

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 11, 2024
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School
6:30 p.m.**

The videoconferencing link was published several places including on the meeting agenda.

Present: *Dennis Golding, Brianne Lavalley, John Zavgren, Michelle Alley, Darlene Anzalone, Geoffrey Allen, Diane Foss, and Jonathan Lavoie*

Superintendent Peter Weaver, Business Administrator Kristie LaPlante, Principals Tom Ronning and Bridgette Fuller, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt (online), Curriculum Coordinator Samantha Dignan, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Golding called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Principal Fuller recognized Sherry LeBlanc, Administrative Assistant for her work with parents, staff and students at LCS. She has a smile for everyone and is the “Jill of all trades” at LCS. On behalf of Principal Ronning, the Superintendent recognized Olympia Clark, FACS teacher at WLC who is an important contributor to WLC. Her classes are one of the most requested by students. Sherry LeBlanc and Olympia Clark were awarded the Starfish Award. Congratulations!

**IV. WLC ARTS IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE-PERFORMANCE TECH PRESENTATION
PROPOSAL**

Members of the committee were introduced: Ariel Crotty parent, Mindy Degan parent, Patrick Popores parent, Delvis Javier parent, Taryn Anderson music teacher at WLC, Mike McGonegal community member and Deb Waldo community member.

Ms. Crotty reviewed the slide presentation (a copy can be found with these minutes). She spoke of the current situation where student performers and public attending events at WLC cannot hear due to lack of working equipment, out dated sound system, mics cannot be adjusted to balance out the sound for each performer, lack of lighting and some safety concerns identified by a vendor who provided a quote for new equipment and services. She reviewed some comments from students and community. She spoke of the café not just being used for performances; it is used for planning board meetings, penny sale, and town meetings. She reviewed specifics of the current equipment, which is limited based on today’s standards and the issues with the rigging. She notes they were told the lights could be repurposed to FRES and notes they do get very hot and gels can burnout faster. She informed the group the backstage lighting is florescent lights and it is difficult to see the performers. She showed some clips of performances. She spoke of how making these improvements would benefit the students. We could start a performance tech club (AV Club), it will foster community involvement, and part of the proposal is coming in to teach how to use the system. We can provide a career path for students, the school will maintain a competitive edge, it will foster a creative environment for kids, there are many musicians in the town let them play, it would benefit the community and we can open it as a performance art center so the school can raise money with rental fees. She spoke of the estimated costs associated based on a quote received from Port Lighting, which include sound system for the cafe, parts and labor \$26,000 and sound system for the gym installed \$14,000 and the lighting system for the café \$114,000. She read a recommendation letter from Port Lighting with their findings. Nothing in it meets best practices including there may be a need for an electrical contractor, replacement of all rigging hardware, tracks, control ropes, removal of all theatrical lighting, install a new panel board, power control system and recommending a rigging inspection based on ANSI standards that is \$2,000. She adds they won’t install anything without this inspection. There is no imminent danger of catastrophic failure but for reasons of liability Port Lighting would not install without the rigging being updated to standards and they recommend not using the railing to the lights as they thought it might contain asbestos. She spoke of a need for considerable foundation work on our stage, replace lighting, curtains, numerous contractors have said they cannot install new lighting on the existing rigging (estimated cost of \$114,000). New lighting requires cleaner power than can be provided by old Federal Pacific panel, a new smaller panel will be required along with numerous new outlets and that is not really the committee’s “thing”, facilities would have to do that. She also provided a quote for FRES, which was not part of this presentation. This is for WLC. Mr. McGonegal spoke of more specifics including the panel needs to be pulled; he believes a good portion of that panel is not used anymore anyway. The rigging, there is evidence of a mishmash of stuff, chain, and some duct tape. Adding in 3 fixtures, 5 on each pipe, we are looking at an extra 100 pounds it might work but if Port Lighting says, they don’t trust that, I wouldn’t trust it. They redid the Capital Theatre. He spoke of the quotes including 2 options, the \$26,000 quote is for it to be hardwire installed and \$15,000 is for Wi-Fi, which is cheaper as there is not as much labor involved. A quote for \$62,000 is for 30 nonmoving LED fixtures giving them 16 million colors and can control the angle of the light from the console. Just for curiosity they got a quote for couple of moving head fixtures it is about \$7,000 itself so adding 2 would be

