



Winthrop School Committee
Winthrop, Massachusetts

A regular meeting of the Winthrop School Committee was held on Monday, November 27, 2017 in the Harvey Hearing Room, Town Hall, One Metcalf Square, Winthrop, MA. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Vecchia, Mr. Capobianco, Mr. Holden, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Perrin, Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also meeting with Committee:

Lisa A. Howard, Superintendent of Schools

Susan Eccles, Office Manager

Patricia Hames, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

DELEGATES & VISITORS

Student Representatives

Jr. Class President Ava Bertino was present. The Annual Country Fair was held in the fall with over 300 prizes and over 50 student volunteers. The class raised just under \$11,000.00. They are starting to plan the Sophomore/Junior Social in January at the CPYC are looking for a venue for the 2019 Senior Prom. The class is planning a bake sale for Easter in French Square. The Pep Rally was great! The junior class has shown a lot of participation in the rally, Spirit Week, etc. Ms. Bertino will be attending meetings on a monthly basis to provide updates.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Karin Chavis thanked the committee for putting a utility update on the agenda for the upcoming Budget Sub-committee meeting.

MINUTES

Mr. Vecchia made a Motion to approve the November 13, 2017. Mr. Sanford seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes, Mr. Holden-abstain, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. The Motion passes with one abstention.

FINANCIAL & BUSINESS PROCEDURES

Ms. Sullivan made a Motion to approve Warrant SVW18-9 in the amount of \$100,680.08 and Payroll Warrant SPW18-6 in the amount of \$670,329.07. Mr. Vecchia seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco, Mr. Holden-yes, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. A unanimous vote.

Ms. Sullivan made a Motion to approve the budget transfers in the amount of \$35,654.59. Mr. Sanford seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco, Mr. Holden-yes, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. A unanimous vote.

Ms. Sullivan made a Motion to accept the \$250.00 donation from the Winthrop Rebekah Lodge #153 to the Visual Arts Department and a \$400.00 donation from the Zonta Club of Chelsea. Mr. Vecchia seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco, Mr. Holden-yes, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. A unanimous vote.

BULDINGS & GROUNDS

None

GENERAL REPORTS

Sub-committee Reports

Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee met on November 14, 2017 at Winthrop High School. In attendance were Dawn Sullivan, Tara Bouey, Matt Serino, Ben Cimmino and Ian Kay. Items discussed: the roll out of Wellness Policy in each school, Smart Snacks at school binders should be in each school and in the Life Skill classrooms, a Wellness Liaison needs to be identified in each school, this is someone who can direct teachers and staff to the wellness policy and smart snacks at school regulations. The committee also discussed some programs which integrate a meal into curriculum each year. Ben Cimmino will email teachers who it would impact the most to get their input. There was also discussion of vaping and what is the district is doing to educate students and staff. The committee is also looking for two parent volunteers to join the committee. Any willing to serve can contact Dawn Sullivan at dsullivan@winthrop.k12.ma.us or contact Patty Hames in Central Office.

The Superintendent confirmed that a meeting is scheduled with parents and students regarding vaping. The School Department is concerned about the impact on our students concerning discipline. Suspension is not slowing it down. Educating students and parents is important. We have spoken with the Town Manager about places where students can get products to vape. It is addictive. We are trying to get in front of the problem. School officials are working with the Town Nurse, the Health Department and the School Resource Officer.

Superintendent Contract Bargaining Committee

This meeting went into Executive Session. Currently there is nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Howard reported we have started up our PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and teachers are finding them to be very beneficial. Ms. Howard attended the high school musical "Rock of Ages", which was an amazing performance. The cast and crew were flawless. Congratulations to Karen Calinda on another stellar production. The Annual Country Fair was well attended, great prizes and lots of things to choose from.

Our grade 2 students were visited by the ATC 5th graders and were led through a writing share. It was fun to watch the 5th graders act as teachers to a very attentive group of 2nd graders.

The Cummings School Turkey Trot was successful and over 100 students participated. There is a Mitten Drive going on at the ATC this month so if you have extra hats, gloves, mittens or sox send them in and they will be donated to families in need. This week, Mike Eruzione will be meeting with students at the ATC to talk about perseverance, goal setting and dreaming big.

The Middle School has been quite busy getting ready for Bye Bye Birdie, which will open on December 8th and run again on the 9th and 10th. The WMS Student Council collected 1,251 food items for the food pantry in just 2 days Winthrop Middle School (STEM club) was once again selected by the Boston Celtics to partner up with Jet Blue on a STEM program focused on aviation. It was a great experience last year and we are excited again for the opportunity. The Kick -off is December 5th at the Middle School Gym. The entire Middle School comes to the gym and the rep from the Celtics does a pep rally involving Jet Blue, Celtics dunk team, one Celtics player, and our STEM club students.

Congratulations to our fall NEC All Stars: Boys' Soccer: Steven Tracy; Girls' Soccer: Gabby Hinchion; Volleyball: Lacey Scott; Fatma Tufa, Amanda Kokoneshi; Golf: Golf: Colby Dassau and Evan Smotrich.

The Thanksgiving Day game went off without a hitch. Although the score did not reflect a win, I can assure you that our student athletes and coaches put Winthrop above anyone else on the field that day as they conducted themselves with class and sportsmanship exemplifying true Vikings spirit and attitude. A huge thank you to Matt Serino and Matt Crombie for organizing the event. The following people joined us to assist:

Ellen Baxter, Amy Gallagher Diane Duplin, Joannie Singarella, Vasili Mallios, Kyle Gaglin, Anthony Hatzisavas, Ron Vecchia, Rachel DelSolio, Peter Gill, Patty Hames, Beth Bailey, Jim Letterie, Michael DeFelice, Steven Skobeloff, John Shea, Jeff Beck, Dan Hubert, Frank Dipietrantonio. An additional special thanks to Vasili Mallios, Angelo Vigliotta, Tom Chiudina and John McDougal, who stayed until the last coffee cup and field marker were picked up.

The Superintendent will provide an MCAS overview at the next meeting. The Monthly Newsletter will be published this Thursday.

PERSONNEL

John McDougall, Jr. Custodian, has submitted her retirement letter, effective December 31, 2017.
Lorraine DeFronzo, E.S.P., has submitted her retirement letter, effective January 1, 2018.

The following vacancies have been posted: Jr. Custodian, WHS.

NEW BUSINESS

Vote to Increase Middle School Activity Account

Mr. Perrin made a Motion to increase the Middle School Activity Account from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00. Mr. Vecchia seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco, Mr. Holden-yes, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. A unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

School Committee Vacancy

This remains under Unfinished Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Mr. Vecchia announced the ATC Craft & Vendor Fair is this Saturday, December 2nd in the ATC Cafetorium. Santa & Mrs. Claus will be there.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:09pm, Mr. Capobianco made a Motion to adjourn. Ms. Sullivan seconded the Motion.

Mr. Vecchia-yes, Mr. Capobianco-yes, Mr. Holden-yes, Mr. Sanford-yes, Mr. Perrin-yes, Ms. Sullivan-yes. A unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Hames
Executive Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Documents used in this meeting:

- Agenda
- Minutes of November 13, 2017
- Warrant SVW18-9 in the amount of \$100,680.08
- Payroll Warrant SPW18-9 in the amount of \$670,329.07
- Budget Transfers in the amount of \$35,654.59
- Expenditure Report
- Letter from Margaret Winthrop Rebekah Lodge #153 donating \$250.00 to the Visual Arts Department
- Retirement Letters
- Job Postings
- Request from Susan Eccles to Increase the Middle School Student Activities Checking Account from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00
- Student Activity Accounts Policy JJF
- November Calendar of Events
- Flyers/Notices

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