

**West Windsor Board
Approved Minutes
May 27, 2016**

Present: Elizabeth Burrows, Bob Young, Nancy Pedrick, David Baker, Carl Chambers,

Meeting called to order at 3:30 PM.

Agenda Revisions: Adding: Contact Information for Students K-12

Minutes: April 28 2016

Bob Young asked for a motion to approve the minutes of April 28. Nancy Pedrick moved; seconded by Elizabeth Burrows; motion passed.

Public Comments: None

Discussion Items:

Curriculum Update: Carl Chambers

Update on each subject area working on curriculum. Math going well and fully implemented and grade level groups met 30 times and paid off with collaboration across schools. Teachers in math working with Eureka Trainers online and can do any time. This is teacher driven and have gotten good reviews. Cost effective and can schedule so teachers do not leave the building. Nancy Pedrick asked if can access any time. Carl Chambers mentioned it has to be scheduled. Very pleased with the service and will come on site if needed.

ELA hit the ground running and embraced the curriculum. A lot of freedom and high quality texts recommended. Art teachers embraced and supported other teachers.

Science and Technology: Science piloted one at Hartland and during last full in-service there were mixed reviews. We have to discuss sustainability as very expensive. The focus is on inquiry learning. Great work going on around data and inquiry. Bob Young asked which curriculum decided was really good but you say expensive, which one is it. Carl Chambers mentioned it was the Carolina Biological is quite expensive. Bob Young mentioned science and technology area gets a lot of emphasis now and need to pay close attention to this and feel quality is very important. Carl Chambers mentioned the quality was questioned. Windsor felt could do something better. He wants to hear what teachers feel is working and not working. Windsor developed own in-house curriculum. Bob Young mentioned we do not want to fall behind in this. Next year Windsor will have a required coding class.

Social Studies: Dave Baker has taken this on. We have met twice and good curriculum map possibly by next year. Carl Chambers mentioned teaching social studies is important for them to navigate history. Dave Baker mentioned what will be driving the work is the national standards and high school teachers felt using proficiency based regulations for graduation. Carl Chambers mentioned have to pass these standards before move ahead. State not definite on this part.

Visual Arts: Jenifer Aldrich is helping with this. Communicate by e-mail and doing great work together.

World Language: This is happening at the high school level. Tiffany Cassano and board addressed issue as adding graduation requirements as one year required now.

Physical Education and Health: Agreed upon a curriculum through national health standards. Peter Driscoll from Hartland has taken the lead on this. Will be piloting next year.

Guidance has chosen a curriculum K-8. High school does not have one at this time. Guidance team quickly made a decision on Second Steps.

Library: Mary Powers has her own curriculum addressing media components. She is a good resource for her colleagues. Larry Dougher also a big part of this. All doing different things but feel should look at Windsor's.

SBAC: replacing NECAP for ELA and Math. Not all results in but results show a tremendous improvement in scores because of collaboration among teachers and curriculum. Majority of kids above standard in some areas.

Standards Based Grading is the largest discussion. This was started in December and K-5 teachers all doing standard based grading and instruction. Nancy Pedrick asked how score within standards and are there numbers. Carl Chambers mentioned yes but can add clarity. Unified K-5 in the district. Focus is on are you meeting standards. Bob Young asked how this is shown to parents: Carl Chambers mentioned it will be uniform K-12. Bob Young feels it should be consistent and uniform. Carl Chambers mentioned it will be hard for some to get used to this as we did not prepare students, parents, and teachers. Our hope is that in two years will be uniform K-8. Elizabeth Burrows asked if the students know what the standards are. Carl Chambers mentioned with a good teacher they do. Standards becoming performance based. Is this different from competency based? It is the same. Bob Young asked if doing what others doing. Carl Chambers mentioned some are moving that way. Committee has pretty much adopted it. No grading of homework as some come from challenging situations. Dave Baker mentioned there will be transferable goals -- completing a task. There is a piece built in on social/emotional tasks. Teachers excited working together SU wide. Teacher leaders are very important. Considerate about how providing goals for students.

Tuition Voucher:

Dave Baker mentioned this was created three years ago. Bob Young asked when sent out. Tuition vouchers are sent out in July. Elizabeth Burrows suggested adding e-mail address to the form. That will be added for both parents.

Act 46 Update:

Dave Baker mentioned a reminder of the public forum on June 2. Encourage folks to come out. It is being held at the Town Hall. There will be a presentation by the Act 46 consultant working with our team and committee members. Ed Connors will be there if any financial questions. Hope to have everyone fill out an exit survey to give the committee an idea of what thinking

about. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned on June 15 the whole Act 46 Committee will be meeting and is open to the public. There is free babysitting on June 2 in the school gym.

Fundraising Endowment: Tabled

Elizabeth Burrows mentioned she followed up on some things. Barbara Truex passed on recommendation from last time and asked me to contact Phil, the original lawyer crafting the paperwork for Bridges to the Future, the original endowment. Endowment Bridge to the Future was shut down by Act 60. Phil told me to contact Audrey Halpert who talked to her husband who was on the original committee, and there is no way of getting original paperwork. It started as a 501C3 for purpose of enriching school programs. Carl Chambers will contact the state but the most common is the 21st Century Grant. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned that SCIP is not a 501C3 or PTO. Nancy Pedrick asked about the money from Building the Bridge. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned she is still looking into it. Dave Baker mentioned Ed Connors mentioned it would need to be a separate organization and not attached to the school budget. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned the after school program is not sustainable at this point. Carl Chambers mentioned he is trying to get monies for targeted students.

Capital Projects:

Bob Young mentioned he received an e-mail from a parent if considered capital improvement projects like a kitchen and pre-school. This discussion will wait until Jenifer is here. Interest was to draw pre-school into our building.

Contacts:

Elizabeth Burrows mentioned she sent the board a spreadsheet of the names of families and addresses.

Action Items: None

Superintendent Report:

- Looking forward to forum and study committee meeting. There is some anxiety among the Administrators as to where we are in regards to Act 46. Have done a lot of work around curriculum.
- Calendar: Early release days are a school decision

Agenda Items: (June 23 - 3:30 PM)

Calendar Discussion - Early Release Days

Staffing Patterns

Act 46

Policy Manual

Robert's Rules

Tuition Voucher

SPED Update - Karen Woolsey

Master Agreement

Executive Session: None

Adjournment:

Bob Young asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Pedrick moved: seconded by Elizabeth Burrows; motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Tessier, Board Secretary