\$14,000, we will just go with static and if we need motion we can rent them. Ms. Deb Waldo spoke about being a member of the Wilton Alliance Committee, a nonprofit committee in town working with groups on things like summer concerts etc. and providing some small cash donations or working with a group writing grants. Her early research showed this foundational work is in the minds of outside funders first. There are probably grants to help us with electrical and rigging, the ones she checked with said we would help with lights but they have to be ready to go. Her initial research showed that the district would have to address the basic electrical and safety but we can do more research. The Chairman noted when the Wilton Alliance met with the Board in 2022, he believes it was the same sentiment you could find grants but we would have to fix the electrical. Ms. Waldo responded that was before we knew the issues with the electrical. Mr. Popores spoke as a parent and former WLC student and he felt the town went backwards. He told his kids when they moved back here about his experiences but it wasn't the same, things like Ms. Clark's fashion show and the way the plays were and battle of the bands were not the same. When he was a student, they moved their drama show to High Mowing because we didn't have the lights. As a kid you shouldn't have to worry about those things instead, all of that real world stuff is dumped on their head and they should be able to focus on the fundamentals of what they are doing. His hope is to restore it to the Wilton he was proud of. He spoke of technology 20 years ago would not last, as it will today, for students there is a lot that can grow into this and it helps foster that love for their school, his appeal is more of an emotional one. Ms. Anzalone spoke of being supportive of this and questioned if ESSER funds could be used toward this or suggesting doing some of it vs. altogether, it is a lot of money. Ms. Waldo spoke of visiting other schools and some did do it in stages starting with sound and renting lighting packages. There are a couple of vendors in our area who rent lighting and teach the students how to run the rented sound system but they are hesitant to do that on the rigging. We could start with sound, rent lighting but you have to fix the rigging and electrical. Mr. McGonegal noted that for sound you don't need to do the electrical for the foundation. Ms. Crotty confirms the lighting portion includes \$45,000 for rigging, with the lighting you have to have rigging and electrical done. We would love to start with the sound at \$26,000 if nothing else and that is just for the cafeteria side, we did get another quote for the gym, it is a package deal and they come out and install it. The \$114,000 is for lighting rigging and rigging inspection, we need. Ms. Lavallee spoke of being in support of this; she remembers the first presentation in 2022 and is glad they have returned. In 2022, they were just looking for support to do the investigation and now you have a starting place. She agrees when she went to school here in the drama club she remembers it being significantly different and it helps the community and students. She asks the committee to work out a timeline and prioritize the projects. The safety issues are important for her and asked how long you foresee this project taking, is it 2 years to split up funding etc. what are the costs the Board needs to look at to add into our budget. She would also like to see some student involvement. It is good to have kids involved so they cannot just participate in raising the funds but feel that pride of working to get this program going. She asked the committee if that is something Ms. Anderson could work on. As a Board, we need solid numbers and a solid timeline to start planning and any grant opportunities that may be available, perhaps Ms. Anderson could research some. The Board as a whole supports it but need solid numbers. Mr. Allen spoke that we have discussed this before, if we will give it serious credence, it is a community committee not a Board committee. We should look at putting a board committee together with maybe a budget committee member etc. and come up with a couple of prices and look to see what we can start on sooner and what can be worked into our budget. Superintendent voiced that back 2022; he recalled the excitement of the performance arts. His experience in HS is it is a place to bring the community together and use it for events. The committee talked about doing alternative fund raising back in 2022 and spoke of creating a community forum and different fund raising beyond grants and budgets. He would like to be part of that conversation about creating that kind of momentum and explore other ways to get the community excited and some ideas of fund raising and corporate support as well. He would welcome having some of the administrators being on the committee. He is in favor of it but has some concerns about the big-ticket items. He is looking forward to seeing some other avenues. We have more kids involved in the drama club than some of our sports teams. We can really make this work with a good vision. Mr. Lavoie suggested the committee look at local electrical companies who may want to help; the cost is mostly labor and some many want to help. He suggested talking to the Amato family who did the Milford Performing Arts Center, they probably have a lot of expertise and knowledge that they can help with and have recommendations on whom to talk with. Ms. Alley noted that she doesn't want the sound system to be lost in the big ticket items. If you are a musician, you want to be heard. It may be wise to separate the need from want. The sound system is needed. Ms. Crotty noted their priority is the sound system but figured since they were doing that they might as well look into all of it. Ms. Lavallee voiced appreciation for all the committee did. It is better for us to have more notice and can plan for it. She questioned how often the committee meets. Ms. Crotty responded they have had only 1 meeting, this is far as they got and do not have another scheduled at this time.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to appoint a Lyndeborough representative and Wilton representative from the School Board to attend committee meetings moving forward to help facilitate this.

Ms. Lavallee explained we have policies etc. that we need to follow and can help with that to be sure it includes all the information we need. Ms. Anzalone questioned if it would fall under the Strategic Planning Committee and would it make sense to have members from that committee. Ms. LaPlante spoke and thanked the group and is concerned that she heard there are some safety issues we were not aware of. She spoke of an immediate need for the facilities piece and does want that to get lost in the discussion. She wants to be sure Mr. Erb has a chance to understand it and we can fully vet it with the Facilities Committee. Ms. Lavallee noted there is only 1 community member appointed to the Facilities Committee and asked if anyone wanted to join those meetings it would be greatly appreciated. Mr. McGonegal noted we have a fully detailed quote from Sweetwater, he has a detailed spreadsheet with conduits, faceplate plugs etc. We can have it all done by the time school starts, just the sound piece.

126 *Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

127
128 Mr. Allen, Lyndeborough and Ms. Foss, Wilton volunteered for the WLC Performance Tech Committee. Chairman Golding
129 asked if there was any objection to this. None heard.

130
131 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to accept Mr. Allen as Lyndeborough representative and*
132 *Ms. Foss as Wilton representative to the WLC Performance Tech Committee.*

133 *Voting: seven ayes; one nay from Mr. Allen, motion carried.*

134
135 Chairman Golding asked the committee to them know of the next meeting date.

136
137 Ms. Crotty commented that she looked up ESSER funds and that does allow for tech improvements in the performing arts.
138 Chairman Golding referred that to Ms. LaPlante. Ms. Lavallee noted the Board will have a discussion tonight, pending that
139 discussion if everything proposed for ESSER funds is approved there will be a balance of about \$10,000.

140 141 **V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

142 Superintendent requested to add an FYI new hire IT technician, move the WLCTA Report to the first item under correspondence
143 and add ESSER III funding request to the first item in action items.

144
145 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to accept the adjustments to the agenda.*

146 *Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

147 148 **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

149 The public comment section of the agenda was read.

150
151 Ms. Jennifer Gagnon, Wilton spoke of her son attending MS next year and they don't live far from the school but live on Main
152 Street, somewhere in the bylaws, it is not part of the bus route but she was able to get him on the bus this year. She thinks it may
153 have gone by her house and wants to be sure her son is on the bus next year and wonders how she can do that. She was not sure
154 if this was the forum to ask. The Superintendent was directed to respond. Superintendent informs her that the best thing is to
155 reach out to him and they can talk about the process, we will talk to the bus company and look at the bylaws. The bus mandates
156 us to provided bus stopes based on the number of stops, etc. Ms. Gagnon commented that she had emailed him before. He does
157 not recall receiving this. She was asked her to give him her contact information and they could connect.

158
159 There were no online public participants.

