

# Wakefield School Board Public Minutes



Tuesday January 21, 2025

Held in the Library

Approved

BOARD MEMBERS		ADMINISTRATORS	
Robert DeColfmacker, Chair	✓		
Bob Ouellette, Vice Chair	✓	Frank Markiewicz, Business Administrator via Zoom	✓
Mary Collins via Zoom	✓	Carol Keenan, Student Services Director	✓
Brennan Peaslee	✓	Norma DiRocco, Principal	✓
Sandra Taliaferro	✓	Ivy Levitt-Carlson, Assistant Principal	

Others Present: Michele Lambert, Ashia Roy and Relf Fogg.

This meeting was not recorded by Clearview TV.

Mr. DeColfmacker led those present in the flag salute at 6:00.

## Agenda Review

The Board will have a non public at the beginning of the meeting.

**Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to enter non public under RSA 91-A;3 II (c) at 6:04. Roll Call Vote: DeColfmacker aye, Collins Aye, Ouellette aye, Taliaferro aye., Peaslee, aye.**

The Board re-entered public session at 6:17.

## Presentations, Public Hearings

None

## Public Comment

Mr. Fogg asked if the Board afforded a former nonaffiliated employee the opportunity to speak with the Board.

## Reports

### Facilities

Mr. Davis received one quote for his RFQ for the metal building for a total of \$26,397. This is from the company he has been working with. The Facilities Sub Committee needs to check to see if a serving window will be part of this building. A Public Hearing will be posted in order to expend funds from the Trust Fund. Claremont Paving FYI, Mr. Davis received an estimated cost for \$42,000 to recoat the parking lot. This does not include striping. To fill the cracks the estimate is \$10,000. All new LED emergency lights have been installed in the building. The

outside lights will be done soon. Mr. Ouellette offered to come plow if Mr. Davis had trouble with the district's truck.

### School Administration

A very happy 2025 to the Paul School Community! A big shift has happened in Athletics this year with our very own Paul School Basketball teams. A huge shout out to our athletic director Brandon Balser who not only sets up our snacks for the home games but bakes the goodies himself! It is so wonderful to see our teams competing here at school. We remind not only the students but spectators to follow our school expectations when here and away for games.

New this year is our amazing winter initiative called Polar Explorers! The idea around this was to allow (with parental/guardian consent) students to head to recess (revamped) on our coldest days. Last week was a great example of our crew being (ACTIVATED) outside to learn new games and explore the Paul School grounds. Students were able to walk the trails and truly grasp the fun of gearing up on cold cold days! We are so thrilled to have over 100 students involved in our winter fun and want to highlight Meaghan DeColfmacker as the inspiration for this initiative to get off the ground and outside!

We have kicked off our new round of clubs for the 2025 year! New this round we have chess, yoga, song writing and film studies club. We are so thrilled to see the variety of clubs continue to extend with each round. We have 77 students participating. Again this year, we also have students teamed up with our Rec Department to ski at King Pine on Fridays. It is a thrill to see so many of our students involved in extracurricular activities.

Students have been working hard this month to show personal growth in the NWEA and STAR assessments. Mrs. LC and I have had teachers reach out in excitement about class growth, as well as student specific growth. We are thrilled to continue to bridge the gap for students and to work with teachers on how to utilize data to drive class instruction. Our early release day on January 8th, teachers focused on writing in grade level teams. Each grade level had a facilitator and worked together to share ideas and strategies to improve their writing block. On January 27th teachers will work together on rubrics that will format grading and support teachers across curriculum areas. We have worked diligently to have professional development coincide with current teaching practices and challenges in an effort to see growth in our students' assessment scores.

As my first report back I want to personally thank the Paul School staff and community for all the support during my time away. It is a joy to be back and am thrilled to embark on the second half of this year!

### Finance

Mr. Markiewicz said he looked at the finances for the district as asked to do so. He told the Board that there was \$41,000 encumbered and that was low and concerning. It should be between 3% and 5%; \$340,000 and \$650,000 this time of year. He said the function that was over budget the most is Special Ed. He, Mrs. Lambert and Ms. Keenan went over that function

line by line. Regular Ed Transportation is over \$146,000. He is instituting a budget freeze for the rest of the year. Encumbrances will stay in place. A number of adjustments have to be made one major of them being that we have two students listed as out of district placements and we only have one. The January report will show these adjustments. Some will be moved over to IDEA. He said we have \$209,000 in the Special Ed Trust Fund. He said he doesn't advise taking it out today but look at that towards the end of the year. He told the Board that selling the buses will help offset expenses.

Mrs. Taliaferro said a lot of salary lines aren't encumbered. She only sees that the tuition line is over. Mrs. Collins asked if the Board will know what lines will be frozen. Mr. Markiewicz said that most is spent by January if it's going to be needed. Mrs. Taliaferro said she would like to see the policy on freezing the budget. Mr. Markiewicz said the policy states that the Superintendent, with the advice of the Business Administrator makes that determination. Mrs. Taliaferro said that policy should be addressed.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to approve the Consent Agenda. (Vote 3-2)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the non public minutes of January 2, 2025. (Vote 4-0-1)**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the public minutes of January 2, 2025. (Vote 4-0-1)**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the public minutes of January 2, 2025. (Vote 4-0-1)**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to approve the public minutes of January 8, 2025. (Vote 5-0)**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to approve the public minutes of January 13, 2025. (Vote 5-0)**

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Policies**

#### **Second Reading**

**JLP – Parental Notification of and Involvement in Student Welfare**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to approve policy JLP. (Vote 5-0)**

**ACE – Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to approve policy ACE. (Vote 5-0)**

**DAF – Administration of Federal Grant Funds**

**Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to approve policy DAF. (Vote 5-0)**

**First Reading**

**EBCH – Chemical Safety and Chemical Hygiene Plan**

The plan is in the packet. Mrs. Collins said we don't approve the plan.

**IHBA**

This policy and policy HIBA-R have already been implemented.

**Programs for Pupils with Disabilities – Notice of Parental and Student Rights**

**IHBA-R**

**Public Comment**

Mr. Fogg asked if the Board would have public hearings for buses and transportation.

**Nominations/Hires/Resignations**

Frank Markowitz was rehired by the Board at their emergency meeting

**Follow Up**

None

**Non Public**

**Approve sealed minutes from 1-8-25 and 1-13-25**

**Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to enter non public under RSA 91-A;3 II (c) at 7:00. Roll Call Vote: DeColfmacker aye, Collins Aye, Ouellette aye, Taliaferro aye, Peaslee aye.**

The Board returned to public session at 7:45. During non public the Board voted to seal the non public session 2 minutes of 1-21-24 for one year.

**Adjournment**

**Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. (Vote 4-0)**

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting,

Priscilla Colbath

School Board Secretary

