

APPROVED

WASHINGTON NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 3, 2016

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Jill Wilson, Lisa Olson, Sharon O'Connor, Patrick Healy **Administrators:** Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Christina Kimball, Business Manager **Absent:** Jack Hoffman

Call to Order: Patrick Healy called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Public Comment: None

Discussion of Superintendent Search

- a. Presentation and discussion with VSBA search consultant and staff.
 - Nancy will retire at the end of her contract this year. WNESU will begin the search for a new superintendent.
 - The new hire will serve a one or two year interim position.
 - Bob Stevens, a consultant from the Vermont School Board Association presented several options for searching for a new superintendent. One option would include posting ads for the position on School Spring or in Ed Weekly and Bob would serve as a facilitator in this process.
 - Another option would be for Bob to actively search for possible qualified candidates through various methods, including advertising through School Spring. This is a less time consuming option.
 - The WNESU board agreed to hire Bob Stevens to assist in the superintendent search.
 - Once quality candidates are found and vetted, community members, board members and faculty will have the opportunity to meet finalists. The Board will choose the most qualified candidate.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve, September 15, 2016 Minutes- Patrick moved to approve the minutes of September 15th as written. Lisa seconded the motion. Minutes of September 15th approved as written.

Reports

- a. Superintendent Report - Nancy Thomas
 - Nancy shared a written report with the board.
 - Act 46 – The Act 46 Study Committee has met a total of 4 times now. Currently the committee is discussing possible merger configurations.

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Board Discussion

- a. FY18 WNESU Budget – 1st Draft – Christina Kimball
 - Christina shared the WNESU FY18 Budget Draft #1 Highlights.
 - Revenue: Revenues moved to the Supervisory Union per Act 148 “An Act Relating to Special Education” The revenues moved to the Supervisory Union include: Essential Early Education (EEE), Mainstream Block Grant (special education), State Placed reimbursement, Special Education Reimbursement (56%), Extraordinary service reimbursement (90%).
 - Overall Changes: Added special education support staff per Act 153 and to reflect all special education costs at the Supervisory Union. Teacher salary increases are currently estimates. Support staff salary increases are also estimates. There are no changes to health insurance. There is a decrease in Cabot’s ADM 33% to 31% and an increase in Twinfield’s ADM from 67% to 69%. There are proposed changes in the assessment process for special education costs. 1) The Supervisory Union budget to budget increase is 4%; 2) exclusions include special education, transportation and most of maintenance.
 - Transportation: Included professional services, supplies, materials and other services from Cabot and Twinfield, continuing to implement Act 153.
- b. After School Food Service Program – Christina Kimball
 - For the month of November children attending the afterschool program at Twinfield are being offered a dinner. The children eat between 5:00 and 5:30.
 - If all goes well and the numbers work out Twinfield will begin serving dinner every evening during the afterschool program.
- c. Section 125 Agreement – Christina Kimball
 - The section 125 plan allows WNESU to withdraw medical and dental insurance from employees’ paychecks pre-tax.
 - WNESU currently offers the option to withdraw these items pre-tax but up until now has not had an official agreement in place.

Board Action

- a. Approve Section 125 Agreement
 - Patrick moved to approve the section 125 Agreement as proposed. Jill seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Executive Session: Negotiation planning meeting. The board went into executive session at 8:31pm. The Board returned from executive session at 8:43 p.m. – No action taken

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber