

1 **Chittenden Central Supervisory Union**  
2 Westford School Board  
3 August 23, 2010  
4 Essex High School Library  
5

6 **Board Members Present:** Martha Heath, Andre Roy, Allison Weinhagen, Jennifer Townsend  
7

8 **Administrators Present:** Judith DeNova, David Wells  
9

10 Martha Heath convened the meeting at 8:05 p.m.  
11

12 Martha Heath added a discussion regarding a waiver of the transportation policy for lacrosse to  
13 the Consent Agenda. The board agreed to discuss the capacity for transportation during the  
14 meeting.  
15

16 **Visitors to be Heard**

17 David Brisson was present.  
18

19 **Principal's Report**

20 David Wells reported the school is expecting 229 students on September 1. The Westford  
21 Open House/Pot Luck is scheduled for September 15. Jennifer Townsend pointed out that  
22 September 15 is the date for the Essex High School Open House. Davide Wells will look into  
23 the possibility of changing the date of this event. Allsion Weinhagen asked whether the  
24 anticipated class sizes are in line with the projections. David Wells confirmed they were  
25 aligned.  
26

27 **Communication: Board Public Engagement**

28 Judy DeNova state that boards should consider a two-pronged communications strategy with  
29 public engagement and with staff engagement. The board agreed to meet with staff on  
30 Monday, October 4 from 3:15 until 4:15 p.m. They agreed to meet Thursday, September 23 at  
31 6:30 p.m. for a public engagement regarding Challenges for Change and consolidation.  
32 Monday, November 1 is reserved for the second public engagement opportunity. The board  
33 decided to discuss these topics at each meeting. Administration will provide appropriate  
34 materials.  
35

36 **Charge: Athletics Study Committee**

37 Allison Weinhagen suggested we include the PTO with the Athletic Study Committee. Judy  
38 DeNova suggested the board approve the membership on this committee on September 23.  
39

40 *Allison Weinhagen made a motion to approve the committee charge and the composition of*  
41 *membership of the Athletic Study Committee. The committee shall study and recommend the*  
42 *future of athletics for Westford students, effective with the 2011-2012 school year. The*  
43 *recommendations shall be in writing and include the following variables: VPA implications*  
44 *and budget implications. Andre Roy seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.*  
45

46 Andre Roy volunteers to be the board representative on the committee.  
47

48 **FY12 Budget Development**

49 Staffing projections will be done by early November. The board will see the budget December  
50 6, December 16, and December 22. Those dates are reserved as budget work sessions.  
51 January 6, 2011 is the tentative date for the joint meeting with the Select Board.

52

53 Allison Weinhagen suggested using the September 15 Open House as an opportunity to get  
54 information out about Challenges for Change and school consolidation. Martha Heath  
55 suggested use of “budget buddies.” Mike Deweese is researching this concept in an effort to  
56 bring community members early in the budget development process. Judy DeNova discussed  
57 the need to form a group of “budget buddies” early in the school year. She invited the board to  
58 convocation on Friday, August 27.

59

60 David Brisson noted that the community would like as much communication as possible  
61 regarding collective bargaining. Martha Heath discussed the possibility of communicating  
62 during the process differently from past negotiations, to include more publicizing of  
63 oppositions. Andre Roy pointed out both negotiating parties need to agree on ground rules.

64

### 65 **Cross Country Transportation**

66 Does the board want to waive the policy on transportation? Allison Weinhagen asked why fifth  
67 graders are not being allowed to participate this year? David Wells will look into it. Allison  
68 Weinhagen pointed out it is late to pull transportation from the sport. The board decided to  
69 keep transportation for cross country. This will be discussed by the Athletic Study Committee.

70

### 71 **Consent Agenda**

72 The Consent Agenda consisted of June 21 and August 10 meeting minutes, warrants, approval  
73 to enter into a joint agreement, waiver of the transportation policy for lacrosse, and affirmation  
74 of the student/parent handbook.

75

76 The minutes were pulled from the Consent Agenda for minor edits.

77

78 *Allison Weinhagen moved and Andre Roy seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda*  
79 *with the exception of the meeting minutes. The motion passed 4-0.*

80

81 The June 21 and August 10 meeting minutes were reviewed and slightly amended.

82

83 *Andre Roy moved and Allison Weinhagen seconded the motion to approve the minutes of June*  
84 *21 as amended. The motion passed 4-0.*

85

86 *Jennifer Townsend moved and Allison Weinhagen seconded the motion to approve the minutes*  
87 *of August 10 as amended. The motion passed 4-0.*

88

### 89 **Executive Session: Contracts**

90 *Andre Roy moved and Allison Weinhagen seconded the motion to move into Executive Session*  
91 *for the purpose of discussing contracts. The motion passed 4-0.*

92

93 The board entered into Executive Session at 9:39 p.m. and exited Executive Session at 10:10  
94 p.m.

95

### 96 **Meeting Re-Cap**

97 This was a routine item.

98

99 The board adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

100

101 Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Townsend, Board Clerk