

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2016

Board Members Present: President Jamie Docuette, Vice President Laurie Finan, Linda Mrowka, William Bloethe, and Thomas Shillo.

Also Present: Superintendent/Principal Karen Goodwin, Board Secretary Alysanne Cochrane, Business Manager James Eagan, and community.

1. School Community Session

1.1 Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance- President Doucette called the meeting to order and led in the pledge at 6:00 pm.

1.2 Public Participation- There were no questions or comments at this time.

1.3 Celebrations

1.3A Opening of 2016-2017 School Year- The students have created a new theme for the school year of “lift” as they would like to remind students and staff to lift one another’s spirits throughout the year. Superintendent Goodwin held a back-to-school assembly where students toured the newly renovated spaces in a “Pokémon Go” scavenger hunt. Students in grades 7-12 also attended a school expectations assembly where student handbooks were distributed student handbooks and general policies at FI were discussed.

1.3B State Testing Celebration- Students that participated in grades 3-8 testing as well as Regents testing in the 2015-2016 school year received perfect growth scores of 20 for both components. The grade 8 ELA scores were the highest in Suffolk County and placed third in New York State of 683 districts.

1.3C SAT Preparation Training: Jessica Hall- Ms. Hall is the school’s ELA teacher for grades 7-12 and received training for SAT preparation. This will be extremely valuable to our students as she will be able to incorporate these skills into her lessons with juniors and seniors as well as offer summer preparation program on Fishers Island.

1.3D EMT/MRT Certification: Jessica Hall and Chris Dollar- Chris Dollar recently received certification as an EMT critical care and Jessica Hall received certification as an MRT.

1.3E CAST Backpacks from Southold- The Long Island organization has, once again, donated backpacks to island students which were distributed to the elementary school students.

1.3F Student Leadership: Book Buddy Program- A current 8th grade student started this program that grouped high school students with elementary students as book buddies. She wrote a reflection of this program last year as a project for Girl Scouts, however, she would like to continue the program this year.

1.3G Board Policy Updates- The Policy Committee and the Board have successfully updated 31 policies in under two years.

1.4 Additions to the Agenda

3.15 Approval of the Donation or Sale of Used Textbooks

3.13 Approval of Renovation Project Change Orders One and Two

3.14 Approval of the Lease Agreement for the Cement Tower

4.1A Oil Tank Update

To Discuss Action Item 3.11 as the First Action Item

2. Reports

2.1 Warrants Approved by Claims Auditor Sharon Patterson- There were no questions.

2.2 Draft Budget Status Report- There were no questions.

2.3 Treasurer's Report-This report was not completed and will be updated at the next Board meeting.

2.4 Budget Transfers- There were no questions.

2.5 School Business Manager Report- Mr. Eagan discussed what he has currently been working on in the business office including payroll and payables functions, WinCap training, and audit preparation. He discussed looking into bank options which the Board agreed to as they are concerned about the current fees.

3. Action Items

3.11 Awarding of the 2016-2017 Fuel Oil Bid to Z&S Fuel and Service- The district partakes in the ESBOCES bidding program which designated a fuel service provider for the district through its bidding process. The district was allowed to send a similar bid request to the on-island companies, Z&S and Mobile. The Mobile Station did not respond, however Z&S submitted a bid which was shown to the Board along with the ESBOCES bid. The ESBOCES bidder is located in Long Island which makes their bid higher when travel time and rates are factored. Motion to award the fuel oil bid to Z&S as the lowest responsible bidder made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed. Tom Shillo abstained from voting as he has a personal affiliation with Z&S.

3.1 Approval of the Minutes from the July 6, 2016 Board of Education Meeting- Motion made by Linda Mrowka, seconded by Laurie Finan All in favor/none opposed.

3.2 Approval of the Minutes from the August 17, 2016 Board of Building Renovation Hearing- Motion made by Linda Mrowka, seconded by Laurie Finan All in favor/none opposed.

3.3 Approval of School Safety Plans Policy #8130- This was the second reading of the policy. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Tom Shillo. All in favor/none opposed.

3.4 Approval of Homeless Children Policy #5151- This was the second reading of the policy. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Tom Shillo. All in favor/none opposed.

3.5 Approval of the 2016-2017 Activity Leaders- The previous Cultural Arts Coordinator position will now be composed of a committee that will search for enrichment activities and speakers for the 2016-2017 school year that are more closely aligned with the curriculum and are more activity-based. Superintendent Goodwin also noted that the stipends for the activity leaders is determined by FITA contract. Motion to approve made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Tom Shillo. All in favor/none opposed.