160 161 **VII. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

162 **a. Reports**

163 **i. Superintendent's Report**

164 Superintendent confirms the right to know request was the one the Board had received and most district received it. He thanked
165 Mr. Buroker for the work he put into it. We will have the attorney review it to be sure no privacy laws are breached. He was
166 asked if there was a date for paving. Mr. Erb responded they are in the area now and hopefully will start next month. An update
167 on the tennis courts was asked for. Superintendent responded we pulled the poles out and it created another series of issues,
168 including the poles were not in far enough in and the material beneath it is wrong. We are looking at these things and getting it
169 resurfaced. He was asked if given that, would it cost more. He responds that we need to hear from the people who do the
170 resurface work but we won't be playing tennis any time soon at least on these courts. He spoke of a need for space on the 3rd
171 floor at FRES for students who need a place to calm down. It is a quiet space where kids limit their distraction and if they are
172 physically out of control a place, where they can decompress. Part of the need is usually identified in their IEP. He spoke of the
173 issue they had on how to provide this space and one consideration was a staff bathroom. Mr. Erb's idea was a good one, which
174 was to use the custodial space and not use a bathroom, and we would not need to provide extra plumbing. Right now, the only
175 thing holding up the final decision is to make sure the space is adequate and Mr. Pratt will take a look at that with Mr. Erb and
176 reach out to the attorney to be sure the space is adequate. Mr. Allen questioned if this was a legal requirement. Superintendent
177 believes it is because it would be in an IEP, and a last resort. He can confirm if it is a legal requirement and get back to the Board
178 and notes every other school he has worked at have one. Without a space like this, a student may not be able to control
179 themselves. This space is utilized for this purposed. Mr. Pratt spoke to this. We use the calm room for a number of students with
180 emotional dysregulation it is not required. In his discussions with other SPED directors, most schools have some sort of calm
181 area and it works very well for students. Ms. Lavallee spoke from a personal perspective prior to the schools combining, at LCS
182 there was not a lot of space and not one that met the requirements under the law, there are specific requirements if you are using
183 seclusion. The rest of the class had to be evacuated out of the classroom if you needed to address the issue. It is not a legal
184 requirement but feels it is beneficial to the other students if there is a space for those students to go. Questions were raised, does
185 the room have requirements for lighting, furniture, a special window. Superintendent responds yes, it needs to be made safe it
186 cannot be locked from inside and there is a need for visual contact with the student at all times. There are many requirements

with a space like this when you have a student who needs it and more likely we are able to keep these kids in our district if we can provide it. A question was raised if there is a need for one at WLC. Mr. Pratt responded there are some guidelines from the state that seclusion can only be used if there is a substantial risk to the child. There are recommendations in RSA 126-U that reference seclusion in schools. We find as students get older the need for a seclusion room becomes less, for the most part they can regulate better and have a variety of spaces at the HS that we can use to calm down and the guidance office does a great job with that and we have staff trained in CPI. Typically, it is the younger students who need it. A question was raised what the process is if that puts a child in that room and who is deciding this. Mr. Pratt responded if it is in the 504 and notes it is the last step taken. This is the result of a series of conversations and parental input and it is ongoing. Anytime a student has to do a time out or needs to calm down parents are involved from the get go. Ms. Lavalley spoke of policy JKAA, pages 6-8 speak specifically about seclusion and the law around it and that is what administration has to use when determining if the space is appropriate and staff has to use if intervention is appropriate and it speaks to it being a last resort. A question was raised if this is something that is part of their 504, only utilized in students who have this plan and parents signing off. Mr. Pratt responded, yes and we notify parents immediately. A question was raised if there is a room we have to put them in, is there a point where we just have to send them home. Mr. Pratt responded we would work with administration and if the student could not calm down within a reasonable amount of time the best scenario may be to go home and start fresh the next day. It doesn't happen a lot but it does that a student cannot calm down the parents are more times than not coming to the school to help us as well and making some decisions on the best way to help them. A question was raised if the mental health room could be used for that too. Mr. Pratt responded the best-case scenario is 2 separate spaces, that room is one of the intermediate areas that is used before the calm down room, that is truly the last step in the process.

ii. Principal's Report

Principal Ronning thanked the arts committee they came to him when they were thinking of doing this and he said go for it. He spoke of his report with regard to all the wonderful things that transpired this year and as we go through the year, we forget the many positive things that happened and that parents will get a copy of it by the end of the week. He informed the group that over \$150,000 ended up going to the students here at school between the awards, running start courses, the community colleges and our students have saved or received this amount. In addition to last week, we had the senior potluck dinner and awards, we had graduation, and athletics. We just had a meeting for fall sports to get parents involved and gave them a calendar, which that will go up on the website. He spoke of working with Assistant Principal Gosselin to around and talk about each staff member in this building with positive things and contributions they made to our school throughout the year. He spoke of several teachers who were tenured as this is their 5th year Ms. Emily Hall, Mr. Bill Comerford, Ms. Cathy Blaise, and Melissa Norton. Mr. Lavoie voiced that he is overly impressed with Principal Ronning; he has said a lot of good things to people about him. He is very happy they hired him, he made positive changes at this school needed for learning and the environment overall for students and staff to improve, great job at WLC. Principal Ronning was given a round of applause.

