

Winsor - McCabe Unification Committee Meeting Minutes (Revised)  
February 11, 2020 6:30pm  
District Administration Office  
49 Farnum Pike

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Present: Judy Paolucci, Brian Ackerman, Cathy Pleau, Jodi Baranski, Sandra Barrette, Deb Bettencourt, Lindsay Burrows, Debra Calderon, Alisha Ceceri, Vincent Ceceri, Lori Chobanian, Monica Driscoll, Amanda Fafard, Jenny Hannan, Andy Karatjas, Jessica Lakeway, Robert Lanzieri, Lea Maroney, Jennifer Matteson, Bethany Parsons, Coreen Tinsao

I. Michelle Pereira- Fundraising for Auditorium

Mrs. Pereira discussed the initiative to raise funds for the SHS auditorium. The goal is to improve the sound system (not currently operational) and the theatrical lights in addition to making the state ADA compliant and wider. The stage area also needs a modernizing facelift, and painting for the ceiling and walls is overdue. A gala will be held on April 4th; tickets are \$40 each.



Sponsorships are being sought. This activity is important because all students, both presently and in the future, use the auditorium. The Town Council has been asked to pay for some of the repairs but even that request is not enough.

II. Facility Construction Update:

This Friday (the 14th), the district goes out to bid for construction services. Eight companies submitted qualifications from the RFQ and 7 were approved to bid on the project. We should know which construction company was chosen by the end of April or early May. Once a company is chosen, an immediate deployment begins. Construction, including temporary fencing, will begin this summer. Phases of the building plan have been developed but will be finalized once a company is on board. Student safety will be paramount. No construction workers will interact with students. Some construction will occur during the school day but in separate areas from students. There may be a need to have all people leave the building after school to accommodate the construction. The YMCA after-school program will be held at Winsor. All construction companies have background checks done on employees prior to beginning work. RI requires an OPM for

all projects. A major function of the OPM is to supervise construction. Judy explained how the construction company will temporarily relocate some exits and explained the value of cleaning out to ease the process of moving. All early childhood classes will have new furniture. Areas being disrupted by construction will have an asbestos abatement but other areas will remain in tact.

III. Subgroups (list below may be subject to change!)

A. Planning Out-of-School Student Events (Jill Austin, Jen Matteson, Sandra Barrette, Amanda Fafard, Cathy Pleau)

1. Joint Trunk-or-Treat and other PTO events to get students *working and playing* together.
2. Joint end-of-year Winsor and McCabe Carnival
3. Joint Winsor and McCabe PTO Meeting
4. Joint Winsor and McCabe Back-to-School Celebration

B. Planning In-School Activities and Communications (Jessica Lakeway, Jennifer Ross, Deb Bettencourt, Monica Driscoll, Brian Ackerman, Andy Karatjas)

Penpals via a partner classroom, end the year with partner classrooms meeting face to face

Merge field day activities

“Shadow” day- have Winsor students go to McCabe

A back and forth video blog (Monica Driscoll to organize?)

A live stream morning meeting shared between the schools

Have each school have a partner class in the other school, switch midyear

Q & A video session

Combine art and Music Shows

Combine Teaching and Learning night- at SHS?

Meet at the library for a program

Combine a field trip(s)

Teacher Swap

C. New School Name, Mission, Traditions - (Jennifer Trainor, Melissa Wilkinson)

The group reviewed potential mascots.

Everyone will be looking online for schools that have employed a cohesive marketing approach.

The group discussed how to gather ideas for a new school name.

D. Courtyard - (Lindsay Burrows, Robert Lanzieri, Debra Calderon, Pamela Traverse, Bethany Parsons, Jenny Hannan) - This group will plan how to use the space, knowing that it is not a recess area and that those in the courtyard need to be mindful of classes taking place. The group will also seek grant funding for courtyard projects.

IV. Next Meeting: March 10th @ 6:30 pm at Central Administration Building.

