

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve by A. Auclair with the following exemptions:

- **Purchases & Transfers Over \$2,000**
Ideas Consulting, N.E. Educational Consultants, Our Lady of Victories School, RI Autism Project – removed by A. Auclair
- **Field Trip/Conference Requests (Mohegan Sun & Resort) – removed by M. Dubois**
- **Home Schooling Requests – removed by A. Auclair**

2nd: M. Williams (Unanimously Approved)

1. Personnel Actions

Certified Appointments
Non-Certified Appointments

2. Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000

Heineman/Supplies/Citizens/Local
Ideas Consulting, Inc./Workshop/WHS/Grant - removed
N.E. Educational Consultants/Program Evaluation/District/Grant - removed
Our Lady of Victories School/Accreditation/Grant & Curriculum/Grant - removed
RI Autism Project/Training/Sp. Ed./Grant - removed
Wistow & Baryllick, Inc./Promac/McFee/Local

3. Field Trip/Conference Requests

Jamfest Nationals, Springfield, MA/WMS/Fundraiser
Even Start Regional Seminar, Cambridge MA/Even Start/Grant
Mohegan Sun & Resort, Ledyard CT/WACTC - removed
Annual LRP'S National Institute/Orlando, FL/Sp.Ed./Title II
ASHA Conference/Washington,DC/Sp.Ed./McFee
Smile Program/URI, Kingston, RI/WMS/WHS/Grant
NAFEPA Conference, Washington, DC/McFee/Title II

4. Home School Requests (2) – removed

5. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

EXEMPTIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA:

- **Motion to approve the following Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000: M. Dubois**
2nd: M. Williams/A. Auclair (Unanimously Approved)

Ideas Consulting, Inc./Workshop/WHS/Grant – from Title 2 funds
N.E. Educational Consultants/Program Evaluation/District/Grant – from Title 3 funds
Our Lady of Victories School/Accreditation/Grant & Curriculum/Grant – from Title 2 funds
RI Autism Project/Training/Sp. Ed./Grant – from IDEA funds

Mr. Auclair said that the WSC members wanted to know what grant these items were being funded through put on the agenda. Mrs. Goodman read what grant each of these items was being funded by and will make sure that it's included on future agendas for their information.

- **Motion to approve Home School Requests (2): A. Auclair**
2nd: M. Dubois (Unanimously Approved)

Ms. Janet Kenyon for Christopher, Gr. 7, & Rebecca, Gr. 7 for 2006-2007.
M/M Michael Murnighan for Austin, Gr. 9.

Mr. Auclair had received the guidelines that are used in the district regarding home schooling. The second request for a Grade 9 student didn't say what school year the request was for. Dr. Macera said she would look into it, but if a student moves into the district mid-year, the district cannot deny home schooling to these parents.

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- **Motion to approve a field trip to Mohegan Sun & Resort, Ledyard, CT from the WACTC: M. Dubois 2nd: M. Williams (Unanimously Approved)**

Mr. Dubois explained that this is a field trip request for the students in the Hospitality Program at the WACTC to go to Mohegan Sun to see the inner workings of a casino. They will at no time be in contact with the gaming floor.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

CONFERENCES: Bus Appeal – WMS

The family was not present at the meeting so the hearing was not held.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of Contract for Gilbane Building Company and Ai3 – POSTPONED TO NEXT MEETING.**

2. **SALT REPORT – Leo A. Savoie – Karen MacBeth**

Ms. MacBeth, Principal, and Kelly Guglietti, presented the report. Ms. Guglietti narrated the PowerPoint presentation highlighting the favorable SALT Report that the school received. Mr. Auclair commended the staff, saying he looks at it like an audit report. He asked how the report matched up to the self-study they had done. MacBeth stated that it matched up very closely with the self-study, which is updated every year with a School Improvement Plan and redone every five-years. Auclair asked about a follow-up report regarding how the corrective actions are working. Dr. Macera explained that the School Improvement Plan has to be revised every year and is the driving force for the self-study. "It's ongoing," she stated. The SALT Team will be sending someone out to follow up. Auclair asked how much common planning time is being used. He was told that teachers have the same prep period every day with other teachers that they have to have planning time with. Ms. Williams commended them also and noticed that the report said the teachers respect and help each other. They have dedication and exhibit teamwork. She asked about the reason for special education students being moved so frequently. Dr. Macera explained that it's due to the high mobility rate in the district. "Many times, they move from one section of the city to another," she added. Mr. Dubois was very pleased with the SALT Report, especially the part where it says that the students enjoy coming to school.

Motion to approve: M. Dubois

2nd: M. Williams

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; AA/yes; MW/yes; AMF/yes) 4 yes – 0 no. Motion passed. E. Nadeau was out of the room.

3. **Approval of Audit Report: Miriam Goodman**

Motion to approve: M. Williams

2nd: M. Dubois

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; AA/yes; MW/yes; AMF/yes)

4 yes–0 no. Motion passed. E. Nadeau was out of the room.

Mrs. Goodman gave the report, which had no recommendations for next year in the Management Letter. Dr. Macera stated that we do not have a deficit when many of our surrounding communities do. She said that the fact that there were no recommendations is like getting an A+. "We are very lucky to have Mrs. Goodman," said Macera. Mr. Dubois praised the administrative staff and Mrs. Goodman for their hard work.

4. **Appointment of Special Education Director**

Motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Carole Lerner as Director of Special Education and Student Support Services beginning the Fiscal Year 2007: M. Williams

2nd: M. Dubois

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; AA/yes; MW/yes; EN/yes; AMF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

Dr. Macera read her letter of recommendation for Ms. Lerner. Mr. Auclair asked about the bilingual aspect being considered. He suggested provided professional development for it. He also asked about Lerner's provisional certification for Administrator of Special Education. Dr. Macera told him it's a valid certification.

