

**Draft Minutes**  
**WCSU Board & Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 27, 2017 5:00 pm**  
**Grand Summit Lodge at Mt. Snow – Dover, VT**

**Action Summary:**

- Approved the Minutes from May 24,2017
- Lowered the Conflict of Interest Policy amount to five dollars
- Accepted the Travel Reimbursement Policy as amended
- Authorized Board Officers to communicate with the Secretary of Education and obtain a copy of Dan French's report
- Accepted the Capitalization and Assets Policy
- Authorized the Chair to sign the Audit Engagement Letter on behalf of WCSU, not to exceed \$14,000.00
- Voted to support Stratton and Windham in what path they may choose
- Appointed Ms. Sibilias as VSBA Representative
- Voted on 6 resolutions from the "2017-2018 VSBA Resolutions Committee Report"
- Authorized the Chair to assign a voting representative at VSBIT for WCSU
- Appointed Ms. Long as VEHI Proxy
- Voted to form a Transportation Committee, and authorized the chair to appoint Transportation Subcommittee members

**Present:**

*Board:* Richard Werner (Chair), Emily Long (Vice-Chair), Al Claussen (Clerk), Laurie Garland (Treasurer), Alecia O'Donnell, Kenneth McFadden, Laura Sibilias, John Cleanthes, Jennifer Dorta-Duque, Stephanie Amyot, Joe Winrich, Douglas Korb, David Holzapfel, Celena Romo, Dan MacArthur, Lauren Poster, Al Claussen, David Sklar, Mike Cusick, Mike Murphy, Carolyn Partridge, Antje Ruppert  
*Administration:* Bill Anton (Superintendent), Scott Tabachnick (Principal, NewBrook), Lori Langevin (Accountant), Stephanie Betit-Hancock (Dir. Special Education)

*Members of the Public:* Peter Barus (Recorder)

**Full Board or Executive Committee Meeting Call to Order**

Mr. Werner called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

**Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

A brief discussions of SU boundaries from the Marlboro trip to Montpelier.

Laura Sibilias, Representative to the VSBA Board, voting on Resolutions.

**Correspondence – Discussion**

**a. Proposal about PR Services 6:22**

Mr. Anton circulated the Proposal and resumé by Anne Landenberger. Mr. Werner asked if there was a recommendation. Ms. Sibilias suggested publishing RFP in this matter, and designating a point of contact; Mr. Anton agreed that this should be considered, suggesting the timing would be better a year from now after the mergers are completed; Mr. Holzapfel asked to whom the Proposal is directed. Mr. Werner noted that the same consultant was hired by both Study Groups, and asked if there was any objection to the Proposal, noting the need for deliberation; and the need for publicity services for both newly merged districts; and asked if a few experienced individuals would like to work with the Central office to develop an RFP for the Reorganization meeting, or bring it back up in May. He noted that this would have to go in the Budget (usually done in Fall). Ms. Poster questioned the premise that public relations could address declining enrollment and suggested the idea should start within the SU, rather than as a proposition from outside.

Mr. Werner asked for a show of hands for a subcommittee or other entity to address the matter, or to Table it. **The matter was Tabled.**

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**Review and approve minutes from May 24, 2017 meeting**

**a. See Draft Minutes posted online**

Mr. McFadden moved to approve the Minutes from May 24, 2017. Second by Mr. MacArthur. **All in Favor.**

**Policies- To Be Adopted (Warned 5/24/17)**

**a. Conflict of Interest**

Ms. Garland noted that the Policy was Warned, that it stems from Grant monitoring, and noted never having seen a value this high (\$100.00); saw no statutory reason to change this, but it should be watched carefully, and could be changed lower without re-Warning. She recommended \$5.00; a pencil, a pen, a coffee mug; not persuasive of one vendor over another. Ms. Long agreed with the recommendation. Mr. Werner asked for further comment.

