

West Bath School Administrative Unit

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Dennis Crews, Chairman; Keith Hinds, Vice-Chairman; Meagan Hennessey, Robert McDaniel, Jordi St. John

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Adam Garland, Peter Oceretko, Emily Thompson

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Dennis Crews at 6:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve/Amend Minutes of April 8, 2015:

Amendments: The motion to elect Dennis Crews school board chairman was made by Robert McDaniel and seconded by Jordi St. John.

A motion was made to approve the minutes as revised by Keith Hinds, and seconded by Robert McDaniel. Vote (5-0)

Adjustments to the Agenda:

There were no adjustments made to the agenda.

Public Comment:

Adam Garland and Peter Oceretko congratulated the school board for a great start.

Old Business:

1. **Tuition Rates:** At the request of Mr. McDaniel, Emily Thompson distributed a document that showed current tuition rates for public and private 6-8 and 9-12 programs that West Bath students and families frequently choose to attend. The board discussed that they would be able to contribute funds for school choice up the amount that would be paid to RSU 1 for tuition, which is currently \$7,988 for 6-8 students and \$8,558 for 9-12 students. Families can then pay the difference, if any. In the case of a private school families may apply for financial aid from the private school to offset the difference.
2. **Calendar of Scheduled Meetings:** Mr. Crews reviewed the upcoming meeting dates and the board discussed which members needed to attend each meeting.
 - a. 4/23/15 – School board meeting with full membership @ 6 PM; Agenda items to include: Board Workshop with MSMA, budget workshop with public comment

- b. 4/27/15 – Board of Selectmen’s Meeting @ 5:30-7:30 at the Town Office
Agenda: Chair and Vice-Chair to present school budget to Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee
- c. 4/29/15 – School board meeting with full membership @ 6 PM; Agenda items to include: Budget Workshop to share budget feedback from 4/27, receive public comment, and make budget adjustments; Budget Committee members may be in attendance; first reading of prepared policies
- d. 5/6/15 – School board meeting at 6:30 PM; Agenda items to include: Review the current budget with the budget committee; adopt budget; finalize the calendar, process, and wording for the warrant, referendum, and town meeting.
- e. 5/11/15 – Board of Selectmen’s Meeting @ 5:30-7:30 at the Town Office;
Agenda: Chair and Vice Chair to present school budget to the Board of Selectmen

New Business:

1. Establishment of Sub-Committees: Mr. Crews requested that board members volunteer to be members of a policy committee and/or a technology committee. The board discussed other sub-committees that could be created in the future may include a Gifted and Talented committee and a Budget Committee.

Membership of the sub-committees:

- a. Policy Committee – Keith Hinds and Robert McDaniel
- b. Technology Committee – Dennis Crews and Jordi St. John

2. 2nd Reading of School Calendar: The 15-16 school year calendar was presented. Mr. Hinds made a motion to accept the calendar as presented. This was seconded by Robert McDaniel. Vote (5-0)

3. Budget Workshop – Emily Thompson presented the proposed West Bath School Administrative Unit budget to the school board. In addition to reviewing the line items within the budget and discussing priorities and needs, the board reviewed and discussed documentation that showed similarities and differences between the proposed budget and the Withdrawal Group’s budget. Noted differences were in the area of special education tuition, special education services, and out-of-district transportation. Additionally, it was discussed that staff who had been funded previously through the district’s federal funding sources had not been included in the Withdrawal Group budget. Mr. Crews also explained that there was approximately \$30,000 in budget costs that were discussed as part of the withdrawal budget development that were inadvertently not included with the final withdrawal budget.

With the separation of start-up costs, and with the tuition credit and state subsidy applied as revenue, the proposed budget included a local contribution of \$2,887,945.09. The board asked Mrs. Thompson to increase the technology line in the current proposed budget to allow for 1:1 access to Chrome books for students in grades 4 and 5 before the budget is reviewed again.

Mr. Crews referenced the Union 47 budget from 2008 that listed the local contribution for West Bath to be in the \$2,800,000 range.

Mrs. Thompson shared a document that included parent priorities for the budget that was created on 4/13/15 at the WBS PTO meeting.

The school board discussed the status of pre-K. The proposed budget allocates 12 slots for 5 mornings per week at community partnerships. The board also discussed a need to create a tuition policy and procedures for out-of-district students, and the need to begin the conversation with RSU 1 regarding the potential future attendance of siblings of current school choice students.

The school board discussed article 08 – system administration and began to complete a budget for the school board. It was determined this would be completed following the MSMA workshop with their guidance.

Public Comments:

None

Executive Session:

A motion was made at 8:44 by Keith Hinds to enter executive session pursuant to Title I, Chapter 13, Section 405, 6, A. of the M.R.S.A. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Jordi St. John. Vote (5-0)

The board re-entered the public meeting at 9:27 PM

Next Meeting Date and Location:

Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 6 PM at the West Bath School

Adjourn:

Keith Hinds made a motion to adjourn at 9:28 PM. This was seconded by Robert McDaniel. Vote (5-0)

Submitted by,



Emily Thompson