5. Approval of Virtual Learning Academy and External Diploma Plus Program – Dr. Lynne Bedard, Cheri Guerra, Jonathan Gallishaw

Dr. Macera explained that there are new state regulations regarding an 11-day Suspension Program. She has been working with Dr. Bedard, Cheri Guerra, and Henry Hatcher on this program, which would run at the Woonsocket Middle School from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., five days a week. They anticipate servicing approximately ten students this year and expanding in 2006-2007. Dr. Bedard conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the Virtual Learning Academy. The Northern RI Collaborative is hosting this program, which is an alternative learning program for students 16 and older to keep them here in Woonsocket. Guerra stated that we would start with about six students and there are 80 courses available. Students can work at home on the computer, but must meet face-to-face with the teacher for mid-term and final exams. The cost is \$350 per student per year. There is also a wide-ranging Diploma Plus Program being used in Massachusetts that they would like to implement here for which more information was provided in the packet. Mrs. Williams asked if the students participating in these programs would also participate in state testing. Dr. Macera told her that any of our students in out-of-district placements have to participate in state testing also. The disadvantage of that is we don't know what they are being taught at these placements, yet their test scores are counted with ours. Mr. Auclair said he could support these programs as a pilot. Mr. Dubois asked if the WED has to educate Woonsocket students who are incarcerated. Elaine Hazzard said they must attend the IEP meetings for them and be part of their transition plan. The special education administrators work with Project HOPE. Mrs. Williams asked about transportation, and Dr. Macera told her she thinks that something she can work out with the bus company.

Motion to approve on a pilot basis with the stipulation that a review be done during the summer: M. Dubois
2nd: M. Williams/A. Auclair
Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; AA/yes; MW/yes; EN/yes; AMF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

6. Approval of Change in Job Descriptions for WHS, WMS Principal/Vice Principals & Elementary Principals

Motion to approve the change in job descriptions: M. Dubois 2nd: A. Auclair/M. Williams
Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; AA/yes; MW/yes; EN/yes; AMF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

Dr. Macera said she had revised the job descriptions for the WHS and WMS Principal/Vice Principals & Elementary Principals by adding three items to them. The first item is to support his/her colleagues and supervisors in a positive, productive, collaborative, and professional manner at all times. The second item is to promote a positive morale, respectful culture and professional integrity within his/her school and constituency groups. The third item is to adhere and promote the fourteen Principles of Professionalism as identified in the district's Strategic Plan. A rubric rating of 1 to 4 will be added to each item in the job description for evaluation purposes. Mr. Auclair asked that the fourteen Principles of Professionalism be added to the Code of Ethics. Dr. Macera will bring them to the next school committee meeting. She stated that as administrator contracts come up for renewal, they will all be one-year contracts.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Maureen Macera, Superintendent

Dr. Macera gave the WSC members a copy of letters she sent to legislators regarding the FY2007 budget. She and Mrs. Goodman went to the House Finance Committee and never got a chance to testify. She attended a meeting today and reported the preliminary NECAP results are coming out tomorrow. The rank of the schools is going to come from the state at a later date. She explained that the NECAP results were designed and developed by teachers in the tri-state area. She will be prepared to give an extensive explanation at the next meeting.

Motion to receive and place on file: M. Williams 2nd: E. Nadeau (Unanimously Approved)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOOD & WELFARE

Dubois: Said he contacted the WSC members prior to tonight's meeting about asking questions ahead of time because of the potential of a lengthy meeting. He was glad to see they got through this agenda quickly. Said he read a Dr. Seuss book at Coleman School. Went to the Jump Rope for Heart function at Bernon Hts. on Saturday. He asked if we have a plan for a potential Bird Flu pandemic. Dr. Macera said it has been discussed at every directors' meeting. The WED is working on emergency management plans that are in place and a plan will be

brought to the WSC. She has the data and has given it to the principals and assistant principals. Mr. Dubois spoke about the state's plan to close all schools at the first case of person-to-person transmission.

Forcier: Thanked everyone who worked on the alternative learning program. She spoke to the school doctor regarding Bird Flu and he wants to send a letter to parents. Forcier went to the WHS, WMS and WACTC to observe and hasn't witnessed any negative behavior.

Nadeau: Commended the PTO at the Middle School on a very successful rummage sale. Over \$800 was raised. She thanked everyone for coming and said it was enjoyable.

Williams: Congratulated Ms. Lerner on her appointment. She's excited about the Virtual Learning Academy. She attended the PAC meeting last Wednesday and commended them on their hard work. Announced that the water coolers are all set. Attended the rummage sale and commended the workers for that. On April 5th, she and Mr. Dubois will be having a Minority Concerns Meeting here. She was concerned about the breakfast program analysis she got in her packet. Mrs. Goodman said it was only a report for 19 days in January and not to be too alarmed by it. A complete report will be presented at one of the April meetings.

Auclair: Thanked Dr. Macera and her staff on the Virtual Learning Academy and Diploma Plus programs. Congratulated Ms. Lerner. Said he missed the Jump Rope for Heart. He went to the rummage sale and said it was a good turnout. Asked about textbook reimbursements. Mrs. Goodman said that we get reimbursed for books purchased for private schools. Auclair asked if we can look into that because he doesn't see anywhere in the General Laws that it specifies for public or private schools. He asked Dr. Macera to review the home-based instruction program to clarify some issues. He will be attending a presentation by the Commissioner of Education on all the state initiatives that are in the works. The Governor is doing a presentation next Wednesday that he will be attending also. He announced that RIASC is holding a legislative workshop this Saturday.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.: M. Dubois

2nd: M. Williams/E. Nadeau (Unanimously Approved)

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy G. Belisle
WSC Recording Secretary