

Windsor Central Supervisory Union
Windsor Central Unified Union School District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
October 3, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
[Virtual Zoom meeting recording](#)

Board Members Present:

Barnard:

Carin Park (virtual)
Bryce Sammel (virtual)

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers

Killington:

Katie Reed

Plymouth:

Elliot Rubin (virtual)

Pittsfield:

Ray Rice (6:43 p.m.) (virtual)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean (virtual)
Lydia Locke (virtual)

Reading:

Adam Ameele (virtual)
Anna Sessa (virtual)

Woodstock:

Ben Ford
Matt Stout
Keri Bristow
Sam DiNatale (6:58 p.m.) (virtual)
Todd Ulman (virtual)

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa

Interim Director of Student Support Services: Shayna Kalnitsky

Director of Instructional Technology: Raphael Adamek

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: Jennifer Stainton

District Buildings & Grounds Manager: Joe Rigoli

Director of Human Resources: Linda Loprete (virtual)

Principals/ Administration: Garon Smail (virtual), Cody TanCreti (virtual), Maggie Mills (virtual)

Student Representatives: Owen Courcey (virtual), Aidan Keough-Vella (virtual)

Presenters: Tom Emery, Patty Kelly, Laurie Smith

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop (virtual)

1. **Call to Order:** Sherry Sousa opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m., due to no current chair. Bryce spoke about his time as chair and thanked the board, students, staff, and communities.
2. Call for nominations:
 - a. Chair- Bryce nominates Keri Bristow for chair. Seconded by Todd Ulman. No other nominations. All in favor of Keri Bristow for Chair.
 - b. Keri takes the meeting and calls for nominations for Vice Chair, as that position is now vacant. Bryce Sammel nominates Ben Ford for Vice Chair. Matt Stout seconds. No other nominations. All in favor, and Ben accepts.
 - c. Discussion about Board Clerk- can Ben serve as both? No action.
3. **Amendments to the Agenda:** Time scheduled appointment items b and c are actually the same thing, and will be combined. Matt Stout asks about adding a discussion of bus services and staffing issues. Keri adds this topic under time scheduled appointments. Todd Ulman wishes to add to the bus discussion item a brief discussion on seeing if the board can discuss with the district's attorney how they might better respond to student activities that are public matter (such as the bus). Anna Sessa needs to make a change to the meeting minutes that are up for approval on the consent agenda (to happen during the consent agenda item).

4. **Public Comment:** Public comment from Curt Peterson, asking if the key positions that Ben Ford and Keri Bristow hold on committees will be changing now that they have been elected as Chair and Vice Chair. Keri states that is still to be determined. Sherry asks that Curt email his questions.
5. **Reports:** The full written reports can be found in the board book. Sherry discussed the Exceptional Leadership Award that the WCSU/WCUUSD Board just won, and how exciting it is that they just received that. She also recognized her administrative assistant for her important work on the bus routes; she discussed the team's time at the recent EdLeader 21 conference, and the leadership's and staff's presentations at conferences on the national level. Keri discussed the award presentation at the upcoming VSBA conference, and who from the board is planning on attending. Shayna Kalnitsky shared her excitement over the special education happenings in the district, and discussed district professional development offerings. She shared another highlight, which was that the district was given a commendation by the VT Agency of Education for Excellence in Transitional Planning, for older students in the special education program, which acknowledges the hard work that our case managers and their teams have put into making sure our students are ready to transition into the world after they graduate. Dr. Jen Stainton shared the district's professional development focus, for both literacy and math. Joe Rigoli gave an update on district projects. Jim Fenn thanked the teachers, staff, and students for putting up with the cold buildings while the heating systems were repaired. Jim shared the training process for transitioning to new accounting software. Students Owen and Aidan had positive things to say about student quality of life, adapting to the new schedule, the administrative structure, and the upcoming Student Leadership Summit.
6. **Time Scheduled Discussion:**
 - a. 2022-2023 Opening Enrollment– Raph Adamek shared enrollment information for the current school year. The overall enrollment is down 38 students compared to this time last year. This is in part due to a large 2022 graduating class. He also discussed intra-district movement between elementary schools. An area of concern is the loss of incoming tuition students from choice towns, as this directly impacts revenue. The resulting hit to our revenue leaves no cushion going forward, but can now be accurately reflected in the next budget.
 - b. SEL at the WUHSMS- [Presentation](#) delivered by the Culture and Community Team, made up of Asst. Principal Cody TanCreti, and Social Emotional Learning Specialists Tom Emery and Laurie Smith. They work on building relationships with students, helping them develop skills, and also supporting teachers and building systems to help all students be successful.
 - c. Strategic Plan: Strategy 1.2- Patty Kelly, District Math Coordinator, shared a presentation on math work and goals. Interventionists and supports are now in place across the district.
 - d. Bus status (added)- Matt Stout wanted a follow up discussion about staffing issues with the bus company, and his concerns that the district is not getting the services being paid for and the hardships being placed on parents. He requested that the bus company come to the next board meeting to deliver an update on what they are facing and what their plans are to deal with the issues. Todd Ulman asked if the board could discuss FERPA with the district attorney to make sure the district is properly sharing information in order to quell rumors.
7. **Committee Updates:**
 - a. Finance: FY24 Budget Priorities and Assumptions- The committee has laid out the timeline for the FY24 budget. They are beginning to target their investment areas.
 - b. Policy:
 - i. First Reading: *C1 – Education Records*. Motion to move for a second reading at the next meeting. Moved: Elliot Ruben. Seconded: Sam DiNatale. Question about the need for a second reading, or can it be moved to a vote at the next meeting? Elliot agrees that it is ready to be adopted and no further edits are needed. Motion to adopt at the next meeting. Moved: Todd Ulman. Seconded: Matt Stout. All in favor.
 - F2 – Nondiscriminatory Mascots and School Branding*. Motion to adopt at the next meeting. Moved: Todd Ulman. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.

- ii. Adoption: Motion to adopt policy Title I, Part A: Parent and Family Engagement. Moved: Elliot Rubin. Seconded: Sam DiNatale. All in favor.
 - c. Buildings & Grounds: No update.
 - d. Negotiations, Hiring, & Retention: Nearing an agreement.
 - e. Working Groups: Students are working on developing names ideas for the district.
8. **Consent Agenda-** Anna Sessa did not attend the September 15th meeting, yet she is listed as attending. Her name needs to be removed from the minutes. Motion to approve the consent agenda with corrections noted. Moved: Ben Ford. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.
9. **Public comment:** None.
10. **Executive Session:** None.
11. **Reflection:** given
12. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Moved: Ben Ford. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.