

WHITE RIVER VALLEY SUPERVISORY UNION
(EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING)
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

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WHITE RIVER VALLEY SUPERVISORY UNION
APPROVED Minutes

Attendance: Charles Watson, Don Shaw, Mark Blount, Owen Bradley, Lindy Stetson, Andra Bowen, Jane Kelly, Tara Weatherell, Keenan Haley, Tracy Thompson, Sarah Root, Megan Payne, Stacey Peters, Andrew Jones, Karl Groppe, Aimee Toth, Mary Ellen Simmons, Kathy Galluzzo, Lisa Floyd, Bruce Labs, Rodney Rainville, and David Wells

Notetaker: Lisa Floyd

1. Call to Order: 6:03
2. Adjustments to the Agenda - we added over payment of the Sharon Academy
3. Public Comment - there was none
4. Act to Approve Minutes
 - 4.1 Monday, September 26, 2019 (Full Board) a motion to approve the minutes was made by Kathy Galluzzo and seconded by Sarah Root - they were unanimously approved.
5. Literacy Update - Aimee Toth/Mary Ellen Simmons 20 min

We learned more about vertical alignment and benchmarking taking place related to literacy in all schools across the SU.
6. Personnel - we received a letter of resignation from Tori Lance, Sarah Root made a motion to accept the letter, which was seconded by Karl Groppe and was unanimously approved.
7. Reports:
 - 8.1 Business Manager

Auditors' Presentation - Ron Smith is the owner of the auditing company who came in to work on the audit. He shared that some schools are operating in deficits to begin this school year. He identified where the areas of struggle are in the business office and what the steps are moving forward to help end this problem.

Preliminary numbers indicate that there may be a \$300,000 - \$400,000 deficit at the SU Level

Sharon is looking at a \$10,000 deficit. They moved \$101,000 to a reserve fund when in reality they only had \$87,000. They also are sustaining a food service deficit of \$20,000

Strafford is looking at a \$38,000 carry over from last year, but a food service deficit as high as \$40,000

Rochester/Stockbridge are looking at a General Fund surplus of up to \$330,000 and have applied \$236,000 to tax relief. Their food service has an overage of \$22,000

Granville/Hancock preliminarily has a carry over of \$68,000

White River Unified District - looks like it has a deficit of \$50,000 with a carry over from last year of \$55,000 which consisted of funds that were not there, meaning that there is now a projected deficit of \$105,000. There is potentially a deficit in Special Education between \$225,000 and \$250,000, and a food service deficit of \$100,000 - for a total deficit that may be as high as \$455,000.

First Branch Unified District - preliminarily has a surplus of \$200,000

8. Executive Session - Personnel (Draft Transition Plan - Tara) - we entered Executive Session at 7:20 with all board members present invited in to the Executive Session. Tara presented the draft transition plan that she and Bruce have been working on. There was a motion to leave Executive Session made by Sarah Root at 8:08.
9. Return to Public Session at 8:08, and Sarah made a motion to accept the Business Manager's transition plan, which will add a staff accountant and a part-time accountant at the business office, as presented which was seconded by Don and unanimously approved.
10. Discussion Items
 - 10.1 Salary information from the VTVSA - Bruce shared documentation from around the state.
 - 10.2 Disposition of money from Merger Grants - Tara shared that she found in Minutes in June 25th of 2018 and there were \$82,000 left from the merger grants. Karl suggested that we re-visit this issue and have a properly documented vote. Lisa made a motion that we rescind the earlier agreement from June 25th, 2018 and it was seconded by Karl Groppe, it is regarding the distribution of the remaining merger grant funds. It was unanimously approved. It will be discussed at the next meeting of the Full Board.
11. Action Items - there was a conversation about Sharon Academy's Forensic Audit and the fact that the district over paid them by about \$148,000. Sarah Root suggested that the districts that have choice and tuition students to Sharon Academy, commensurate with the amount that the reimbursement to each district has been pay a portion of the Forensic Audit fee. Chelsea owes Sharon Academy \$13, 095, Tunbridge is owed \$589, Rochester received \$27,387, Stockbridge received \$15, 618, Strafford received \$70,781, and Sharon received \$48,481. Tara will determine the amounts and individual boards will approve the amounts at their November meetings.

REWRITE SUGGESTION: Due to an overpayment of tuition to the Sharon Academy they chose to do an audit on their books. The Academy incurred a \$4000.00 cost to do this audit and would like to be reimbursed by the White River Supervisory Union. After discussion it was determined that the various sending districts will need to decide in this action. Tara will supply each district with their cut of the amount. I like this one better (TW)

12. Other - Tara requested that she be granted the ability to go to market on the insurance related to ancillary benefits. We asked that she check with Dina and see if that violates the contracts or not.
13. Bruce shared information about the Restorative Classroom. Bruce shared that when he arrived at this district we had 50 students being sent out. We are now down to 28 with the creation of programs like the Restorative Classroom. Bruce wants us to all be thinking about the expansion of this program.
The Board asked for money figures to show how the reported savings to the Districts is arrived at.
14. Executive Session - Sarah Root made a motion to enter Executive Session at 9:02 PM, seconded by Kathy. We left Executive Session at 9:17 with no action taken.
15. Confirm Next Meeting Dates
13.1 Monday, November 26, 2019 (Full Board) - 6:00 PM @ White River Valley School/Bethel Campus
16. Future Agenda Items - we received a letter of intent to open negotiations.
17. Adjourn - We adjourned at 9:17