

# Union Board of Education

Union, CT 06076

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 6:30 pm

**Union School Library**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Andrea Estell.

**Attending:** A. Estell, A. Blank, E. Fournier, J. Kavanagh, E. Perkins, M. Silbermann  
Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary  
Others Attending: Parents, town residents and students.

## **Approval of Minutes**

E. Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from October 9 and 23, 2024.  
Seconded by M. Silbermann. Unanimously approved.

**Individuals to be heard-** none.

**Communications:** Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported a thank you was received from the First Selectman's Office for the Veterans Day celebration participation by the school. The superintendent of Parish Hill has reached out as a possible high school choice, if interested. The ACT School (Performing Arts) has also contacted us. A Freedom of Information Act request was also made about the high school choice communications.

## **Administrative Reports and Activities Summary**

- a. Superintendent/Principal's Report- The recent professional learning day focused on the HMH reading program as well as assistive technology, special education and reviewing new science program materials. The November 22 session will focus on wellness. The next Learning Leadership will take place next Monday. We recently participated in the Veterans Day event. Parent-teacher conferences took place as well. A pre-bid meeting for transportation was held. High school visits to E.O. Smith and Stafford high schools have been scheduled. Woodstock Academy shadows/visits are scheduled individually.

## **Committee Reports**

- a. Curriculum- The state gave conditional approval for the Increasing Educator Diversity Plan. Modifications were made and resubmitted to the state.
- b. Communication- none.
- c. Transportation- Transportation has been challenging as EASTCONN has been down drivers and substitutes. We have had to run one bus recently, at times.
- d. Personnel- none.
- e. Building-Routine boiler maintenance has been scheduled.
- f. EASTCONN- none.

## **Financial Report**

- a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.
- b. 2024-2025 BOE Spending Plan- We are currently on target as there is nothing major to report at this time.

## **Old Business**

- a. High School Discussion of Next Steps- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported that E.O. Smith has provided a sample agreement. Copies of the agreement were distributed to the Board and those in attendance. The agreement can be any length the Board chooses. He has been in contact with Stafford High School as well. Woodstock Academy sent a letter regarding continuing tuition and possible future agreements. Copies of the letter were distributed.
- b. A. Blank made a motion authorizing Sup./Prin. Jackopsic to adjust our current agreement to reflect the changes discussed including termination language and to ask about scholarship opportunities and eligibility and send to Woodstock Academy. E. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.
  - A. Blank amended her former motion to also authorize Sup./Prin. Jackopsic to include asking for a formal in-person meeting with their Negotiation Committee before Dec. 6. E. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed with five (5) yays and one (1) abstention.
- c. Increasing Educator Diversity Plan- M. Silbermann made a motion to accept the Increasing Educator Diversity Plan as accepted and required by the state and presented by the committee. A. Blank seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

## **New Business**

- a. 2025 BOE Meeting Calendar- A. Blank made a motion to accept the 2025 Draft BOE Meeting Schedule. M. Silbermann seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

**Individuals to be heard**- Several individuals in attendance had questions for the Board about whether students currently attending various high schools would have the opportunity to continue through graduation. Questions and comments were also made about the negotiation process. Some individuals asked if any Board members could meet in person with Woodstock's Negotiating Committee.

## **Adjournment**

Motion by to adjourn at 8:15 pm. by A. Blank. J. Kavanagh seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.