

**Mount Ascutney School District Board**  
**Draft Minutes**  
**May 13, 2019**

**Present:** Bill Yates, Beth Carter, Amy McMullen, Elizabeth Burrows, Nancy, Pedrick, Kris Garnjost, Tiffany Cassano, Jenifer Aldrich, Dave Baker

**Guest:** Andrew Wood

Meeting called to order at 6:29 PM

**Agenda Revision:** Add executive session; innovation team into strategic planning; food service.

**Public Participation:** None

**Minutes:** April 8

Amy McMullen asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Nancy Pedrick moved; seconded by Elizabeth Burrows; motion passed with one abstention.

**Executive Session:**

Amy McMullen asked for a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of title 1, section 313, student matter. Elizabeth Burrows moved; seconded by Bill Yates; motion passed. Entered into executive session at 6:40 PM.

Amy McMullen asked for a motion to re-enter public session. Bill Yates moved, seconded by Elizabeth Burrows; motion passed. Re-entered public session at 6:55 PM.

Amy McMullen asked for a motion to deny the request made in executive session. Kris Garnjost moved; seconded by Bill Yates; motion passed.

**Discussion Items:**

Strategic Team/Innovation Team:

Dave Baker mentioned had a good meeting with Peter Clarke and was hopeful for a good follow up meeting. Peter Clarke called and said was too much and could not do. Elizabeth Burrows asked about recommendations for other people. Dave Baker mentioned that Peter Clarke stated the organization he got trained by was Ed Leader 21; a dynamic reform group that used Portrait of Graduate as centerpiece. Dave Baker mentioned that he, Jenifer Aldrich, and Tiffany Cassano have had that training. Will be hearing more about this at the board retreat. Would like, from the board, authorization to pursue facilitators from that group. There are some close by. Elizabeth Burrows asked if could look outside this group. Dave Baker mentioned the administrative team feels strongly about the notion of Portrait of Graduate as break down learning expectations and involves many people. Dave stated looked at Terrin Institute but does not do Portrait of Graduate. Should stick with this as a visioning process. Amy McMullen mentioned is part of the way the Agency of Education operates. The Agency of Education came

and spoke on transferable skills to the standards board of educators on Portrait of Graduate and is happening at other schools. Can see where working and have high functional high schools and middle schools. Tiffany Cassano mentioned is the model most used and is very user friendly.

Dave Baker mentioned the other dilemma is all going through CIP and all in a different place and want a good solid Pre-K-12 vision. Focus should be Pre-K-12, what want to produce, and what want person to have. Can talk about reading and math skills but talking to this board and administrative team discussing more of essence of human being and will be productive. We can bring back a list of facilitators. Elizabeth Burrows feels talking about two different things. Portrait of Graduate is good for vision work. Innovation team includes a much broader scope than visioning process. Dave Baker mentioned will see a lot of pieces in this model. A lot is how we organize and structure ourselves. Bill Yates mentioned there are other processes go through. Starting point of educational design is what is the end result of education and starting point for more than one type of plan for innovation. Bill likes going with an organization that has built in strategies than just an individual as feel ahead of the game. What do we want the individual to look like, what need, what professional development do teachers need. Amy McMullen mentioned begin with visioning.

Jenifer Aldrich mentioned there are six steps in the process. How do you know they will achieve that? If start with Portrait of Graduate do all six steps. Dave Baker mentioned Portrait of Graduate has resources all over the country and Vermont. Elizabeth Burrows asked if talk about Portrait of Graduate where do the rest of us come in and how fit in SU. Dave Baker mentioned bigger question is presenting to SU but handicap is other two districts do not have a high school. If expend resources what do we want our graduates to look like, not other schools we send to. Our groups should have Pre-K-12 focus and move with it. Bill Yates mentioned his expectation is a great administrative team worked through process but when team meets is starting over and it is what our entire community wants. Dave Baker mentioned we have only been introduced to the process. Tiffany Cassano mentioned we did something specific to Windsor and now looking at Windsor as part of Mount Ascutney School District and for us is starting over. Bill Yates mentioned the broader input from communities and expertise gives you more vision of what want a graduate to be. Amy McMullen mentioned a while back we asked what we wanted our graduates to look like and be like. With flexible pathways and proficiency based grading is very reasonable. Kris Garnjost mentioned will be fascinating as a lot has changed in Windsor and now adding two communities and different views. Technology and educational philosophy has changed and more possibilities.

Dave Baker mentioned the pricing for Portrait of Graduate is very reasonable. They ask for a three year commitment and ask you to be part of Ed Learning 21 and be part of consortium. We would have to pay a facilitator separately. Elizabeth Burrows asked Dave to look further to see if anything more than Ed Learning 21. Tiffany Cassano mentioned she has worked on personalization of learning and with big picture learning. What appealing with Ed Learning 21 is encompasses everything. Dave Baker mentioned Terrin Institute came out of middle level research and UVM was the hub of it. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned she thought was developed because of personalized learning. Was told started around Act 177. Elizabeth Burrows wants

to know if could ask if Terrin Institute would have a recommendation for a facilitator. Dave Baker mentioned Angie Ladeau has done a lot of research on this. Elizabeth Burrows asked if see as an acceptable umbrella for the SU and Mount Ascutney School District. Amy McMullen mentioned this is the direction the state going and would think K-8 districts would want to be involved.

Dave Baker mentioned with our forums could have them located in both towns. It is hard to get the community out but feel can do as they have ways to do it. The administrative team is ready to embrace. Bill Yates mentioned being the only Pre-K-12 district in the SU the possibility exists that Hartland and Weathersfield could join us. What is their expectation of their sending schools and could start defining that. Beth Carter mentioned Weathersfield sends about 50% of their students to Windsor. Dave Baker mentioned Hartland has about 9-10 coming next year. If build it maybe more will come. Kris Garnjost mentioned the more voices hear from the larger the possibilities we have. They should be involved in first part of forums and why not want them involved in discussion. Bill Yates mentioned have Hartland and Weathersfield involved in discussion of what graduate should look like. Jenifer Aldrich feels Portrait of Graduate should not look any different as any other student as is the same fundamental things want all children to do.

Elizabeth Burrows asked when say strategic plan is that 3-5 years and CIP is one year of it. Bill Yates mentioned is termed strategic design and more of a scope.

#### Innovation Team:

Dave Baker asked when do you see this forming? This should be formed before community forums or immediately after. We want staff, administration, board members, community members, business leader, and students. How do we get people to commit to the process? Nancy Pedrick mentioned if invite them personally to the forum. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned it is a natural thing to have people in line who might be interested in participating and invite to forum. Dave Baker mentioned feel will find staff members to step up and idea of rebuilding will be exciting. At the board retreat Monday night you will get the full program. Elizabeth Burrows feels would be good to have a decision by July 1. Forums are best in the fall.

#### Policies:

Dave Baker mentioned have made progress and spreadsheet out with everything that needs to happen. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned got rid of about 20 policies; remaining ones divided and majority just need to re-adopt with fewer than 10 needing a closer look. Dave Baker mentioned if could have spreadsheet for Monday night the board can vote on them. Elizabeth Burrows feels should prioritize the policies.

Principals Reports were sent to the board.

#### Leaves/Appointments:

Christie Keeney - Maternity Leave

Amy McMullen asked for a motion. Nancy Pedrick moved; seconded by Kris Garnjost; motion passed.

Diane Tessier - Attendance Secretary:

Amy McMullen asked for a motion. Bill Yates moved; seconded by Kris Garnjost; motion passed.

Food Service:

Cafe services agreed to take on West Windsor with transporting food, serving it, and keeping it warm. We discussed this as want kids to eat and meals be nutritious. Cafe services did a proposal and nutrition was kicked up above the USDA guidelines and with transportation would be an extra \$11,000 and would have a person dedicated to transporting and would do increase in quality and was a good price. Elizabeth Burrows mentioned this is less than paid before. Nancy Pedrick mentioned she does not like the guidelines. Dave Baker feels each principal can have a conversation of what can and cannot go. Elizabeth Burrows asked as West Windsor transitioning into Mount Ascutney School District, West Windsor received a grant to cover school lunches from the Byrne Foundation; if we do not use all the money, what do we do with it. Can we use it over the summer? Bill Yates feels if money left over should be used to help with summer lunch program. Elizabeth Burrows feels could also help pay other people's lunch debts. Amy McMullen asked for a motion to expend an additional \$11,531 to bring West Windsor into the Mount Ascutney School District food program and \$1,500 for a food warmer. Elizabeth Burrows moved; seconded by Beth Carter; 5 ayes and one opposed.

**Agenda:** June 10

Innovation Work

Facilitator or Consultant

Appointments

Policy

Elizabeth Burrows asked about Kindergarten. Dave Baker mentioned both look healthy now and will probably need three teachers at Windsor as 39 kids registered. At Albert Bridge the Kindergarten class is up to nine and usually get a couple in the summer. Design team will discuss.

**Adjournment:**

Amy McMullen asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kris Garnjost moved; seconded by Beth Carter; motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Tessier, Board Secretary

