



Winthrop School Committee  
Winthrop, Massachusetts

A public hearing of the 2018-2019 school budget was held on Monday, March 26, 2018 in the Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall, One Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 6:02pm.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present: Mr. Fabiano, Mr. Martucci, Ms. Powell, Ms. Swope, Mr. Vecchia, Mr. Perrin, Mr. Capobianco**

Also meeting with Committee:

Lisa A. Howard, Superintendent of Schools

Patricia Hames, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Susan Eccles, Office Manager

Mr. Vecchia led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Mr. Capobianco made a Motion to take the meeting out of order and go to Delegates & Visitors. Ms. Powell seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes.**

### **DELEGATES & VISITORS**

High School seniors Tayjaun McKenzie and Devin Pulsifer were recognized by the School Committee and presented citations for scoring 1000 points in their high school basketball careers!

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. Capobianco opened the public hearing with public comment. Members of the School Department Administration in the audience were Principal Matt Crombie, Principal Brian Curley, Principal Ryan Heraty, Principal Ilene Pearson, and Jennifer O'Connell, Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Sebastian Lamiaux - parent of a child in the Lil' Vikings Preschool asked about the future of the program.
- Superintendent Howard offered feedback regarding the excellent, well-run program. Preschool enrollment is 15. The HS program is not reflective of the integrated program and we need to be compliant. Students come in for early intervention. There is an eligibility process. The number of students requiring specialized instruction is large. We are only able to service 8 general education students during the 8-1 slot. In order to provide the services, we need to move the program to the WPG School. Otherwise we would have to add additional staff to the high school. The teachers exist at the WPG school. Ideally, we do not want to change the setting, but there are no other options currently. The program is not being dismantled but is being reconfigured to meet the needs of our preschool population. In order to meet that need, it necessitates moving the program to maximize the services our district has available which obviously results in the program not being able to be a learning platform for high school students. The Preschool will remain intact for families of eligible and registered students thus opportunities to connect with those parents and other parents of students remain. The primary change for enrolled families is the limiting of general education students and the location. The decision to reconfigure the program cannot be considered optional as the district has a legal obligation to meet the needs of all its learners providing an equivalent educational experience. We cannot provide exclusionary classrooms (general education students only). It is important to note that during this stage of reconfiguration, we are looking at all possibilities in terms of having the high school students continue to be involved with our preschool students.

- Karin Chavis – Questioned the MSBA Reimbursement in June. Part of the curriculum sent in to the State was the pre-school program and medical careers, which we lost. The MSBA took these two programs in to consideration.
- Lisa Howard – The MSBA will be here before the end of this school year. The goal is to bring the program back. For the upcoming school year based on the numbers and the budget, I do not anticipate this program happening next year. Ms. Howard believes there will be no impact on the reimbursement, but she will check.
- Karin Chavis – It won't be the Lil' Vikings Program if you move it.
- Lisa Howard – It is in the best interest of the district. We need to make the program compliant with civil rights.
- John Macero – This program is an opportunity for high school students to work in the classroom. I do understand the integration component. If there is a way to fund the program to let high school students work in the classroom, please do. The real purpose was for students coming in to the high school.
- Lisa Howard - If in fact the MSBA says we will lose reimbursement, there are other options to fill that classroom. Offering the classroom to Shore Collaborative, another pre-school classroom, etc. If that were to happen, I can assure you we will bring in a pre-school.

At 6:31pm, The Chairperson ended Public Comment and the 2018-2018 Budget Proposal Hearing resumed.

The Budget Hearing began. A needs-based budget has been presented to the budget sub-committee. The purpose of this meeting is for the public to comment and ask any questions.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Karin Chavis commented on items in the budget: Transportation and Curriculum Coordinator. She also inquired about extra-curricular stipends and the \$15,000.00 field maintenance stipend.
- Lisa Howard – Regarding transportation and RFP was sent out two months ago to Saulter, Healy and Vocell. Healey Bus provided a bid which was sent to the Buildings & Grounds Sub-committee and it remains there. Regarding Miller Field, we do not have the field in our possession. We have appointed a person to indicate exactly what the role is. It's an after-school position from now until the end of June. It's \$5,000.00 per season. Part of the responsibility is training for turf maintenance for one year.
- John Macero – It is important to fund the Curriculum Specialist. There is a need for that in central office.
- Ilene Pearson – Page 14 = note that we have 6 sections in Kindergarten, not 7. The average class size is 24.5.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**At 6:44pm, Mr. Martucci made a Motion to adjourn from the Public Hearing. Mr. Vecchia seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote.**

