

WHPS Board of Education Meeting Summary

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| Representative for WHEA: Christina Fedolfi | Date of Meeting: 12.20.22 |
| Type of meeting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Work <input type="checkbox"/> Committee | Agenda: link |

Attendees

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| Board Members in Attendance: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lorna Thomas-Farquharson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clare Nesoralla <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jason Oliver Chang <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Renee Kamoff <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Ari Steinberg <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lorna Thomas-Farquharson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Gayle Harris <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethan Goldman | Administrators Present: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Morrow <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Vicinus <input type="checkbox"/> Roszena Haskins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne McKernan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julio Duarte Student Rep: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hall: Caitlin Striff Cave <input type="checkbox"/> Conard: Meghan Murphy Others Present: Bob Palmer, Liz Hewitt |
| Press Present/Reporters' Names: | |

Notes

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| Public Comments: A beautiful concert by the Suzuki Tour Group from COIA! Anita: 2nd reading of 3440: the only understanding people have of this is from the website. Shifting the use of funds from BOE to Superintendent is a huge shift. Brought up |
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that there was no 2nd reading earlier. Concerned with elimination of math tutors. Wants roll call of votes.

Haddie: 3440- Brought up activity funds- Not all schools are non-profit PTOs. We cannot take their funds and put it into town funding.

Student: Sophomore. There is a lack of supplementary math instruction in middle schools. Create a math support center in the middle schools. NAEP scores reflect a lack of proficiency in math. Lack of resources for students struggling in math. In HS, there is a math center. After a few weeks of intervention, my confidence and grades skyrocketed. Math support center needs to be created.

Unfinished Business:

Accept revised policies for 2nd reading and final reading: Policy 1252, 1900, 3140, 3440, 4300, Title 2 of IDEA, 4500, 5150, 5500, 5525, 5600, 6300, 6320, 6342.

Goldman: 3140: who is fiscal authority? Why are there changes? 5% seems extreme to be able to transfer. "Transfers as necessary"?

Nasarella: decision to shift funds doesn't need a phone call.

Chang: updating policies but we are only looking at slices of it. You are looking out for malfeasance but I think it is covered by other parts of our organization- like the Financial office. We have a strong policy of what we do. Other policies cover the offices for budgeting.

Goldman: policy should fit what we do. I know we are relying on our lawyers but I don't think it is written well. 3440: 3 programs: lunch, driver ed, other funds- 8 funds listed?

McKernan: no school activity funds. For example-prom, Field trip

Morrow: separate fund for accounting but one bank accountant.

Goldman: internal auditor or external auditor?

McKernan- external.

Votes:

1252: passed
1900: passed
3140: 5 ayes, 1 opposed, 1 abstention
3440: passed
4300: passed
4400: passed
4500: passed
5150: passed
5500: passed
5525: passed
5600: passed
6300: passed
6320: passed
6342: passed

New Business:

1st reading: revised policies for first reading:
1415, 1425, 2250, 3515, 3560, 4100, 8351

Discussion: Goodman: 2250 (recruiters)- if a student is over 18 and a parent objects, what happens?

McKernan: I'll have to check.

Morrow: There is nothing to stop an 18 year old from walking down and signing up

Approve first reading: passed

[Capital improvement plan 2023-2024](#)

presented:

Will be approved and adopted at the February meeting.

Morrow: we don't have any fiscal authority for capital projects

Limited bidders on projects. Escalation on construction costs. HVAC increases. Lead times a year plus. Had to adjust.

Funds are fluid- carry over.

Asbestos mediation: continues.

Furniture/equipment: non-recurring

heating/ventilation: replacement programs- Web hill will get heat pumps in a few years to eliminate steam boilers. Hoping to replace all steam boilers in future years.

Roofs: planned on Hall, Sedgwick, Braeburn- looking for bids and contractors

Flooring and painting:

Paving

Stage and auditorium

School security: Main entrance Norfeldt: safety; Wolcott in the works, exterior doors at selected schools.

Tennis courts at Conard/hall: got a grant and started. Will be ready in spring. But final coating applied in summer

Goldman: work complete/ dollars complete?

Harris: where do grants come from?

Mostly state

What comes from bonds, estimating what will come from bonds

Harris: It seems so expensive to replace our tennis courts? Why are we paying so much?

One you put in your backyard is paving. The one we are putting in is very specialized construction- it will last 30 years. The last courts only lasted 15 years. 24 total courts- fencing, drainage, taking away waste. We are definitely dealing with escalating court
Chang: Web Hill changes- savings?

Better learning environment and new air systems- not energy savings. Electrical use will go up. Efficient and easier to control. But we will see an electrical increase.

Chang: how much carbon are we saving?

We can do that

Chang: Can any of the painting projects be

mural projects?

They are always looking at the elementary level.

Wolcott: move office to outside/front area/construct small group space in old office

No bids coming in on many projects or unqualified bidders

Can we use indoor plants to improve air quality?

When do we look forward and ask "why are we investing in old buildings?" When do our buildings need replacement?

COIA we got 80% of reimbursement on COIA due to equity issues. Normally you get 20%

Staff Communications & Reports:

Caitlin (Hall): Little Shop of Horrors was amazing. UCONN puppetry students helped. E-spots went to finals in esports. Holiday spirit week. Jazz for Cause raised close to 3,000 for Friends of Feeney. 6,041.41 for CCMC. Top performing school in the state. Winter sports started last week.

Andy Morrow: Conard upset E Hartford to win states Super Smash Bros. ASL club raised money for food pantries- can serve over 300 meals!

Superintendent: Thank you COIA! Smith held a family paint night in November. Materials made possible through a grant. Winter concerts are underway. Newest Video in a vision of a graduate available. Web Hill and Bugbee hosted parent workshops focused on the identity strand of SEL curriculum. Wolc, Brae, COIA in Jan

Gayle Campbell received National Board cert

KP and Bugbee won 7500 tech packages Dream big comp-

Jason: Sedgwick band and choir performance was amazing

Julio Duarte: Staff report: changes since October: 10 resig, 3 retirem, hired 7 contracted teachers, 5 interim 1 admin,

Chang: Does this alter our figures in diversity? Retirements; coming or sudden?

Neserella: how many openings?

Working with CCSU to supply subs/supports

What's the reason for leaving?

How many teachers in TRP: 3

Routine Matters:

Approval of minutes from 11/26- Ms pollan was not present- please edit.

approved

Information & Reports:

Neserella: report from WEHA prevention counsel- Dr. Harris will be taking over. Amplified grant- reduces vaping, wellness assessment, looking for full-time prevention coordinator. NARCAN training: 1 individual used their training, used NARCAN, saved their child's ;life. Looking for board members.

Future Business

Meeting will be Jan 17, 2023, 7:00 pm

Feb 7, 2023: adoption of Capital Improvement Plan

Comments from Visitors: