

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, August 21, 2023

Via WebEx <https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=m42a31e398db55f265b56b34f4c0a4639>

Meeting Number: 2486 332 7592 Meeting Password: JpXY3k9Mvd4

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair, called the meeting to order (7:06 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Lynn Piascyk, Chair (in-person); Dr. Maria Madonick, Vice Chair (in-person); Dr. Jay Dahya (in-person); Ms. Sarah Beth Del Prete, Secretary (in person); Mr. Jeff Hughes (in-person); Mr. Steven Lawrence, (in-person); Dr. Michael Strambler (in-person) and Ms. Erin Williamson (in-person).

STAFF: Vonda Tencza, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Principal; James Sapia, Assistant Principal; Cheryl Tafel, Assistant Principal; Carrie Borcharding, Special Services Director; Donna Coonan, Director of Business Services/Operations; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE – Ms. Del Prete noted that a letter had been received from a BRS parent regarding the enrollment age for Kindergarten.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Madonick

Second by Mr. Lawrence

UNANIMOUS

PTO Update – None

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Tencza apprised the Board on the hiring of Vincent Lynch as the armed security officer for BRS, current enrollment increases, the recent decision of an additional section in Grade 2, discussions with a consultant to assist with public relations regarding the feasibility study, the possible reopening of the Town pool in October, upcoming professional development activities for staff and the hiring of two new teachers and eight paras for the 2023/24 school year. Questions were raised regarding differences in class sizes and the reallocation of current resources to support the additional section in Grade 2.

BRS Update – Ms. Sherman noted the conclusion of SEP and ESY summer programming, upcoming professional development activities for staff, the student / teacher Meet and Greet, Kindergarten bus ride, the transition of the music program to carts versus classrooms and the internal transfer of two (2) teachers to cover the additional Grade 2 section. Administration was urged to maximize utilization of Powerschool and allow parent portal access for viewing of grades, test scores, assignments etc. as the technology is readily available.

Mission, Vision and Goals 2023/24 – Superintendent Tencza noted the Board had met in July to review these documents. The primary overall goal is to create and foster a learning community that prepares children to be flexible global citizens. The goals will promote high expectations for student growth, active learning and academic excellence for all learners. The goals will be reflective of evidence-based responsive practices and student centered for all learners. For ultimate effectiveness, the Board goals will drive the Superintendent goals and the Superintendent goals will drive the administrator / teacher goals for the year. The community goal will utilize a variety of strategies to effectively communicate and share timely information with all stakeholders to ensure collaborative support and inclusive community relationships. The proposed Mission, Vision and Goals are as follows:

Mission – *We will create a learning community that prepares children to be flexible, lifelong learners, and responsible global citizens.*

Vision – *We will empower and inspire leaders for the future who will positively impact our world.*

Goals for 2023-2024

Student Growth and Success

Promote high expectations for student growth, active learning, and academic excellence for all learners.

Community

Foster a strong sense of community.

MOTION #2 – MISSION, VISION AND GOALS 2023/24

Move that we adopt the Mission, Vision and Goals for 2023/24 as presented.

Dr. Dahya

Second by Dr. Madonick

Discussion ensued for slight modification and wording. It was suggested that “we will” be eliminated and changed “To create and foster” in the Mission and in the Vision statement eliminate “we will” and change “to empower and inspire future leaders”... the Goals were modified to include “To promote and foster”....

- ***Mission*** – *To create and foster a learning community that prepares children to be flexible, lifelong learners, and responsible global citizens.*
- ***Vision*** – *To empower and inspire future leaders who will positively impact our world.*
- **Goals 2023-2024**
 - Student Growth and Success*** – *To promote and foster high expectations for student growth, active learning, and academic excellence for all learners.*
 - Community*** – *To foster a strong sense of community.*

MOTION #2A – MISSION, VISION AND GOALS 2023/24

Move that we adopt the Mission, Vision and Goals for 2023/24 as discussed and revised.