Mr. MacArthur moved to lower the amount to five dollars. Second by Mr. Korb. **All in Favor.**

**b. Travel Reimbursement**

Mr. Werner noted that the Policy was properly Warned and voted previously, and asked for a Motion. Mr. MacArthur expressed concern that the first paragraph was incomplete; there was discussion.

Mr. MacArthur moved to accept the Policy, striking out the parenthetical language beginning "choose one..." in the first paragraph. Second by Mr. McFadden. **All in Favor.**

**c. Capitalization and Assets**

Mr. Werner noted that the Policy was properly Warned and posted.

Mr. MacArthur moved to accept the Policy as written. Second by Mr. McFadden. **All in Favor.**

**Business Office**

**a. Auditor Engagement**

Ms. Garland provided the Engagement Letter, from the Bonadio Group, noting that the district will also be merging from an accounting standpoint, and this needs a two-pronged RFP.

Ms. Long moved to have the Chair sign the Audit Engagement Letter on behalf of WCSU, not to exceed \$14,000.00. Second by Mr. Winrich. **All in Favor.**

**b. Check Register & End of Year Projections**

Ms. Garland confirmed the Check Register as the board had asked previously, showing every check from the entire fiscal year 2017 for review; she invited questions by email. Mr. Werner explained that Mr. Rucker had asked for this review, noting that it is important to look through registers to forestall embezzlement; he recounted a case of bogus culvert purchases in a Town that was discovered only after the perpetrator left, and the register was reviewed; he noted that bank tellers are required to take two consecutive weeks off for this reason. He recommended that districts conduct regular reviews. There was discussion. Mr. Claussen noted that about five percent is being approached; Ms. Garland noted this has been the goal; Ms. Long noted that the officers reviewed registers in the past, and asked if this would be the approach. Mr. Werner suggested that Mr. Anton bring a register to board meetings for their perusal. Ms. Long noted concern for burdening the business office with multiple questions, but such review is always necessary.

It was decided that the register would be available at any time, and to have it reviewed at the annual meetings. Mr. Werner noted that anyone may review the check register, and asked that this be done through the Superintendent.

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Ms. Garland discussed year-end projections; provided unaudited numbers, noting that the General Fund Surplus \$15,000.00 and the Grant Fund is at \$35,000.00 surplus (a restricted Fund); total \$50,000.00.

Mr. Werner noted that Mr. Claussen had asked what the fund balance goal was, suggesting at least ten percent, because the SU cannot borrow money; He asked if there were questions; there were none.

**c. Solar Update**

Ms. Garland discussed the NewBrook Energy Committee discussion with Forefront Power; with the recent setbacks the likelihood of starting this fall is low; the Committee was disappointed at being put off again; in response the Committee asked Forefront Power to compensate the off-takers for some of the anticipated revenue that would not be forthcoming; they agreed to pay \$1,000.00 to each off-taker; the project will probably proceed in spring or summer; Forefront Power is moving ahead and has secured financing; Ms. Garland will be bringing more paper for signatures: a Consent Assignment to name Oncore, Inc. as the financier of the project; this is the last step; the Consent Assignment is an Amendment that moves the date from November to July and includes the thousand dollar payment to off-takers; once the Garden is running the percentage payments will begin. The attorney is being paid by Forefront Power. Ms. Ruppert asked about the delay, refinancing and issues unspecified with Green Mountain Power. Mr. McFadden noted that without the Amendment the contract would be in default; Mr. Tabachnick noted that this was in exchange for what would have been paid had the project started; it was felt that Forefront Power was acting very reasonably about this. He discussed the history. There were no further questions.

Ms. Garland was appreciated and thanked for her work.