Principal Fuller thanked the WLCTA parents and community members for participating at LCS and FRES field day. Seniors came down to FRES to give t-shirts to the 1st graders (with their year of graduation on it). She thanked the PTO for skate nights and all the other offerings they had for our students. A question was raised to clarify the off-site evacuation as it was found out that the Fire Chief had told them they could not use the Wilton Town Hall. Principal Fuller confirms yes, and it was decided that what we did was the best way to do it. She confirms Butler Bus donated the buses, as they wanted to train on it as well. Principal Ronning was there every step of the way. Mr. Allen voiced great job to Principal Fuller this year, he thanked her for always having a smile on her face and a good attitude. Mr. Lavoie seconds that. Chairman Golding commented he loves the idea of the seniors handing out the t-shirt but would like to see our circuit doing it and make them one size. Principal Ronning noted that has already been decided to do.

iii. Curriculum Coordinator's Report/Data Presentation

Ms. Dignan reviewed the agenda for the presentation (a copy can be found with these minutes). The presentation has been broken up in 2 parts. Tonight will be grades 6-12. She reviewed the PSAT timeline. In 2022 the average SAT scores for the state was 1007 and WLC was 914, 2023 average for state was 996 and WLC was 892, in 2024 average for state is 990 and WLC is 1003. There was a 12% increase in average scores from 2022-2023. We have increased our scores overall by about 90 points. We can attribute that to the work that is being done. Students are getting personal lessons in Khan Academy, W.I.N., information night for SAT and PSAT and offered free online tutoring in math and reading. She reviewed state and district SAT data, our average score is higher than both the state and nation. The nation decreased an average of 10 points last year. We increased by about 90 points again. Historical data as far back as she could go, 2018 shows this is the highest score we have seen since 2018 and is really worth celebrating. Reading and math 2024 our average score continues to outperform the state and nation and increased our score by about 30 points from 2022 and about 60 point from last year. Math 2024 we have increased our average score 14% from 2022. She reviewed iReady testing windows and reviewed the scale. In 10th grade math students in the deep red (students 3 or more years below grade level) decreased. This shows our most struggling learners are seeing improvements. The W.I.N, Khan Academy, SAT prep and heavy focus on math can be attributed to that work. The 9th grade math shows a 10% decrease in students 3 or more levels below in math. The 8th grade iReady math increased 20% of those on or above grade level, the black line is the trend line. The 7th grade iReady math decreased 13% in those 2 and 3 or more grade levels below. The 6th grade shows a 14% increase in those on or above grade level. Grades 6-8 iReady math are out performing the state and nation across the board. She notes she was in training today and our MS was one of the most talked about in the training because a lot are falling off in MS. We are doing really well with our scores. A question was raised how in 6th grade did we gain students that are 3 grade levels or more behind. She explained the rigor of the assessments ramp up at the end of the school year. They start getting questions for the next grade level and the system is intuitive based on how you answer the questions. Principal Ronning

noted we take that into consideration. In the spring they did NHSAS science, now all the iReady reading and math and NHSAS all in the month of May. On any given day a student may fall short and that is why we don't take just one, we take them all into consideration. Superintendent asked her to speak about a student being behind and moving into another color on the grid, they are meeting the requirements for the current grade they are in and that is important to note. Ms. Dignan explained students who are 2 or 3 grades behind have to make up more work than their peers do, they are almost double-timing. A question was raised if a student is 2 or more years behind and moving to the next grade, will we always see them behind. As example, if a student has trouble in the 5th grade, and they are moved to 6th when they already are having trouble. Ms. Dignan explained that is part of W.I.N. they get their 6th grade instruction but also have 5th, they are double-timing. Getting instruction on what they need and the plan is to close that gap. A question was raised if we are winning here or is there a time when you say you should stay back. Ms. Dignan responded looking at the data, no, we are moving students more than 1 grade level. Overall, she thinks we are and the data shows we are. We are always looking at what else can we do and how can we close the gap. It was noted we spend a lot of time on what we are winning at but we also need to talk about the other stuff. A comment was made that the trend is students are getting better but are there students getting worse? Ms. Dignan confirms yes, some went down in the 9th and 10th grade. Students are not losing skills but are not showing that the skill on that day. Superintendent voiced the key is for us to look at a basket of data points. If we see a student in green and gets c's in class need to dig further to find out why there is a disconnect. Sometimes that happens with AP students. We have to look at the entirety of it. Some kids have lack of support at home and we need to find ways to overcome the barriers. I think the key is to look at the bulk of kids we are supporting. It is targeting the skills they are behind in. What we are doing is the right think which is paying attention to it. There are schools that don't use data and he thinks there is too much of that in education. We knew we needed to dig into it. He likes where we are headed. That red gap is still a red gap. That is 1 out of every 4 kids that is behind. That is still a significant battle. Ms. Dignan confirms you can dig into one students profile and find the type of math they are having a problem with. It is amazing, that is what MyPath lessons are for, questions are selected from the way they answer these tests. A question was raised if we have kids 2-3 grades behind are we holding them back and not pushing them forward. Superintendent responded it is about data points; the research is not strong on keeping kids back socially or academically. When they are young is when you see the deficiencies, it gets tricky in HS you may be behind in math but advanced in English. The data in MS does not support keeping kids back; he thinks they become more detached from school. Principal Ronning spoke about taking a math test but in reality, it is a reading test. We focused on final exams and rigor and the type of questions, they should be similar to what they see in iReady and NHSAS. The reason is to be sure they understand what the questions are asking. It is almost the end of the year and staff is asking how to meet the individual needs of students next year and in regard to final exams, if they didn't do well, why and are there certain areas they did really well. Some fell short and that itself helps staff to determine how to move forward. Mr. Allen questioned if kids can really make up 2-3 grades in 2 years and do we ever tell them they can't graduate. He doesn't see the benefit of giving a diploma, if we are not holding them back because there is no benefit. Ms. Dignan explained these are not competencies; these are state standards that these are built on. Competencies are classroom work. They have to prove they are competent in the competencies to graduate. It was noted it does not show students who have IEPs. They have to show they are competent but may not be great test takers, some are both, and we don't see how they are performing in the classroom. Ms. Dignan noted we are so small that pulling out that data would be identifying. Ms. Foss spoke of being in education for many years and holding them back will not help, what helps is teaching them strategies they can consistently use. That is why you have competencies and can learn in a situation and develop a skill to help them in the real world. Discussion continued including as a parent the need to see which part of it the student is failing in or having trouble with so that they can work on it. Ms. Dignan explained on the parent report there are domains in reading and math and the same colors you see on these graphs. You can also ask teachers for specifics and ask about next steps. She gave examples. They can continue their work in iReady through July at home as well. Mr. Allen noted he emails the teachers and they will give him a list of websites or recommend a book and give homework over the summer. Ms. Dignan continued with the presentation. The grade 10 iReady reading scores increased 3% on or above grade level. The 9th grade reading increased 3% on or above grade level from fall to spring, same as before. The 8th grade increased 6% on or above and decreased in 3 or more grade levels. The 7th grade had a 9% increase in on or above grade level. The 6th grade shows a 6% decrease in 2 and 3 more grade levels. In 6-8 iReady grade reading, we are outperforming the state and nation. NHSAS math data is very preliminary data, the ELA is not out yet and not expected until at least mid-June. NHSAS is the statewide assessment system. She reviewed some historical data, class of 2027 this is the percentage of students proficient; prior to the pandemic we scored below and are slowly gaining. In math, class of 2028 we are out performing or very close to the state, class of 2029 the percentage of students proficient increased by 4%, they are starting to regain some of the skills. In math, class of 2030 they are pretty consistent, scoring above or around the state average of proficient. She reviewed some ELA data, which does not have this year's data yet. Class of 2027, consistently above state average, class of 2028 consistently above state average, class of 2029 close to or above state average. She reviewed the things we wanted and said we would do and then what we did including iReady training, tailored support, streamlined the evaluation process to focus on effective teaching practices, data meetings 3 times a year, continue to vet and develop curriculum and targeted interventions at WLC and we had a vocabulary book study. Principal Ronning spoke of what they have done. WLC is offering a personal finance elective, final exams mean something, continue to challenge and push students. We have an after school homework club and W.I.N., looking at units that can work together, doing your academic best, using PLC model and digging deep, how can we use the data to best move our school and motivators for students and celebrating students doing well, celebrating students who are challenging themselves. When they work hard, we need to be sure to recognize it. He spoke of the rigor being higher in the fall and could see scores drop. At WLC we have been offering SAT math and tutoring math and ELA and there only a few seats taken. It started in November after we held a parent meeting. We had 15 slots and didn't fill them. We will continue to offer it and hope more students will come. A question was raised if personal invitations were given. Principal Ronning responded we are always having conversations with

