

JAY/WESTFIELD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
January 14, 2025

School Board Members Present:

Andrew Emery
Mary Gagne
Molly Dockter
Kim Arnold
Jessica Whitaker
Jessica Kennison

Administration and Staff Present:

Hunter Couture, Principal
Elaine Collins, Superintendent
Stacey Charbonneau, Accountant
April Touchette, Business

- 6:04 I. Start Google meet recording
- 6:04 II. Andrew Emery called the meeting to order
Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda: 604
- 6:04 III. Consent Agenda
Approve minutes of December 10, 2024
Approve minutes of January 7, 2025
Approved warrants
Policies to be adopted

Kim Arnold motioned to approve, Molly Dockter 2nd, all in favor

- 6:07 IV. Public comments

V. Stacey went over financial report

Mary Gagne motioned to approve, Kim Arnold 2nd, all in favor

Approved Articles, Warnings for Annual report and Budget
Per Stacey, the budget hasn't changed since last mtg
Per April, Articles and Warnings need to be approved by both towns
Need to add to the agenda for both towns.

Person asked: What is Board of education and what is it covering? \$0 to 64816.00?
Contingency fund for staff salary for next year. It should be zero next year.

Person asked: Preschool, new teacher coming in? Guideline for tier 1 \$42000. But we are budgeting 53,000.? Per Hunter we have to budget higher even though the new teacher will be paid at the lower tier.

Kim A. asked why the health insurance so high for Pre-K? \$13,000 difference.

Per Stacey, budget for 2-person health plan and family health plan for teacher and para.

Mary G. talked about sub pay. Is this for long term sub? We shift some money from retirees to the sub line and the building maintenance line.

Mary G. asked: Since we are shifting personnel around, intervention is still happening:

Jes K. asked the music and art line: We are sharing specials; budget was 55,000 but we paid 57,000? Why? We increased art for two days instead of one. We are now budgeting 63,000 for music? Are we getting a music teacher? No, but we did have performing arts.

Elaine states she is worried about JWES even though the spending increase is small, the increase for town taxes are large. Yields went down from 15,000 to 9,000 from 2023 2024.

Student count: Jay went from 75 to 73.1 and Westfield went from 65 to 61.8. (weighted).

Kim Arnold motioned to approve the 2026 proposed budget, Molly Dockter 2nd, all in favor.

6:36 VI. Principal's Report

Benchmark testing started; New pilot Class intervene for CKLA for KG and 1st, 2nd grade. 4 wk lesson/assessment. Sickness going through schools, increasing cleaning, etc. HVAC gets clean air in bldg. every hour. Things are going well. Youngers will be doing winter activities and performances at Spruce performing arts.

6:41 VII. Superintendent's Report

PCB at high school looking good.
Elaine and Jen are splitting their time in Brighton along with an interim principal.

6:50 VIII. Unfinished/New Business

A. Appoint Announced Tuition Designee
Hunter Couture will be the in-house tuition designee.

Andrew Emery motioned to approve, Molly Dockter 2nd, all in favor

Information/Discussion

A. Board Goals

Per Hunter, we need to set goals by June

Andrew E.: Offer remote budget discussions, or other public outreach to get more involved in town meetings.? put flyers in book.

Per April JWES needs to have an informational meeting for this district, Which is in our joint agreement. Elaine states Npt City does power point and puts it online for the public to listen to.

Push the next board meeting as an informational meeting.

Per Hunter, do more community luncheons or activities and maybe add

to

The legacy project. Per Andrew E., when the ASP goes to the Senior luncheon in December, a board member should go, as well.

B. Principal's salary -
Take action on 5% increase for JWES Principal's salary.

Andrew Emery motions to approve increase, Jes W. 2nd, all in favor

7:10 IX. Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting February 11, 2025
2nd Tuesday of each month.
Kim A is up for re-running; and Jes W. needs to be re-appointed for 2
years.

Andy E. is up for re-running; H.S. board will be looking for Jay and
Westfield.

Legacy Project – We will start strategizing after the budget. Per Molly,
would like to have high school students that had either Jane or Julie in their elementary
days reflect.

X. Executive Session
N/A

7:24 XI. Adjourn

Molly Dockter motioned to adjourn, Kim Arnold 2nd, all in favor

