as follows: First Monday, second Tuesday, first, third and fourth Wednesday. Hampshire Regional meets on the first Monday. It was suggested to have the school secretary create the school committee's minutes. Maria made a motion to make the next meeting on the 14th at 6:30. Debbie seconded. All were in favor. Unanimous

5. Budget: The budget was passed.

6. Policy:

6.2 Hampshire Regional Contract Discussion: Nothing to report. Draft will be discussed at next meeting.

6.1 Policy Subcommittee Update

6.1.1 Discussion of Section B&C policies

BB has been considered read

BEDB-E: Agenda Format: Maria made a motion to accept as is. Alison seconded. There was a discussion about public input. Change #3 from Approval of minutes to Delegations, audience participation; #4 becomes Approval of minutes; #6 change word Superintendent to Administrative Reports; #11 is going under #9 and delete #11. A friendly amendment was made to change the order of the wording. All in favor of the amendment? All were in favor. Unanimous

BEDB: Alison made a motion to adopt the Agenda format. Debbie seconded. Debbie moved to table BEDB. Alex seconded. It's important to set an ending time.

BAA: Alex made a move to accept BAA as is. Debbie seconded. All in favor of accepting BAA as is? All were in favor. Unanimous

BGE: Alex made a motion to accept BGE as written. Maria seconded the motion. All in favor of accepting BGE as written? All were in favor. Unanimous

BHC: Alex made a motion to accept BHC as written. Debbie seconded. Mode of communication will be discussed. Alex made a motion to table BHC. Debbie seconded. All were in favor. Unanimous

BGB: Policies go into effect on the date that it is voted on. Alex made a motion to accept policy BGB with the change of "Policy will be effective upon date of approval unless specified by the School Committee. Debbie seconded. All in favor of policy as amended. All were in favor. Unanimous

CHCA-E: Alex made a motion to accept CHCA-E as is. Alison seconded. All in favor to accept CHCA-E as is? All were in favor. Unanimous

BB, BHC, BEDBE, BEDB will be on the agenda at the next meeting.

6.3 Salary Schedule: Five Teachers will be hired at roughly \$46,000. Alex will email Joe Boudreau tonight about the budget process for preschool. Right now the town is close to the Levy limit. Quality should not be sacrificed. They will work on a schedule at a subsequent meeting.

7. New Business/Future agenda items:

7.1: Enrollment Survey: There were eighty seven responses to the enrollment survey.

Vocational: 8; Hampshire: 12 with 2 more on the sign-up sheet; School Choice: 38; Conwell: 26, 8 people on sign-up sheet but have not signed up yet, Home School: 9, 12 including Sean; and Private: 3. There are 67 students from Worthington and school choice who want to come in. That's including everyone. There are 13 kindergarteners, 16 first and second graders and 6 third and fourth graders, 11 5th and 6th graders, and 21 for preschool.

There was a May 1st deadline for taking school choice applications. Alison will give Gretchen a list of names to phone to follow up on students who have not responded to the questionnaire, to help determine how many school choice openings will be available. Alison will update and work on people that have already been contacted by the next meeting.

8. Adjournment: Debbie made a motion to adjourn at 9:43 P.M. Maria seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux
Recording Secretary