students and parents and do ask parents if the student can stay afterschool for study etc. so yes. Ms. Dignan reviewed the bonus data. How much progress students are making K-8 math, the slide shows the bar on the left is progress toward typical growth, that is the median growth of the middle student. Our student made 100% growth, which is huge. The red striped bar (3 or more grade levels below) on the right has 7% our students falling into that range which is down from 11%. It shows how we are moving our students. Two grades below shows 8% of the students, down from 15% in the fall and 1 grade below shows 34% of the students down from 56%, etc. Kindergarten-8th grade reading shows annual typical growth the middle student made 121% growth, on the right graph 3 or more grades below shows 5% and started at 9% in the fall, 2 or more grades below shows 7% down from 17% and 1 grade lower shows 20% from 36%. We have made huge gains in reading and math this year. She reviewed the slide “does typical growth vary with instruction usage, by baseline placement” using MyPath, students are getting personalized lessons. In this graph, for math the first 2 bars are students who started the school year on or above grade level. For those students who spent 1-29 minutes per week the median students made 87% of their typical growth goal. The middle graph shows for students one grade level below who spent 1-29 minutes per week the median students made 99% of their typical growth goal and the last shows students 2 or more grade levels below who spent 1-29 minutes per week made 91% of their typical growth goal. The last section shows students in the same scenarios who spent 1-30 minutes per week the first group is on or above grade level made 104% of their typical growth goal, the second group is one grade level below made 108% and the third group two or more grade levels below made 118%. It is actively engaged time that counts, it doesn’t count if they stop and talk to someone, it is only active time that is counted. In reading it is the same graph and scenarios, 1-30 minutes per week the first group on or above grade level made 82% of their typical growth goal, the second group one grade level below of students who spent 1-30 minutes per week made 129% of their typical growth goal and the third group 2 or more grade levels below made 142% of their typical growth goal.

iv. WLCTA Report

Ms. Kudlich and Ms. Rosana were presented and reported:

WLC:

- We are taking final exams; there will be fun activities tomorrow and Thursday.
- Teachers will be running study blocks to prepare students for upcoming finals during second ½ of exam days (2 exams per day + 2 study sessions)
- Fun activities will be running 6/12 and 6/13 for students who do not need to remediate/recover competencies
- Bill Comerford did a great job organizing and running Senior Project Extravaganza.
- Stephanie Erickson took her AP Environmental kids on a field trip to Odiorne State Park to clean up on May 31.
- WLC’s concert went really well, Taryn Anderson was recognized for that.
- More music news: due to our growing band program, Tonestros, a company for virtual music lessons, donated 40 free vouchers for 3 months of online music lessons! 30 WLC students and 10 students from FRES will be getting these vouchers to help them practice their instruments over the summer. This is a great opportunity for our musicians to get some extra help with their instruments over the summer. Reach out to Taryn Anderson with questions!
- Sophomore class selling drinks at graduation; all proceeds will be used for prom next year
- Thank you to the students and parents who donated time and/or drinks to sell, and to community members who donated to the class of 2026!
- MS Field Day is scheduled for June 12th; planning was spearheaded by Melissa Norton & Joe Sullivan
- Teachers wanted to thank both the board and administration for overall really great year.
- Teachers appreciate the support from administration & school board regarding increased rigor and accountability

FRES & LCS:

- Field day is June 7th, thank you to the PTO and all the family members who volunteered to make it a great day!
- Step Up Day was June 4th. 5th graders went to WLC to take a tour and meet teachers. Kindergarten came to FRES for a tour, meet and greet, and an extra fun music class!
- Fifth grade went to Canobie Lake for a field trip June 5th. Second grade went to Odiorne Park and the Seacoast Science Center on May 31st.
- Everyone got through the final round of I-ready and state testing! Teachers took time to analyze data to help set up next year for success, and have been building class lists based off comprehensive analysis of students’ strengths and needs.
- Fifth grade graduation will be June 12th, and the Community Vs Fifth grade Kickball game will be that evening. WLCTA will be there selling drinks and thinks the PTO will be selling some items.
- We are so grateful for the Board's and the community's support this year, particularly with approving our new contract that introduces meaningful change to our professional environment. Many teachers have said they are staying because of the changes made. Thank you for listening. Many teachers are preparing to work in summer school, attend professional development, and spend time developing curriculum this summer to further support our learning community. Even though school is out in a day and a half, we are excited about next year.