**ACT 46/49 Updates- Chairs Report out**

**a. Marlboro Alternative Structure (2x2x1)**

Mr. Korb thanked the two new Districts for their support votes; he observed that Marlboro did not rest this summer; The 2x2x1 involved a 212-page Action Plan, and a powerpoint presentation; on the Friday before the presentation to the State, the invitation came to go to Montpelier; the Board rewrote the presentation in 48 hours and went to the State Board; Secretary Holcomb had wanted to force a conversation about how Marlboro would provide opportunities; they won over the State Board. Now all act 46 meetings have been cancelled for the future. He thanked Mr. Werner and Mr. Anton and noted that Supervisory Union boundaries may be changed at any time; he thanked Ms. Long; he observed that there are so many others to thank; The Board has worked hard and wants to work with the new District. There was general acclaim. Ms. Amyot arrived at 6: 53PM.

**b. Windham Alternative Structure**

Ms. Partridge reported a survey roll-out and brunch, and discussed making a case to the State about why Windham should remain as is; she had talked with Ms. Russo-Savage, and Windham hopes to be done by January.

**c. Stratton**

Mr. Anton explained that Stratton had voted at Town Meeting to ask the Board of Education to move them to Bennington-Rutland and got permission from the voters; then formed a Committee, talked with Searsburg, Sandgate, and Windham; doing a 3x1 with Arlington, Windham and Sandgate, created Articles of Agreement; then at the final meeting Arlington did not show up; the 3x1 was out; the other three will ask their voters if that structure will be ok; there would be no Incentives; officially the Study Committee had a lot of interaction with their potential future Supervisory Union and have decided to withdraw that request and stay in the WCSU; an Information Meeting is planned in November before their vote, at the same time as Town Meeting, to ask their voters if that change is ok.

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Mr. Werner asked Ms. Partridge what the WCSU could do; there had been discussions with Mr. Claussen and Ms. Long; Mr. Werner asked if the SU supports the Stratton and Windham request for support in what path they may choose.

Mr. McFadden moved that the Windham Central Supervisory Union support Stratton and Windham in what path they may choose. Second by Mr. Korb.

There was discussion. Mr. Winrich expressed hesitation about supporting an unknown plan, noting that he had supported Marlboro after their plan was presented, and citing risk. Ms. Partridge explained that the request is for an Alternative Structure with its own board and budget, nothing radical. Ms. Ruppert asked Mr. Winrich if there was a specific risk. Ms. Partridge noted that their survey contained questions about withdrawal from L&G, that this has been going on since joining L&G; she explained that to go to Green Mountain students first have to go to 7th and 8th in L&G, and they would like some mechanism for allowing students to go to Green Mountain for 7th and 8th; she conveyed Windham's desire to stay with L&G. Mr. Korb suggested that this is more of an L&G issue, the SU probably would not want a district to leave, the question is what they want to do within the WCSU; he did not see a proposal in this impacting the SU, and probably the BoE would not care. Ms. Dorta Duque suggested that the proposal should be presented first, then supported; if it was only about staying in the SU it could be supported; Mr. Werner noted that several meetings with no quorum had taken place previously, and now that there is a quorum the matter could be voted on. Mr. McFadden noted that the State will have some guidelines on the end result, it doesn't matter what is said here, whatever that town decides is best for their children, let them to it. Ms. Poster observed that there was a sense in Montpelier that when the AoE is finished with the other issues they have to deal with, they may decide to cut up the SU, and to hold ground whatever may be done should be done to keep Windham in the fold; she expressed hopes to hear from Stratton more often. Ms. Partridge noted that Windham is very small and does not intend to leave the SU; it doesn't make sense for those students to have to go to L&G just so they can go to Green Mountain; Windham would like a waiver of some kind, and really wants to stay in the SU for improved efficiency, etc.; this is all part of the argument they propose to make. Ms. Long expressed satisfaction at this, noting that L&G is going through a challenging time now; every student that comes from Windham makes a big difference; and Windham always gets out to vote; a vote of support would not be a vote to lose the Windham students that come to L&G; this could impact the West River Education District. Ms. Partridge discussed the Choice issue, noting that the survey is not binding; the schools with Choice have high levels; this is not a Town vote, but a survey of the Town's sentiments.

