

WHITE RIVER VALLEY SUPERVISORY UNION
(FULL BOARD REGULAR MEETING)
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

@
BETHEL CAMPUS
DRAFT MINUTES

Attendance: Bruce Labs, Tara Weatherell, Lisa Floyd, Cynthia Powers, Deb Matthews, Ray Ballou, Mary Ellen Simmons, Jena Young, Megan Payne, Amy Wildt, Michael Gray, Kathy Galluzzo, Andrew Jones, Lisa McCrory, Rodney Rainville, Sarah North and Don Shaw

1. Call to Order - the meeting was called to order at 6:08
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Assign Times/Time Keeper
4. Public Comment
5. Act to Approve Minutes - Kathy Galluzzo made a motion to approve the minutes together, which was seconded by Andrew Jones and unanimously approved.
 - 5.1 Monday, December 16, 2019 (Executive Board)
 - 5.2 Monday, January 6, 2020 (Full Board Special)

6. Reports:

- 6.1 Superintendent - Bruce updated the group about the hiring process for the Director of Special Education. Several applications have already been submitted and the group will be meeting soon to develop questions and screen candidates.

Bruce also shared that he drafted a letter about our struggles to get information from the AOE. Jeff Francis shared our concern with Dan French. Additionally, he reached out to the business office and was finally able to have a meeting with Brad James, at this point he is waiting to hear back from them (his last conversation was on 01/22/2020).

- 6.2 Business Manager - the auditors have been in and are wrapping up their work. The first draft of the official audit is on its way. Also, the individual district assessments have gone out which will zero out the SU deficit for FY '19.

6.3 Director of Special Services -

Deb noted that Dr. Bill Ketterer's book was just published and he acknowledges and thanks people in our SU.

The 1st submission of our child count was sent in recently and we should receive verification of our numbers in March. We have moved from 279 to 265.

Deb Matthews shared about work that is happening with literacy and Direct Instruction, a program that Janie Feinberg is highly qualified in. Janie is willing to coach teachers, a dozen of whom had the initial 3 day training. Concerns were raised about conflict of interest if this is a paid position. Bruce shared that they have applied for a waiver from the AOE since this is very specialized training that Janie has and the district would need to pay her for the coaching. The work will not move forward until the SU hears about the waiver.

6.4 Technology Director - Ray shared that there has been a connectivity issue on the Bethel campus which has now been determined to be a problem with EC Fiber. He is working with them to resolve the issue and discuss how these types of issues can be identified and resolved more quickly in the future.

6.5 Grant Coordinator - Cynthia Powers shared that she has recently submitted the second revision of the Consolidated Federal Program Grant. The board expressed gratitude for her work.

6.6 Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Mary Ellen shared a detailed list of talking points about her work, that boards can use as they hold their annual meetings. The group was appreciative for this document.

6.7 Negotiations

6.8 Policies - The Policy Committee met and has been working through the list of policies. They do not meet again until March 11. Bruce reached out to VSBIT about the Therapy Dog policy to get some clarification about insurance related to that.

7. Discussion Items

7.1 Business office reorganization - Tara shared that the reorganization efforts are going well, and things in the business office continue to improve.

7.2 Financial Information - please see the above mentioned Business Manager's Report.

8. Action Items - the group discussed the process for hiring a new Superintendent. Kathy shared information that she had received on the services that the Vermont School Boards' Association provides. We agreed that those services would be useful. Kathy Galluzzo made a motion to contract with the VSBA for support in the Superintendent hiring process. This motion was seconded by Rodney Rainville and unanimously approved. Kathy will reach out to her contact at the VSBA. Additionally, Andrew Jones made a motion for the Full Board to cede oversight of this process to the Executive Board which was seconded by Kathy Galluzzo and unanimously approved. Don will schedule a meeting for the Executive Board either late this week or early next week so that we can begin this search.

9. Other

10. Executive Session - Negotiations committee - the Negotiations Committee entered Executive Session after the adjournment of the Full Board, at 7:07 PM.

11. Return to Public Session

12. Confirm Next Meeting Dates

12.1 Monday, February 24, 2020 (Executive Board) - 6:00 PM @ WRVSU

13. Future Agenda Items
14. Adjourn - the group adjourned at 7:07