Ms. Lavallee thanked all the teachers and all the staff in the schools for a great school year, we are in the last week and she is grateful for all they have done. She has seen the growth in all 3 schools. She appreciates the lifelong learners and teachers who stay in the summer to help those kids who need an extra boost and hopes you get some time to enjoy yourselves and your family over the summer. Mr. Allen echoes that and has been incredibly impressed with how some teachers have one out side of the box working with the towns and letting students experience things outside of these walls and the more we get the community involved the more they learn. Mr. Lavoie thanked the teachers for all they do. He thanked them for the compliments you gave

the school board, he thinks we have a good working school board now and thinks it is filtering down to administration and the test scores are improving, and we are seeing the new contract has made this a destination for your colleagues. We are an up and coming school district and should be proud of it. Thank you.

VIII. GENERAL ASSURANCES FY25

Members received a copy. Ms. LaPlante reviewed this is formality that we have to do and put into the minutes that we have read and approved the general assurances.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to accept and approve the General Assurances.
Voting: all aye; motion carried.*

IX. POLICIES

a. Readopt DFA-Investment Policy

Ms. Lavallee reviewed that she provided a document regarding the changes to these policies and other helpful information. This will be posted on the website as well. Policy DFA is adopted annually (per policy) and this is the annual adoption.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to readopt policy DFA-Investment Policy.
Voting: all aye; motion carried.*

b. 1st Reading

i. EEA-Student Transport Services

Ms. Lavallee reiterates she provided notes indicating why there are changes it is respectfully submitted. Ms. Anzalone asked if it is a policy that we have to provide transportation within a number of miles. Ms. Lavallee responds it is the law. We do have that within our policy EEA as well because it the minimum standards. This policy EEA, she worked with Ms. LaPlante and rewrote it. She notes the transportation policies are extensive and had many changes. Ms. Anzalone referred to the parent question earlier, is there a reason we would not provide transportation. Superintendent responded we always do, the bus company has a different set of expectations, and we can't pick up at every house. It may be a group of kids (at a stop), if there is no sidewalk to walk on etc. In this case came up a year ago and she reached out to the Principal and the accommodation was made. It does not always happen this way. He believes he has had 5 bus issues and they were solved amicably. This was not an issue just a miscommunication. Some kids do not have a safe place to walk. There was a situation that we made an adjustment where there was no sidewalk and we picked up 3 kids at one spot. Steve Brown was always good about this and Butler has been as well. It is usually tied to safety. Ms. Lavallee referred the group to section b. which she read, it refers to EEA-R is not a standard policy that all districts have we thought it was good to have and are looking to start doing that so there is a process to follow. We did not have this previously are looking to start it. We have the 2 mile caveat because it is the legal requirement, we don't want to box ourselves in having to provide transport if it is not possible. We want it open to look at those individual cases if we want if within that 2-mile range. Ms. LaPlante added student safety supersedes all. We would look at the route to determine if it was safe to walk. It was noted there is a whole form that needs to be completed by administration and that gets into why the request is being asked and they need to evaluate all of those points to see if it is unsafe and if so it is up to us to make sure they can get to school safely. Policy EEA will return for a second read. If there are no changes at that meeting, she suggests it be adopted. She asked for any questions or comments regarding EEA. None heard.

ii. EEA-R Procedure for Requesting Bus Stop Change

Ms. Lavallee reports, other districts do use this and that is how we developed it. She asked for any questions or comments. None heard. This will return for a second read. She recommends if no changes at the 2nd reading that it be adopted.

iii. EEAE-School Bus Safety Program

Ms. Lavallee asked for any questions or comments. None heard. This policy will return for a 2nd reading. She recommends if no changes at the 2nd reading that it be adopted.

iv. EEAE-R Safety Guidelines for Parents/Guardians of Students Using School Buses

Ms. Lavallee reports we felt it was important to have this so that parents know the expectations. She asked for any questions or comments, none heard. This will return for a second read. She recommends if no changes at the 2nd reading that it be adopted.

v. ECAF-Audio and Visual Surveillance on School Buses

Ms. Lavallee asked for any questions or comments. None heard. This policy will return for a 2nd reading. She recommends if no changes at the 2nd reading that it be adopted.

vi. JICC Student Conduct on School Buses

Ms. Lavallee asked for any questions or comments. None heard. This policy will return for a 2nd reading. She recommends if no changes at the 2nd reading that it be adopted.

c. Withdrawals

i. EBCE-School closings

Ms. Lavallee reviewed that we will look to update a policy to include parts of this one.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to withdraw policy EBCE-School Closings.