The question was called (that the Windham Central Supervisory Union support Stratton and Windham in what path they may choose); the motion was reread and discussed; Ms. Long noted that a strong and cohesive SU has a better argument to stay together; support will strengthen all.

**The Motion (that the Windham Central Supervisory Union support Stratton and Windham in what path they may choose) Carried.**

**d. West River Education District**

Mr. Winrich reported that the district has met monthly since Organizing and as a "gathering of citizens" before; two sessions are scheduled with the SBA Consultant on Vision; they are also working on adopting all Required Policies, then will compare each individual district's Policies and specific needs; the Buildings & Grounds Committee has met, an Engineering Study is being done at L&G, and they are requesting that all districts conduct similar assessments; they will meet on the third Monday of each month at L&G and plan later to rotate through the districts.

**e. River Valleys Education District**

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Mr. Werner reported on the Special Meeting with the Governor. There were presentations from Wardsboro and Dover students on the State Vegetable and the new Town Seal for Dover. The Board was sworn in by the Governor; the Board will be Organized on Monday in Dover at 7:00 PM. They plan to alternate meeting locations, even years in Dover and odd in Wardsboro. He spoke about Ms. Balint's inspiring discussions with students; Ms. Partridge noted that the Turnip bill passed through her Committee the first time, and the students had given a great presentation to the Legislature. She encouraged other districts to undertake such projects. Mr. Werner noted that there is video available of the meeting. Ms. Long discussed the feedback she hears about the children after their presentations.

Mr. Werner asked to move Old Business before New Business. He recalled that those who went to Montpelier remember Mr. French as a Consultant; they had learned that Mr. French had worked with WSWSU years ago, and the Secretary of Education had rejected their proposal, and he was hired by Secretary to investigate. He went to WSWSU and WCSU. Mr. Werner had called Chum Sumner at WSWSU, and learned he was not aware of this; they wrote the Secretary and got an audience with Donna Russo-Savage; as a result Mr. French come to WCSU and said he had been subcontracted to report, and would share the report; over summer there were no meetings, then when Marlboro submitted their report, the Secretary recommend postponing decision so she could look at SU boundaries, citing reluctance "to give an impression that the WCSU boundaries would be retained".

Mr. Werner noted that this was the first district to come up with a plan; Mr. Korb observed that it is what it is, and the same language for Geographic Isolation was used, "not wanting to give an impression..." He suggested it was simply to keep a free hand. Mr. Werner observed that the State erases lines and makes new ones, and then the SU reforms within them; he asked permission to allow the officers (Long, Claussen, Werner), to communicate with the Secretary of Education and get a copy of Mr. French's report.

Ms. Partridge moved that the Board Officers be authorized to communicate with the Secretary of Education and obtain a copy of Dan French's report. Second by Mr. MacArthur.

There was discussion. Mr. Korb suggested that a timeline be set, a date for a meeting proposed and brought back before the next Board meeting, to be proactive; Ms. Sibia cautioned that the AoE is not fully staffed; there is a transition in Government leadership; policies can be changed in a short time; she advised thinking of the reality of where we live and not merely striking a defensive posture, citing declining population; she noted that she represents the WCSU Towns as well as others, and Southern Vermont cannot continue this way and have high quality educational opportunities. She urged thinking about what's next, noting that this is not the end, to continue to be engaged in designing the system. She expressed hope to participate in the conversation with Mr. Werner; Ms. Long echoed this, and urged finding out what ideas are coming from the AoE; there are clearly some ideas, and the Board needs to know where they are headed; she discussed lack of staffing at AoE, and that the Agency has been told by two administrations that they cannot ask for more staff. She discussed Geographic Isolation in legislation that the AoE says they cannot do; and discussed Act 49, awaiting plans; and education costs; Mr. Claussen noted that Act 46 presented a blank slate, all acted in good faith to restructure governance; and now in the eleventh hour, they are saying everything might be changed; Mr. Korb noted that Marlboro said as a district that although the State can redraw the boundaries, they can't work in a vacuum without knowing where they will land; he suggested that probably the AoE won't act for five years, and if they are going to change the boundaries this time would be wasted; he suggested invoking transparency laws to get the State to reveal what's going on. Ms. Dorta-Duque noted that the best position is to be engaged and involved; Ms. Poster expressed frustration at people telling school board members that declining enrollment is their fault when they can't implement higher enrollment, it is a commerce issue, board members should throw this back to Montpelier, do something to attract young families to the state; Mr. Werner discussed the difficulties of legislation; Secretary Holcomb had said there is no certainty in anything, and there is a ninety million dollar shortfall.

