

**WINDHAM SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2004**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

Members of the Windham School Board met on August 11, 2004 in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall for a Special Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Mike Duffy, Donna Cobb, Kate Brix, Ann Rich, Mel Winslow, Toby Pennels, Jeff Vermette and Superintendent Sandy Prince.

**Executive Session – Expulsion Hearing**

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve going into Executive Session to consider the possible expulsion of a student, pursuant to [1 MR.S.A. § 405(6)(B)]. 6:03 p.m.

On a motion by Mel Winslow, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve returning to Special Session. 7:10 p.m.

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to accept the Superintendent's recommendation not to expel the student under consideration.

**Executive Session – Re-entry Hearing**

The Executive Session was not held because the student to be considered for readmission was not present.

**Executive Session to discuss Central Office Administrator Contracts**

On a motion by Mel Winslow, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve going into Executive Session to discuss the contracts of Central Office Administrators, pursuant to [1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)]. 7:20 p.m.

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Jeff Vermette, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve returning to Special Session. 7:40 p.m.

**Strategic Plan 2004 – 2009 – Public Forum**

Superintendent Prince explained that the Windham School Department uses a Strategic Plan to guide the work of the District and it was time to update the previous Plan. The new Strategic Plan to be approved will be for 2004 to 2009. There were no members of the public present to comment on the new Plan. However, several members of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee spoke to their appreciation for being able to serve on the Steering Committee and how pleased they were that the Plan fit into all the curriculum work that has been done, along with the Supervision and Evaluation Tool for staff that has been developed.

Jeff Vermette thanked Superintendent Prince for organizing and leading the work on the Strategic Plan. He said he looked forward to developing the Board goals for the coming year using the Strategic Plan as the guide.

Mr. Winslow stated that the Strategic Plan had been discussed at several Board meetings and he was disappointed that no one from the public was there to comment on the Plan.

Kate Brix thanked the Superintendent and the Steering Committee members for guiding this work. She said she was very pleased with the Plan and it would move education forward in Windham. She also stated that the Steering Committee had tried very hard to involve a wide-range of the community in getting input into the plan.

Mike Duffy stated that developing the Strategic Plan was a very long process and he truly appreciated everyone's input.

Superintendent Prince then presented members of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee with Certificates of Appreciation: Kim McBride, Kitty Foss, Rebecca Cole, Leah Campbell, Kate Brix, Ann Rich, Donna Stephen, Hal Shortsleeve, Angela Faherty, Donn Davis, Beau Forster, and Mary Wassick. Consultants Doris Ray and Dick Babb were also acknowledge for their guidance and help in developing our new Strategic Plan.

### **Appointments**

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Craig Haims as a Science Teacher at the REAL School for the 2004 – 2005 school year, at a salary of \$41,956 (Masters, Step 10).

On a motion by Ann Rich, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Richard Meserve as a Math/Special Education Teacher at the REAL School for the 2004 – 2005 school year, at a salary of \$32,676 (Bachelors, Step 5).

On a motion by Donna Cobb, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Jonathan York as a 2/5ths English Teacher at Windham High School for the 2004 – 2005 school year, at a pro-rated salary of \$12,078 (Masters, Step 0).

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Jeff Vermette, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Katy Dresnock as a 3/5ths French Teacher at Windham High School for the 2004 – 2005 school year, at a pro-rated salary of \$21,252 (Masters, Step 5).

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Lisa Bisceglia as an Integrated Arts Teacher at the REAL School for the 2004 – 2005 school year, at a salary of \$35,420 (Masters, Step 5).

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Donna Cobb, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve Assistant Superintendent Dr. Angela Faherty to serve as a Distinguished Educator for the Department of Education for the 2004 – 2005 school year.

Mr. Vermette said that he had enjoyed working with Dr. Faherty and that she was one of the most pleasant and intelligent people he knew. He said that the State of Maine was fortunate to have Dr. Faherty working in Augusta and the entire State would benefit from her work.

Mrs. Brix said that although she was sorry to see Dr. Faherty leaving us for a year, she wished her well. She said that it speaks well of the quality of Windham staff that another staff member is moving to a position in the Department of Education.

Mr. Winslow said he would miss talking with Dr. Faherty and he also wished her well. Mrs. Cobb congratulated Dr. Faherty and wished her well. Mr. Pennells stated that he appreciated Dr. Faherty for embracing the unpopular, but necessary, educational programs and directives that have come forward in the past couple of years. Mr. Duff said that he appreciated Dr. Faherty's guidance with the Maine Learning Results and the assessment work. Superintendent Prince stated that he has worked closely with Dr. Faherty and he appreciates her support and hard work. Mr. Prince feels the State will benefit greatly from Dr. Faherty's wisdom and knowledge. The entire Board told Dr. Faherty that they expect her back after her year in Augusta. Dr. Faherty's last day in Windham will be August 31, 2004.