Mr. Allen questioned if there is anything in her that we should have and any reason to do it before we have the other. Ms. Lavallee responded she was getting ahead of it, we are not required to have it and it is already in practice. It is on the list for withdrawal and given that we have so many the committee felt, it should be done now so it is not forgotten.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

ii. GBA-Equal Opportunity Employment

Ms. Lavallee reviewed this is incorporated into to policy AC it was just never withdrawn.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy GBA-Equal Opportunity Employment.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

iii. GBCD-R-Technical Assistance Advisory School Employee Background Investigation, Including A Criminal History Records Check

Ms. Lavallee reported this is incorporated into GBCD.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to withdraw policy GBCD-R-Technical Assistance Advisory School Employee Background Investigation, Including a criminal History Records Check.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

iv. JFA-R-Technical Assistance Advisory-Residency

Ms. Lavallee reported there is nothing in this policy that is not addressed in the RSA. It is being recommended for withdraw and additional language is incorporated into JFAB-Homeless Students.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy JFA-R Technical Assistance Advisory-Residency.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

v. JICC-R-Student Rules and Conduct On The School Bus

Ms. Lavallee reports this is incorporated into policy JICC.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy JICC-R-Student Rules and Conduct on the School Bus.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

vi. EEAEC-Student Conduct On School Buses

Ms. Lavallee reviewed pertinent content is contained in policy JICC.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy EEAEC-Student Conduct on School Buses.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

vii. EB-Safety Program

Ms. Lavallee reported administration is researching all the safety programs and the committee found that the Policy Committee recommended withdrawing this one years ago. NHSBA does not have this policy; their EB is a completely different policy. Administration will do an overhaul on these and will bring them forward to the Board. The committee felt it was ok to go with the committee's original recommendation of withdrawing it.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy EB-Safety Program.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

viii. JHCI-Concussion Policy

Ms. Lavallee it is now JLCJ Concussions and Head Injuries.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy JHCI-Concussion Policy.

Voting: all aye; motion carried.

ix. JHCI-R-Information Sheet For Parents/Student-Athletes-Concussion And Head Injury Information Sheet

Ms. Lavallee reports this is the information sheet for parents and is incorporated into policy JLCJ.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy JHCI-R- Information Sheet for Parents/Student-Athletes-Concussion and Head Injury Information Sheet
Voting: all aye; motion carried.

x. JKAA-R-Procedures On Use Of Child Restraint And Seclusion

Ms. Lavallee reported pertinent information is incorporated into JKAA.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to withdraw policy JKAA-R- Procedures on Use of Child Restraint and Seclusion.
Voting: all aye; motion carried.

Mr. Allen thanked the Policy Committee for all the work they do.

X. ACTION ITEMS

• ESSER Funding Proposal

Ms. LaPlante handed out the proposal and will be posted on the website. She notes Superintendent Weaver did a fantastic job working with colleagues to figure out what we can do with these funds. She reviewed the items requested.

- Replace long café tables with round tables at LCS and WLC-not to exceed \$35,000. Promotes student collaboration and student wellness, qualifies for SEL activity.
- Replace dilapidated desk/chairs in WLC library with square tables/work spaces-not to exceed \$10,000. This is to help promote collaboration amongst students and qualifies for an SEL activity.
- Advanced training on math program at FRES-not to exceed \$25,000. Two trainers for two focus groups grades K-2, 3-5. This is probably a high number as it depends on how many teachers we get. It will maximize the knowledge of math curriculum to better address math-specific learning loss.
- Replace classroom furniture in 3 1st grade classrooms-not to exceed \$10,000. Current tables are not conducive to collaborative learning; this will promote collaboration and student wellness. It qualifies for an SEL activity.
- MS teacher retreat-not to exceed \$5,500. MS teachers will meet to review student data, develop daily schedules to maximize learning loss opportunities (W.I.N. Block) and develop methods to fully support and get students what they need in response to learning loss.

Ms. LaPlante reports if we get Board support we would like to pursue these projects and that would leave about \$10,000 if we fully execute these projects. Ms. Lavallee voiced appreciation for doing this, she is thankful for the work that was put in researching this and using the money on qualifying projects.

Ms. Anzalone asked regarding the advanced training is it a professional development day. Ms. LaPlante responded we would pull them in on a summer day, pay their per-diem rate in accordance with the CBA. Ms. Anzalone asked if we would be able to get them all to come in. Superintendent responded that's the hope but will see. The maximum is 40 teachers; at minimum, we want all the MS teachers and brand new teachers from 1-6 years. The teachers who have been here for some time although we would love to have them attend; we really want the new teachers. The stipend will go a long way to get them coming in, we felt having professional trainers is the right approach. Ms. Anzalone asked if the trainers charge a flat rate and are we better to wait to do it during the year to get all the teachers. Superintendent responded we thought of that too and wanted them to have it to start school with also the number of PD days are less and they are starting to fill up. He is thinking of doing it mid-August when they are starting to prepare for returning. Ms. Lavallee noted when we get an update and firm numbers and know how much is remaining is there anyway the sound system would qualify. Ms. LaPlante will confirm with our ESSER partner at the state if the projects are allowable. The tech projects are geared toward students and how they are receiving their instruction such as how they are accessing their Wi-Fi. That is what she is seeing or ways to target learning loss or how to learn more efficiently.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to accept all 5 proposals for ESSER funding as written.
Voting: all aye; motion carried.

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to approve the minutes of May 28, 2024 as written.
Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Mr. Zavgren and Mr. Lavoie, motion carried.

b. Photocopier/Printer Lease

Ms. LaPlante reviewed we lease all our copiers and printers; the lease is ending. We put it out to bid, and provided the results of the bid. She is requesting support to enter into a 5-year contract with Toshiba, which will have a \$25,000 savings over 5 years. She will answer any questions the Board has about the process, none heard. She is requesting 2 motions to move forward, 1 to approve the lease with MST Government leasing, that is a requirement as it is tax exempt and the other is to authorize the Superintendent to act on the Boards behalf executing any required documents.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to hereby move that the Board approve the proposed tax-exempt lease with M.S.T. Government Leasing, LLC, for the purposes of refinancing, and funding photocopy equipment leases including consultant fees, and related costs of issuances of such leases in an amount not to exceed Eighty-One Thousand Six-Hundred Forty-One dollars and Sixteen Cents (\$81,641.16) and an interest rate of 5.94% per year through August 1, 2029.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to hereby move that the Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute and deliver the tax-exempt lease with M.S.T. Government Leasing, LLC, on such terms and conditions discussed and provided to the Board and to execute and deliver any such documents required to execute the contract with Specialized Purchasing Consultants, Inc.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

