

Topics for Next Meeting

- How did W&M do the work last year? -3
- Is ASB going to do anything differently this year? -3
- Discuss Subcommittee choices -5
- W&M Purpose -2
- This year's priority; discuss short term and long term -4
- Mission statement -2
- Consider cost vs value; metrics determine value -4
- Educational outcomes -4
- Communication -1

1. Communications:

- a. Interactions during committee meetings
 - i. Members desiring to speak shall discretely raise their hand until the moderator has acknowledged. The moderator will record those members name to the speakers list. At the appropriate time, the moderator will call the next person on the speakers list.
 - ii. When a member is speaking, only the moderator may interrupt if the commentary is off topic, over time, or is otherwise not appropriate per the discussion.
- b. This body is subject to NH RSA "TITLE VI – PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES," Chapter 91-A, "ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS AND MEETINGS."

2. Mission Statement and W&M Purpose:

- a. Mission Statement as provided by Nate Jensen:
 - i. *As a reminder: the Ways & Means committee is self-organizing and provides an independent but collaborative input into, and assessment of, the executive budgeting decisions of the Amherst School Board, SAU 39 and the school leaders. In other words, the committee conducts due diligence into the strategic fiduciary decisions of the school district on behalf of the voters who do not have the time or access to conduct that kind of inquiry on their own.*
 - ii. *My experience is that Ways & Means committees function best when they participate actively in the board's budgeting discussions and are not shy to ask hard questions, make suggestions or to disagree with decisions taken by the board if merited. The budgeting process should be a conversation between the school leadership, the SAU leadership, the school board, the W&M committee, and the public. The final deliverable for the W&M committee is an independent report to the town on the committee's findings and assessments about the budgeting process and the budget and warrant articles, including narratives explaining votes taken for and/or against specific articles. Above all, transparency is key. You should have access to all the information you need to make your*

independent and objective assessment of the issues, decisions and prioritization that the voters will be asked by the board to vote on.

- b. W & M Purpose: This body's statutory authority may be realized in "TITLE III TOWNS, CITIES, VILLAGE DISTRICTS, AND UNINCORPORATED PLACES," Chapter 32, "MUNICIPAL BUDGET LAW."
 - i. Specifically, 32:15 Budget Committee Membership
- 3. W&M role last year and this year:
 - a. How did W&M do the work last year?
 - b. Is ASB going to do anything differently this year?
- 4. This Year's Priorities:
 - a. Consider cost vs value; metrics determine value, and Educational Outcomes
 - i. Mike Akillian Presentation
 - b. Educational Outcomes
 - c. Priorities – Short/Long Term
- 5. Subcommittee Choices?