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Donna Cobb, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment of Christopher Howell as Interim Curriculum Director for the 2004 – 2005 school year.

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the one-year appointment of Charles Haddock as Middle School Assistant Principal for the 2004 – 2005 school year.

#### **Volunteer Policy (File: KIB)**

On a motion by Ann Rich, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the first reading of the Volunteer Policy and Procedures (File: KIB).

#### **Affirmative Action Policy (File: AC)**

On a motion by Kate Brix, Seconded by Ann Rich, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the first reading of the Affirmative Action Policy (File: AC).

Mr. Duffy asked about the annual report to the School Committee on the activities of the Affirmative Action Committee and when that report is made. Mr. Prince informed Mr. Duffy that the report is done at the end of the school year.

#### **Affirmative Action Plan**

On a motion by Ann Rich, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the first reading of the Windham School Department Affirmative Action Plan.

### **Budget Adjustments for FY 04**

On a motion by Jeff Vermette, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted to approve the Budget Adjustments for FY 04 as noted in Attachment # 1.

Mr. Vermette thanked Donn Davis, Assistant Superintendent, for the notes explaining the adjustments. They were concise and understandable.

### **Assistant Superintendent Contract (Dr. Angela Faherty)**

On a motion by Jeff Vermette, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 6-1 to approve the contract for the Assistant Superintendent as presented by the Superintendent. Mrs. Rich was opposed.

Mr. Vermette stated for the public that the salary in the contract was \$85,446 and the contract was extended through June 30, 2007.

### **Assistant Superintendent Contract (Donn Davis)**

On a motion by Jeff Vermette, Seconded by Mel Winslow, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the contract for the Assistant Superintendent as presented by the Superintendent.

Mr. Vermette stated for the public that the salary in the contract was \$85,446 and the contract was extended through June 30, 2007.

### **Director of Student Services Contract (Linda Powell)**

On a motion by Jeff Vermette, Seconded by Donna Cobb, the School Committee voted 6-1 to approve the contract for the Director of Student Services as presented by the Superintendent. Mrs. Rich was opposed.

Mr. Vermette stated for the public that the salary in the contract was \$80,808 and the contract was extended through June 30, 2007.

### **Sub-Committee Assignments**

Mr. Duffy said that we still need a volunteer for the Community School Relations Resource Sub-Committee. This sub-committee is related to Goal # 3 in the new Strategic Plan. Mr. Winslow said he would like to be on this sub-committee and will give up his position as the PATHS Liaison. Donna Cobb agreed to serve as the PATHS Liaison. Mr. Duffy asked that the goals sheets be given to Mr. Prince before the Board Retreat on August 23.

### **Board Roundtable**

Mr. Winslow said he is proud of the Windham School System and its staff, and pleased that there are opportunities for staff to grow professionally.

Mrs. Cobb said she noticed that the signs had been posted for “No Dogs Allowed” at the athletic fields, but had not seen any at Manchester School. She asked that signs be posted there also. Mrs. Cobb also asked if the signs should be changed to read “No Animals Allowed.”

Mr. Vermette said there is a Building Committee meeting tomorrow night (August 12) and it will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a tour. Mr. Vermette will update the Board at their next meeting on the financials for the new high school, along with where we are in the process of finishing up the building.

Mr. Pennels reported that the Joint Policy Committee had met last evening and they had a constructive discussion on the Palesky bill and how it would impact the community and school department. The Joint Policy Committee will meet again on Monday, August 16.

Mr. Prince reported that the laptop initiative for the 9<sup>th</sup> graders had been reviewed and discussed and that the financial piece has been a struggle. After discussion, Board members were unanimous in their stand that they cannot support the laptop initiative because of too many unknowns about the program and the cost of the program to our school department.

Mr. Duffy reminded the Board of the Annual School Board Conference in Augusta in October and the need for a delegate to the Delegate Assembly to adopt resolutions. If any Board member is interested, please let Mr. Duffy or Mr. Prince know so their name can be submitted. Mr. Duffy also mentioned the High School Dedication that is planned for October 17 at 2:00 p.m. and that he would like to see it well attended by the public.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion by Mel Winslow, Seconded by Kate Brix, the School Committee voted 7-0 to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.