

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
Strategic Planning Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 15, 2019
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School-Admin. Conference Room
6:00 p.m.

Present: *Miriam Lemire, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Carol LeBlanc, Jeff Jones (6:04), Bryan Lane, Superintendent of Schools*

Guests: Chief Eric Olesen, Assistant Principal Sarah Edmunds

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to approve the minutes of September 17, 2019.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION OF NEW INFORMATION

i. Resource Officer/Discipline Issues

Ms. LeBlanc- Should we invite Mr. Schulz; he spoke at the town meeting.
Check on student who spoke at the school board meeting.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral- Andy's Playhouse did a good job in getting kids to reflect on SRO.

Chief Olesen-Spoke in the last weeks, SRO from another district reported kids were going to vacant house in Wilton. Reported students from other communities were breaking and entering into a house to party.
Chief Olesen reached out to the Office of Homeland Security:

- Need backing from SAU
- Defines SRO's role
- Builds relationship with the entire student body
- SRO is an employee of the PD, reports to Chief. No patrol functions during the school year.
- Sharing time with MS/HS along with elementary
- SAU does the funding according to the Chief
- In summer, SRO patrols for WPD

Ms. Lemire-No patrols in Lyndeborough? No, just Wilton according to Chief

Superintendent will check on funding from Cooperative. Hollis-Brookline and Oyster River

Ms. Lemire- How many visits to Chief? Need to get the information as far as formal and informal visits.

Chief was DARE Officer. Once a week visits. Lots of communication with the students. Asset to the school with the information received from the students. May not tell a teacher or parent but may tell and SRO. Presence of an SRO, creates a deterrent for outside influences coming into the building.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral-Comments on how students may plan to do violence even with practices drills.

Mr. Jones-How do you see relationship beginning with the SRO? Chief Olesen-Presence, talking with kids, reflects on DARE training. Vetting process for SRO and there is training with a cohort. Comfort, rapport is what makes the experience successful.

Ms. Edmunds-SRO will go into classes and help in instruction within the curriculum and within their own curriculum. Relationship building is what she has experienced. Chief Olesen-Situations vary.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral-Because of training they can see trends and patterns of behaviors. Curb student's negative behaviors on legal and personal basis. Long term positive effects on students, big effect on bullying. Chief Olesen-SRO does mediation.

Ms. Lemire-Not student management, but enforcing laws, building relationships etc. How does SRO vary from Assistant Principal.

Ms. Edmunds-She still does investigations; police do not get involved. Ms. Edmunds does safe schools report. Police only called in certain circumstances. Call when things are raised to another level. Chief Olesen-SRO can talk to students when patrol cannot.

Ms. Lemire feels like the description of SRO is more proactive than she considered. How is the SRO compared to the needs of a social worker? Chief Olesen-The SRO is there as a preventative. Talks about research done around active shooter.

Ms. Edmunds give an accounting of student issues last year:

- 4 fights-1 called up
- 8 issues, sometimes they came right away-Juuling
- 2 of self-harming potential
- 1 threat
- 1 gross misconduct
- Emergency medical situations
- Attendance and truancy
- 1 vaping issues this year
- 2 runners

Chief Olesen-SRO bridges the gap between the school and family relationships with the police and the community relationship.

Ms. Edmunds-good sharing of information helps the school look out for kids better.

Mr. Jones-What is the benefit to the town in the summer months. Chief Olesen-multifunction, fill vacation time, Garwin Falls parking issues, sometimes you just need more officers. Bad end of the employment, two open positions currently. Gives the outline of process for hiring. Summer may need to attend workshops or training, that would take precedent.

Mr. Jones-Do you have a shot at finding an individual to fill an SRO position. Officers have other options in other larger entities. By having an SRO spot other departments may have officers that want to do the job who are not having luck in their searches.

Mr. Jones-Are there needs for other equipment or vehicles? There are four cruisers now. Chief Olesen will check.

Concerns over how both towns will deal with approving the SRO with varied level of service.

Mr. Jones-Can revenue be realized? Chief-Only through citations.

Chief Olesen-Also a benefit to the educators.

ii. Communication

Communication put off until the next meeting. Wait to bring it forward until the next meeting.

IV. DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING

No date was set.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment to report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Fowler