## **SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop School Committee was held on Monday, March 26, 2018 in the Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall, One Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 6:45pm.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present: Mr. Fabiano, Mr. Martucci, Ms. Powell, Ms. Swope, Mr. Vecchia, Mr. Perrin, Mr. Capobianco**

Also meeting with Committee:

Lisa A. Howard, Superintendent of Schools

Patricia Hames, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Susan Eccles, Office Manager

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Stephanie Costin – Concerned about the Lil’ Vikings Pre-School Program and the future of the program.
- Makayla Norris – We work closely with the preschoolers. It was an important part of my high school curriculum. They came to Drama. It was fun working them on scenes. We do lunch buddies. We have a life skills student who works with the preschool class. It’s a very good program.
- Lisa Howard - I value the student’s opinion. I believe there is room for conversation. The distance of the schools makes it possible to continue this relationship. I will have conversations with Mr. Cross and Ms. O’Connell.
- John Macero – Congratulate the WHS Drama Society. They made it to festival and finals and won. To come back and repeat is amazing and a very rare occasion. Special thanks to Karen Calinda, Steve Vieira and Nick Raponi. The MS bands in the MICCA competition were fabulous. Educational requirements – the Arts is a component. Winthrop is up there. Thank you for supporting.
- Karin Chavis –Disappointed and sorry that no budget presentation was given to the public.

### **MINUTES**

**Mr. Capobianco made a Motion to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2018. Ms. Swope seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-abstain, Mr. Capobianco-yes. The Motion passes with one abstention.**

### **FINANCIAL & BUSINESS PROCEDURES**

**Mr. Vecchia made a Motion to approve Warrant SVW18-16 in the amount of \$147,970.42. Mr. Fabiano seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote.**

**Mr. Vecchia made a Motion to approve Payroll Warrant SPW18-17 in the amount of \$678,201.53. Mr. Fabiano seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-abstain, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. The Motion passes with one abstention.**

**Ms. Powell made a Motion to approve the budget transfers in the amount of \$54,786.79. Ms. Swope seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote.**

## BULDINGS & GROUNDS

None

### GENERAL REPORTS

#### Sub-committee Reports

##### *Athletic Sub-committee*

Mr. Fabiano reported the Athletic Sub-committee met on March 19, 2018 at 5:30pm. Committee members present were Valentino Capobianco, Gus Martucci, and James Fabiano. Others in attendance were Vinny Crossman, Rich Cifuni, and Phil Lundberg. Miller Field usage was the topic of discussion. The School Department is not in possession of the field. The Committee voted unanimously to suggest the School Committee to write a letter to the Town Manager in support of renting the field to youth sports.

The Superintendent has had several discussions with the Town Manager and expects a lease proposal this week which will allow the school to have the field through December of 2018. At this point we are planning to conduct all practices and home games for lacrosse and track on Miller Field. We have ordered Port O Potties as the field house is not ready. The coordinator of Miller Field has been hired for the spring season and is getting acclimated with the field and equipment beginning today. He will be working with the turf company to begin training on how to care for the turf. The Miller Field Committee has secured the service for one year to train our staff. His primary role right now is to open and close the field, work on turf maintenance and training, begin the process of organizing and facilitating the set up and breakdown of the school athletic events (games and practices), liaison between the Athletic Director and custodians, and begin working on schedules that will be necessary for ongoing facility maintenance planning. He reports to the Athletic Director.

The Superintendent made the following suggestions to the school committee:

- Once the lease is received, forward the lease agreement to Attorney Paul Hodnett for review
- Continue the discussion of the Field Use Manual and approval of rental fees in sub-committee
- In Sub-committee, discuss the use of the field beyond high school sports, including but not limited to rentals so that there is a clear understanding of the capacity of the school district to manage rentals and any other use during the tie of the lease agreement. Included in the discussion, the sub-committee should identify a funding source for all use beyond the school use (line item for Port O Potty beyond June), line item for supervision of the field unrelated to rental time or school use time.
- Sub-committee report findings to the full committee for finalizing the school department's planned use of Miller Field during the period of the lease agreement.

Mr. Vecchia stated the project is not complete. The field house is not complete. The town will not lease it back to the school until it's complete. There is no intent to exclude. The town must protect itself. It is an unfinished project. There are liability issues as well. We should have a lease from the Town Manager in a week or so. Our attorney will then review the lease.

Brian Perrin would like to see an insurance binder for non-profit and profit organizations to use the field.