c. Scholarship Payment Protocol

Ms. LaPlante reported our district is a recipient of an education trust fund from Grace F. Tuttle and Leroy V. Tuttle. This came before the Board as a heads up February 2022. There was \$100,000 left in principal, we can only access the income from it, which is standard language with many trusts. The trust document says it is awarded to a resident of Wilton to enable them to secure college or professional education and does not specify any payment criteria it just says with respect to any awards may be made directly to any individual, assurances shall be received by the school board at the time of each payment to any recipient if the recipient is still enrolled in school. She spoke to the Wilton Trustee of the Trust fund and we have both have a concern cutting the check directly to an individual because we can't guarantee that person is going to use those funds as the donor intended and that puts us at risk to have to pay that back. In speaking with the trustee of the trust fund, we propose that the Board adopt a payment protocol that essentially says the payment goes directly to the recipient's college or educational institution in the 2nd semester of their higher education upon recipient of satisfactory documentation that the recipient is still in school. What this says is after the 1st semester, they have done a good job, we get something from the institution saying they are still enrolled for the 2nd semester and we cut the check directly to the education institution. She is looking for the Board to accept the protocol so that trustees of the Trust fund on the Wilton side know what our intention is. A question was raised who picks who it is awarded to. Ms. LaPlante responded guidance handles all of that.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen that Payment will be made to the recipient's college or educational institution in the second semester of their higher education upon SAU 63's receipt of satisfactory documentation that the recipient is still enrolled in school.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Facilities

The meeting had been cancelled; a report will follow after they meet.

XII. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

a. Resignation-Carolyn McEntee-LCS Personal Care Assistant

Superintendent reviewed the resignation.

• FYI New Hire-Marisa Abasto-WLC IT Technician

Superintendent reported a new hire in the IT department.

b. Appointment-Paige Luszyk-WLC HS Math Teacher

Superintendent reviewed the nomination for HS math.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to appoint Paige Luszyk, WLC HS math teacher, salary of \$46,000 Bachelors, Step 1.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

c. Appointment-Amber Brewster-WLC Reading Teacher

Superintendent reviewed the nomination for a reading teacher.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to appoint Amber Brewster, WLC reading teacher, salary of \$49,000 Masters, Step 1.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Mr. Patrick Popores, Wilton spoke regarding the calm room. He thanked the Board for providing this. He is in support of it and spoke of his personal experience. He notes it is one of the coolest things he has heard that schools are doing for these kids.

There were no members of the public online.

XIV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Allen commented there is a lot of good stuff happening and he appreciates the time and effort administration puts in. It has been a good year overall, good progress as a district. School Board, teachers, staff and students seem to be happy. We have seen some good scores, it's a good year overall.

Mr. Zavgren echoes Mr. Allen's comments.

Ms. Anzalone also agrees with Mr. Allen. She thanked all the teachers for all the work they put in this year. She thanked Ms. Kudlich and Ms. Rosana, it was great working with them on the Negotiations Committee, and it was a great experience. She gave a shout out to Mr. Comerford. Every Wednesday he does extra work with the kids, he is very proactive. He does a lot and is proactive about reaching out to parent and anticipates questions she may have.

Mr. Lavoie spoke about the PTO; many of the members are expected to retire. Kudos to them! Good job with ESSER, it is nice to see we found a way to use those funds. He spoke of the vetting process for parents who want to chaperone. He was asked to speak to this from some members of the public. He asks that administration keep an eye on that. He understands fingerprinting can take 2-8 weeks depending if the state is backed up. He is sure there is a logical answer and you don't have to speak to it. Ms. LaPlante did want to speak to this. She voiced in the business office; we are doing all that we can do to get those out. We need to do a more proactive approach next year. The schools do a great job to introduce it, the time to do it is not 2 weeks before the trip to get it to us. She noted it could sometimes take up to 10 weeks. Superintended added if those parents want to reach out to me, we have a caveat and sometimes we know a trip may be planned last minute, we permit volunteers to go they just cannot be alone with students. We allow the chaperones to go as well. Ms. LaPlante added that is the exception and not the norm.

Ms. Lavallee thanked Mr. Popores, who took the time to sit through the meeting; it is a very long one and she appreciates that. What she is most thankful for the fact that when we sit up here as a Board and talk about data and the law and logistic of running the district and because of that some of the personal impact is forgotten or we don't always look at it. She tries not to speak about her personal experiences because as a board member, she represent all kids but to hear you speak tonight was very nice thank you for that.

Ms. Foss commented she agrees with Ms. Lavallee, there are not a lot of parents who would sit here through the meeting and speak about their personal experience. She thanked the administration team and everyone with SAT stuff. It is not easy to students to take those tests seriously and even if they have the skills, it is not always easy to show it on these formal tests.

Ms. Alley thanked Mr. Popores for coming in, it helps us decide and understand what is needed and especially sitting through our entire meeting, which is long. She congratulated all the graduates, 8th students moving up and 5th grade going to 6th grade. She gave a shout out to Mr. Chenette for staying after school tutoring, Ms. Brewster, for the help with IEP's and things like that it is amazing.

Chairman Golding commented graduation was fun; he always enjoys throwing out his 2 cents with a little speech. The past 2 years have been great. He thanked the Performance Tech Committee it was a good presentation. Hopefully we can get some good work done. Thank you to Mr. Popores for your comments we appreciate that.

XV. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C)

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to enter Non-Public Session to review the non-public minutes RSA 91-A: 3 II (C) at 10:17pm.

Voting: via roll call vote, all aye, motion carried.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board entered public session at 10:21pm.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Alley to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:21pm.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Fowler*