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WCSU may want to have more discussions with other SU. Ms. Sibiliala noted that enrollment is how taxes are calculated.

**On the Motion (that the Board Officers be authorized to communicate with the Secretary of Education and obtain a copy of Dan French's report), All in Favor.**

### **New Business**

**a. VSBA Business Meeting-Change in voting procedure – Laura Sibiliala – VSBA Rep - Action**

Ms. Sibiliala explained that WCSU would no longer get a bill from VSBA (\$7,900.00 will be paid by SU); after the business meeting Mr. MacArthur will be VSBA Representative; at the VSBA meeting there are resolutions to vote on; the WCSU gets one vote; Ms. Sibiliala will vote if chosen, and asked who else would attend instead, noting that the WCSU would direct that person how to vote; there are five resolutions from the "2017-2018 VSBA Resolutions Committee Report". Ms. Sibiliala noted that Ms. Long is past president of VSBA; she discussed the resolution process; resolutions come from members or boards and are put to a vote.

#### **Innovation Zones:**

*"BE IT RESOLVED: I. SCHOOL DISTRICT INNOVATION ZONES"*

*VSBA supports legislation authorizing the creation of innovation zones to exempt supervisory unions and/or districts from specific regulation and policy in order to create models of world-class education systems that can be scaled across the state."*

Several states have granted districts flexibility to implement creative programs and initiatives; may be approved by AoE or BoE. In 2002 VSBA adopted an Agenda for Classification, BoE should exempt Supervisory Unions from specific regulations to create Innovation Zones; Ms. Sibiliala read the legislation authorizing innovation zones. VSBA would advocate for this.

Mr. MacArthur moved to ask the voting Representative to vote in the Affirmative. Second by Ms. Partridge. **All in Favor. The Representative will be instructed to vote in favor of legislation authorizing the creation of Innovation Zones.**

Ms. Sibiliala explained that there are five recommendations from the VSBA and VSA Cost Containment Work Group recommendation adopted by the board in February 2017; this came after the Governor's budget proposal this year; there is new language around cost containment; VSBA offers recommendation to respond to concerns about cost while maintaining quality.

**1. Statewide health insurance benefit for school employees.**

*"BE IT RESOLVED: In order to ensure equity and sustainability in the health care benefits available to all school employees, the General Assembly should adopt a process for the negotiation of health care benefits at the state level by a council of school board members to apply to contracts that expire in 2019."*

Mr. Korb moved not to support the resolution. Second by Ms. Partridge.

In discussion, Ms. Partridge noted that there is a wide variety of staff who are not as well paid, and get different percentage of healthcare coverage (paras etc.); Ms. Sibiliala discussed a previous presentation of the task force for the veto session; Mr. Korb noted that the meeting discussed 20%, loss of rights to negotiate; Mr. Winrich observed that healthcare benefits are useful when negotiating with teachers at the supervisory Union level. Ms. Long noted being on the board when it voted previously, against, and read from "world class agenda", and observed that until a review is done she cannot support this; Ms. Sibiliala supported the

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proposal, citing small schools sending eleven million a year in excess of what students consume, to assure equity for all students around the state, not equitable; with per-pupil spending as measure of equity, all the proposals always hurt small schools; this is the first proposal that actually ensures equity for staff, students, across the State with accountability. Mr. Werner noted that voting Yes on the Motion means voting No on the Resolution.