Dr. Dahya

Second by Dr. Madonick

UNANIMOUS

Budget Transfers 2022/23 – Transfers to reconcile the 2022/23 budget were reviewed. It was noted that in development of the 2024/25 budget consideration be given to adding an additional bus given the increased enrollment. It was suggested that the purchasing of school supplies be included as a line item instead of asking parents to spend approximately \$75-100 per child for supplies at the start of each school year.

MOTION #3 – 2022/23 BUDGET TRANSFERS

Move that we approve transfers in the 2022/23 budget as presented by administration.

Mr. Lawrence

Second by Dr. Dahya

UNANIMOUS

Policy Committee – Dr. Madonick presented the policies currently under 30-day review for adoption. Discussion ensued regarding the language in Policy 9132.4 as it was too vague. It was suggested that language be developed that clearly specifies the Finance Committee is responsible for budget timeline creation and budget development rather than oversight. It was noted that policies are generally broad in scope with internal process and procedures defined as regulations.

Dr. Madonick noted the changes made to Policy 9132, which identifies the standing committees of the Board as well as membership.

MOTION #4 – POLICY 9132 (STANDING COMMITTEES) ADOPTION

Move that we adopt Policy 9132 – Standing Committees as revised.

Dr. Madonick
Second by Ms. Williamson
UNANIMOUS

Dr. Madonick noted the only change to this policy was the addition of the word “deletion”.

MOTION #5 – POLICY 9132.2 (POLICY COMMITTEE) ADOPTION

Move that we adopt Policy 9132.2 – Policy Committee as revised.

Dr. Madonick
Second by Ms. Del Prete
UNANIMOUS

Dr. Madonick noted the procedural changes in this policy.

MOTION #6 – POLICY 9132.3 (CURRICULUM COMMITTEE) ADOPTION

Move that we adopt Policy 9132.3 – Curriculum Committee as revised.

Dr. Madonick
Second by Dr. Strambler
UNANIMOUS

Based on discussion there was agreement to table and return Policy 9132.4 back to the Policy and Finance Committees for further review and modification.

MOTION #7 – POLICY 9132.4 (FINANCE COMMITTEE) ADOPTION

Move that we table Policy 9132.4 – Finance Committee and return it to the Policy and Finance Committees for further review and discussion.

Ms. Piascyk
Second by Dr. Madonick
UNANIMOUS

Dr. Madonick noted the minor language and statute reference changes to this document.

MOTION #8 – POLICY 9132.5 (FACILITIES COMMITTEE) ADOPTION

Move that we adopt Policy 9132.5 – Facilities Committee as revised.

Dr. Madonick
Second by Mr. Hughes
UNANIMOUS

Dr. Madonick noted the minor revision made to this policy. It was suggested that consideration be given to extending the one year deadline.

MOTION #9 – POLICY 9133 (SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ADVISORY COMMITTEE) ADOPTION

Move that we adopt Policy 9133 – Special Committee/Advisory Committee as revised.

Dr. Madonick
Second by Ms. Williamson
UNANIMOUS

CABE Liaison – Dr. Madonick informed the Board of the deadline for early registration for the CABE / CAPSS Conference in November was Friday, August 25. Board members were urged to take advantage of the cost savings if they were going to attend. Nominations for CABE officers and area directors for 2023/24 were being accepted and anyone interested in serving in this capacity should contact CABE directly prior to September 14.

Upcoming WBOE Committee / Meeting Schedule – Facilities Committee – September 7 at 7:30 AM, Finance Committee on Tuesday, September 12 at 4:30 PM and the regular WBOE Meeting September 18 at 7:00 PM.

NEW BUSINESS – Superintendent Tencza informed the Board of the resignation of Jodi Cohen a part-time psychologist.

MOTION #10 – CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION (COHEN)

Move that we accept the resignation of Jodi Cohen effective August 2, 2023 with regret.

Ms. Piascyk

Second by Mr. Lawrence

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: (8:47 PM)

Ms. Williamson

Second by Dr. Dahya

UNANIMOUS

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board