**Mr. Capobianco made a Motion that the committee draft a letter to the Town Manager stating that the Winthrop School Committee believes that Miller Field should be open to Winthrop youth organizations and other non-profit organizations and the community as soon as possible if all the terms are agreed upon and the school or town facility manager is available to open and close the field. Ms. Swope seconded the Motion. Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote.**

There was discussion regarding the use of the field. Mr. Martucci stated he is in favor of other town organizations having access to the field. Mr. Vecchia stated at the moment the town is not in the position to open and run the field. A program has been put together, so the field can be opened and utilized. Ms. Howard stated the concerns if we lease. There is a procedure and process in place that covers the \$9.8 million project. The school department can cover it, but the school district should not shoulder the field. The school department does not have the capacity to open and cover the field without a fee structure. There needs to be a plan in place.

### *Buildings & Grounds*

Mr. Fabiano reported the Buildings & Grounds Sub-committee met on March 19, 2018 at 6:00pm. Members present were James Fabiano, Gus Martucci, and Suzanne Swope. Others in attendance were Vinny Crossman. The topic of discussion was transportation and returning the buses to the Viking Pride Foundation. It was agreed upon to have a meeting with Rich Cifuni and Michal Filipko to discuss maintenance. There was a Motion to give Healey Bus the athletic contract only and the Motion failed.

### Superintendent's Report

Ms. Howard stated the Lil Vikings Pre-School and Miller Field have been discussed. She anticipates holding a parent forum regarding the Pre-K program in the future.

Congratulations to music teacher Chelsea DePaz and our music students! The Winthrop Select Band took home the Silver Medal and WMS Band received a Bronze Medal at the MICCA Festival. Excellent work! Excellent job!

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Faustus on their second State Championship in a row! The show was outstanding. The costumes were amazing. Behind the scenes was so impressive. Karen Calinda does an amazing job. They received a police escort back in to town. Very exciting!

Upcoming dates: WMS Full Court Frenzy has been rescheduled again (due to snow) and will take place on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. The Vaping Seminar has also been rescheduled for Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Deleo Senior Center.

### PERSONNEL

Jepthe Soulouque has been hired as the Interim Athletic Trainer at Winthrop High School. Winter sports coach positions were posted late this afternoon. They will be in your next packet.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### Policies

The Social Media Policy and the Chromebook Policy remain in Unfinished Business.

#### 2018-2019 School Calendar

Ms. Howard presented the committee with her recommendation of the 2018-2019 school calendar, based on feedback from all four principals and the WTA. Half days will be added in.

**Mr. Capobianco made a Motion to approve the 2018-2019 calendar. Mr. Martucci seconded the Motion.**

**Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote.**

#### 2018-2019 Transportation RFP

The RFP remains in Unfinished Business.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Mr. Fabiano stated WINAR is seeking sponsors and donations for the annual WINARC Walk and pleased to see the WHS track team practicing – the first home track meet is April 2<sup>nd</sup>!
- Mr. Capobianco attended Winthrop's Got Talent on March 15<sup>th</sup> and the Walkout/#Enough event at the High School was excellent.
- Ms. Powell announced that Kindness Week at Winthrop High School is April 2<sup>nd</sup>-April 6<sup>th</sup>. The Spread the Word Assembly is Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The WMS Drama Showcase is April 6, 7, and 8 at the Neil Shapiro Center for the Performing Arts.

- Mr. Vecchia congratulated the WMS Select Band the WMS Band for their outstanding performances.
- Mr. Vecchia announced that CASA is losing their funding and are having a comedy night on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Neil Shapiro Center for the Performing Arts.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**At 7:38pm, Mr. Martucci made a Motion to adjourn. Mr. Capobianco seconded the Motion. Mr. Fabiano-yes, Mr. Martucci-yes, Ms. Powell-yes, Ms. Swope-yes, Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes. A unanimous vote**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Hames  
Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Documents used in this meeting:

- Agenda
- Proposed Operating Budget 2018-2019
- Citations for Tayjaun McKenzie & Devin Pulsifer
- Minutes of February 12, 2018
- Warrant SVW18-17 in the amount of \$147,970.42
- Payroll Warrant SPW18-17 in the amount of \$678,201.53
- Budget Transfers in the amount of \$54,786.79
- Expenditure Report
- Job Postings
- Proposed 2018-2018 School Calendar
- April Calendar of Events
- Flyers

*The above non-confidential documents can be found in the Superintendent's office, upon request.*