

West Bath School Administrative Unit

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Members Present: Keith Hinds, Joanne Powers, and Casey Whorff

Members Absent: Alexandra Jungbluth and Izabela Werner

Others Present: Patrick Bowdish and Emily Thompson

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Mr. Hinds. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Executive Session

Mr. Hinds made a motion at 6:01 PM to request to enter into an executive session pursuant to Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405,6,A. of the M.R.S.A. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Mrs. Whorff seconded the motion. Vote (3-0).

Return to Regular Session

The board returned to regular session at 6:53 PM.

Comments from the Chair:

Mr. Hinds deferred his comments to Mrs. Whorff who spoke about her visit with the staff during a late start Wednesday.

Approve/Amend Minutes of 12/21/22

Mr. Hinds made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Whorff seconded the motion. Vote (3-0).

Adjustments to Agenda:

Mr. Hinds commented that item 11.1 would be removed from the agenda. He stated that item 12.1 would be removed and added to the February agenda.

Public Comments:

None

Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee - No report
2. Facilities Committee - No report
3. Finance Committee
 - a. Payroll Warrants – Mr. Hinds signed payroll warrants on 12/22/22.
 - b. AP Warrants - Mr. Hinds and Mrs. Werner signed the AP on 1/4/23.

Superintendent's Report

1. Financial Report - Mrs. Thompson reported that with 46% of the year remaining, 56.33% of the budget remained. She said there were no significant changes since the time the board had met two weeks prior.

She reported that tuition rates for the current school year had been received. There was an increase at the 6-8 level by \$631.75 per student, and an increase at the 9-12 level by \$955.50 per student. She reminded the board that they had budgeted for 2 additional students per grade span at a 2% increase. She reported that at the 6-8 level the expenses would be over budget by \$4,951.50 and at the 9-12 level, the expenses would be under budget by \$21,578.89, leaving \$16,627.39 in the tuition line, assuming enrollment remained steady.

2. District Updates -
 - a. School Choice Window – Mrs. Thompson notified the board that the school choice application window for students who will be in grades 6-12 next year has opened. She said that letters have been sent home to current families who are accessing school choice, as well as to all of the current 5th grade families. The application window will be open through February 14th.
 - b. Professional Development – She reported the school was scheduled for a professional development day on Friday, and are looking forward to having our school designer from EL work with them for the day. The day is being divided into 3 sections - first to work on mathematical discourse - asking open-ended mathematical questions, showcasing students' mathematical thinking, teaching math vocabulary, then the staff will conduct a high-quality work protocol from the products created through the fall expeditions. She explained that data is used as a check on the progress made towards goals in the school's workplan, and to make adjustments for the next expeditions. Finally, they'll focus attention on developing the next stage of our new Habits of Character, the lessons to be used in crew to teach it, and ways to measure progress.
 - c. Health and wellness – Mrs. Thompson reported that the new year had brought an increase in COVID cases and there were 10 active cases associated with the school. She stated that while some of these cases will become inactive the following day she expected a few more to arise in the next few days. She said they had let families know to increase their vigilance with monitoring for symptoms and testing, and with one grade level there had a testing plan for this week, and that classroom has stabilized. She stated that they had reminded classes about mitigation strategies - increasing ventilation, handwashing, and spacing when appropriate, and masks always remain an option. She reported the overall percentage has not reached a reportable percentage, but it's important for families

to be aware that COVID is still in the community and still something the school is trying to manage each day.

Old Business

1. Board Communication Regarding a Personnel Matter

Mr. Hinds reported that the board had received a letter and had discussed the contents of the letter in an appropriate forum. He made a motion stating that the board had authorized him to send a letter in response. Ms. Powers seconded the motion. Vote (3-0).

New Business

None

Public Comments

None

Set Next Meeting Dates and Locations

1. February 15, 2023 - WBSAU School Board of Directors Meeting @ 6 PM

Adjourn

Mrs. Whorff made a motion to adjourn at 7:06 PM. Ms. Powers seconded the motion. Vote (3-0).

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Thompson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Emily Thompson