**The motion passed. The Representative will be instructed to vote No on the healthcare benefits Resolution.**

**2. Create a task force to establish target equalized pupil/teacher/support staff ratios.**

*“BE IT RESOLVED: Policymakers should convene a task force to establish staff to equalized pupil target ratios for specific categories of schools and school district configurations and develop recommended strategies for districts to help them meet targets.”*

Mr. MacArthur moved to vote Yes. Second by Mr. Korb.

After discussion, **the Motion passed. The Representative will be instructed to vote Yes on the Resolution to create a task force to establish target equalized pupil/teacher/support staff ratios.**

**3. Study of state-funded retirement buy-out that conditions rehire on achieving ratios.**

*“BE IT RESOLVED: The VSBA recommends the creation of a stakeholder task force to explore the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a state-funded initiative in support of early or “on-time” retirement. Two conditions of a district’s participation in the initiative would be a commitment to meet staff to student ratio targets by reducing total personnel through the retirement program, and a commitment to sustain these savings through future budgeting processes.”*

Mr. Korb moved to vote Yes. **The Motion passed. The Representative will be instructed to vote Yes on the Resolution to create a stakeholder task force to explore the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a state-funded initiative in support of early or “on-time” retirement.**

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**4. Establish standards for fact-finders in the collective bargaining process.**

*“BE IT RESOLVED: The General Assembly should modify 16 V.S.A. §2007 to require neutral fact-finders to consider only a statutory list of legitimate measures of a community’s ability to pay, rather than a pattern of area salary and health benefits that purports to demonstrate financial wherewithal but in fact does not.”*

Mr. MacArthur moved to vote No. Second by Mr. Korb.

Mr. Werner cautioned that a “Yes” vote would be against the Resolution. After discussion, **the Motion passed. The Representative will be instructed to vote No the Resolution to modify 16 V.S.A. §2007 to require neutral fact-finders to consider only a statutory list.**

**5. Guidelines for reserve funds and budget surplus amounts.**

*“BE IT RESOLVED: In light of the goals of affordability, transparency and accountability, the VSBA will work with the Agency of Education, the Vermont Superintendents Association and the Vermont Association of School Business Officials to establish guidelines on the appropriate amounts and uses of reserve funds and the treatment of budget surplus amounts. Guidelines should support best practices in amounts of, establishment of and utilization of reserve funds.”*

Mr. Korb moved to vote against the Resolution. Second by Mr. MacArthur.

In discussion, Mr. Korb observed a lack of protection; Ms. Partridge recalled introducing legislation allowing this; Mr. Winrich noted that the statute had changed, funds must be disclosed, and didn’t see how a task force with guidelines protects from a free-for-all grab; Mr. Werner suggested that this allows the Education Department better information; Ms. Long discussed past attempts to maintain a Reserve Fund at L&G; Ms. Sibilina noted that information concerning budget amount, surplus amount and use, is specified; Mr. Claussen suggested that reserves would have been trouble. Mr. Werner noted that voting Aye is voting against support for the Resolution. Ms. Sibilina noted that this tells SBA not to support more specific collection of data; Ms. Long concurred.

**The Motion failed. The Representative will be instructed to vote Yes on the resolution to establish guidelines for Reserve Funds.**

Mr MacArthur nominated Ms. Sibilina to be Voting Representative to the VSBA. Second by Mr. McFadden.