3.6 Approval of the 2016-2017 Instructional Technology Plan- Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by William Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

3.7 Approval of the Atukan Akun Environmental Club- This will be a bi-weekly activity led by Justine Kibbe of the FI Nature Conservancy where students will explore Fishers Island's environment to create stories about their observations and experiences. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed.

3.8 Approval of the Leadership Group Activity- Mrs. Giles proposed this activity to allow students the opportunity to utilize the skills they have learn as HOBY leaders, NHS members, Board liaison representatives and student council representatives. Students from the various groups will meet monthly to discuss and act on ways to better the school community and will report to the Board on their work and ideas. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed.

3.9 Approval of the Aerial Yoga Activity- Tiggy Ski has proposed this activity to take place in her at-home yoga studio. She will be able to host up to five students at a time and will run the activity after cross country season. Mrs. Ski is charging \$20 per session for each student which will be funded 50% from grant funds and 50% from parent contribution. Motion made by Linda Mrowka, seconded by William Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

3.10 Approval of the Donation of 2 Laser Printers, Science Equipment, and Office Supplies from Lisa Butler and Employer, Monsanto- Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by William Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

3.11 Awarding of the 2016-2017 Fuel Oil Bid to Z&S Fuel and Service- See above.

3.12 Approval of the 2016-2017 Substitute Teacher List- It was noted that several parents of FIS students are now on the list. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed.

3.13 Approval of 2016-2017 District and Board of Education Committees- Motion made by William Bloethe, seconded by Tom Shillo. All in favor/none opposed.

3.14 Approval of the Sale or Donation of Tools No Longer Used or Appropriate for the Technology Education Program- The Board felt strongly that the district should look into selling the tools. Superintendent Goodwin noted that the district will look into selling options and report back to the Board.

3.15 Approval of the Donation or Sale of Used Textbooks- The Board would like Superintendent Goodwin to look into donation options including the on-island organization Little Pebbles as the books are not of any value. Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed.

3.16 Approval of Renovation Project Change Orders One and Two- Motion made by Laurie Finan, seconded by Linda Mrowka. All in favor/none opposed.

3.17 Approval of the Lease Agreement for the Cement Tower- The Board would like the district's attorney to review the contract before they make a motion.

4. Superintendent/Principal Report

4.1 Roofing Maintenance Projects- Specifications have been pulled from the school's recent facility report and are being sent to contractors for quotes.

4.1A Oil Tank Update- The district's attorney is working on getting the applications stamped and sent to Suffolk County for permitting.

4.2 Renovation Project Update/Punch List- There was recently a leak in the library and computer lab due to a construction error which Carlin Construction and their plumbing subcontractor has taken responsibility for and fixing as well as replacing any damaged materials.

4.3 Generator Update- The installation is getting closer to completion. Superintendent Goodwin was informed that Senator Lavelle has increased the donated funds from the state to \$50,000. Tom Shillo questioned who will be responsible for checking fuel oil levels in generator which Superintendent Goodwin will research and report to the Board.

4.4 Board of Education iPad Purchase- iPads have been purchased and will arrive at the school within a couple of days. Ms. Cochrane will then research the best method for importing meeting documents.

4.5 Paddle Tennis Courts Update- Mr. and Mrs. Reid are still working with the school on permitting. We received written verification from Southold that the paddle tennis courts do not present an environmental issue.

4.6 Internet E-Rate Update- Dymanic Alliance continues to troubleshoot to perfect our signal. They plan to remove the surge protector from the radios here and in Groton which should fix the problem of signal dropping.

4.7 Opening of School Staff Development- Staff development was productive and went well with added sessions for iReady and Safe Schools.

4.8 Automated External Defibrillators Policy #5425- This was a first reading of the policy.

4.9 Sexual Harrassment Policy #0110- This was a first reading of the policy.

5. Information Packet for the Board of Education- For informational purposes.

6. Public Participation- There were no comments or questions.

7. Executive Session at 7:28pm

7.1 Discussion of a Contractual Matter

7.2 Discussion of a Civil Service Position Designation

7.3 Discussion of a Special Education Matter

8. Public Session

8.1 Approval of a Salary Increase for Alysanne Cochrane, Administrative Assistant- Motion made by William Bloethe, seconded by Tom Shillo to increase budgeted compensation by \$2.00 per hour for the 2016-2017 school year in recognition of her added responsibility as Purchasing Agent. All in favor/none opposed. Linda Mrowka abstained from voting as she has a personal affiliation to Ms. Cochrane.

9. Adjournment- President Doucette adjourned the meeting at 7:50pm.

Recorded by Alysanne Cochrane