**The Motion passed. Ms. Sibilina was appointed VSBA Representative.**

**b. VEHI and VSBIT proxy votes; assign – Action**

Ms. Partridge moved to allow the Chair to assign a voting representative at VSBIT for WCSU. Second by Mr. McFadden. **All in Favor.**

Mr. Werner asked if Ms. Long could be the Proxy VEHI vote for the individual districts; Mr. McFadden suggested that each district would have to vote to make Ms. Long Proxy.

Ms. Partridge moved to have Ms. Long be VEHI Proxy. Second by Mr. McFadden. **All in Favor.**



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**c. Facilities/Transportation Sub Committee- Action**

Mr. Werner explained that this is about Supervisory Union-level transportation, and suggested forming a Transportation Committee to look at having a Transportation and Facilities person at the SU.

Ms. Romo moved to form a Transportation Subcommittee. Second by Mr. McFadden.

In discussion Mr. McFadden suggested reducing costs by this means.

**All in favor.**

Ms. Long moved to authorize the chair to appoint Transportation Subcommittee members. Second by Ms. Romo, **All in Favor.**

**d. District Management Group Study – Implications**

i. Written Report- Director of Curriculum & Instruction

ii. Director of Special Education – Ms. Betit-Hancock

Mr. Anton introduced Ms. Betit-Hancock, who started at Marlboro fifteen years ago, noting that she has digested the District Management Group Report from a Special Education standpoint; he noted that the DMG Report is being commingled with those from the rest of the State. Copies of Ms. Betit-Hancock's presentation were provided; he had asked also that the Director of Curriculum digest the study.

Ms. Betit-Hancock noted that some proposals are not Special Education initiatives, there is a lot of overlap; DMG is the new name for the District Management Council, working from 2004 to raise student achievement, improve efficiency and allocate resources; leadership and staff are dedicated to continuous improvement; several elementary schools are creating extra time for intervention and enrichment, and extra time is being provided with reading remediation focus to some struggling readers.

The presentation covered recommendations from the DMG including:

- aligning the role of paraprofessionals to health, safety and behavior needs;
- Professional Development and training of current Special Education staff to increase capacity;
- hiring interventionists with content-specific knowledge;
- guidelines for intervention group size;
- creating high quality, in-district Elementary programs for students with severe needs;
- collaboration with Regular Education for a Multi-Tiered Support System (MTSS) for Academics and Behavior with prioritization of early literacy and numeracy;
- schedule coordination for Tier 3 services in addition to (not in place of) regular education instruction;
- evidence-based interventions in Tier 3 with data collection and analysis;
- district-wide alignment of practices.

Regarding MTSS, on the Layered System of Supports slide, Mr. McFadden had questions about how to challenge certain students; there was discussion.

Ms. Betit-Hancock concluded her discussion by distinguishing Collaboration as among Parents/Guardians, Principals, School Boards, Agencies, Core Classroom Teachers, Social Workers, Guidance Counselors, Psychologists, Behaviorists, Special Education Teachers, the Windham Central Staff, Paraprofessionals and Community Members.

The Board thanked Ms. Betit-Hancock for her work.

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**e. Title One Funding Brief Update – Bill & Laurie**

Mr. Anton discussed Continuous Improvement Plans and Professional Development, with a system of reporting out to boards, and quarterly to the full Board. He then discussed Title I, noting that as boards are getting ready to build budgets, Title I funds are diminishing; he observed that there would be 15-18% less if the Business Manager had not planned for this three years ago when she was Grants Manager; but a drop will be unavoidable next year, around 25% less funding for all Title I; this mostly means less money for employing people in a particular building.

**9. Old Business**

**10. Executive Session- Possible Tentative Agreement**

(No Executive Session.)

**11. Adjourn**

Ms. Partridge moved to **Adjourn at 9:01 PM**. There was unanimous consent.

**Next Meetings:**

- Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 7:00 PM., L & G Executive Committee – Compensation
- Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 7:00 PM., L & G
- Wednesday, November 29, 2017, 7:00 PM., L & G
- Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 7:00 PM., L & G

*Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, Recorder, September 30, 2017*