

Board of Education Minutes

February 21, 2018

1. School Community Session:

- 1.1 Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance 5:02pm
- 1.2 Public Participation
- 1.3 Celebrations
 - A. First and Second Quarter Honor Roll: We are very proud of our students!
 - B. Phone Service: They are now working, thank you Jim.
 - C. Choral Guest Conductor: Dr. Wendy Moy from Connecticut College was wonderful and worked with 26 of our students from lunch until 3pm. The Board appreciated her visit and Mr. Dollar for arranging it. Thank you, Mr.Dollar.
- 1.4 Additions to the Agenda
 - 3.11-Graduation Policy 4.772
 - 3.12-Senior Class Trip Details Approval
 - 3.13-Approval of the Universal Pre-School Program for 3-Year-Old Students

2. Business Office Reports-

- 2.1 Warrants Approved by Claims Auditor Sharon Patterson
- 2.2 Business Manager Reports
 - A. Budget Status Report as of January 31, 2018
 - B. Treasurer's Report Approved by Principal and Treasurer
- 2.3 Budget Transfers
- 2.4 2016-2017 Audit Status: EFPR Group is coming out late March, early April.
- 2.5 2015-2016 Audit Action Plan: Supt. Goodwin reported that progress is being made.

3. Action Items

- 3.1 Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2018 Board of Education Meeting was made by Linda and seconded by Robin. All in Favor.
- 3.2 Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2018 Audit Committee Meeting was made by Linda and seconded by Robin. All in Favor.
- 3.3 Motion: To Appoint the Family and Medical Leave Policy #9520.2 was made by Robin and seconded by Linda. All in Favor.
- 3.4 Motion: To Approve the Hiring of Julie Mrowka as School Secretary Effective February 22, 2018 was made by Robin and seconded by Robin. All in Favor, Linda abstained from the vote.
- 3.5 Motion: To Approve the Proposed Salaries and Work Schedules of the Administrative Assistant and School Secretary Positions Effective through June 30, 2018 was made by Bill and seconded by Tom. All in Favor. The Board tabled the salary proposals for the 2018-19 school year and will address it through the budget development process.
- 3.6 Motion: To Approve Life Touch as the School Photographer for the 2018-19 School Year was made by Robin and seconded by Linda. All in Favor.
- 3.7 Motion: To Approve the 2018-2019 School Calendar Option 3B was made by Robin and seconded by Linda. All in Favor.
- 3.8 Motion: To Establish the Fishers Island Ferry as the Connecticut Student Transportation Mode for the 2018-2019 School Year was made by Robin and seconded by Bill. All in Favor, Tom abstained.

- 3.9 Motion: To Approve Tuition Applications for Students Entering Grade 3 in the 2018-19 School Year was made by Linda and seconded by Robin. All in Favor.
- 3.10 Motion: To Approve the Budget Development Timeline was made by Bill and seconded by Tom. All in Favor.
- 3.11 Motion: To Approve the Graduation Policy 4.772 was made by Bill and seconded by Linda. All in Favor.
- 3.12 Motion: To Approve the 17-18 Senior Class Trip Proposal (Cruise to Florida/Bahamas) was made by Tom and seconded by Bill. All in Favor, Robin and Linda abstained.
- 3.13 Motion: To Approve the Universal Pre-School Program for 3-Year-Old Students to begin September 2018 was made by Linda and seconded by Bill. All in Favor, Robin abstained.

4. Administrative Report

Prior Business

- 4.1 Status of Shed: To be moved shortly.
- 4.2 Board Self Evaluation: Tabled until next BOE Meeting.
- 4.3 2018-2019 Recruitment Process: There are 14 completed applications, special thank to Julie and Jamie for running the second open house and tour. Christian and Julie will meet tomorrow for the 1st run through of applications. On February 28, the Student Selection Committee will meet to see which students will move forward.
- 4.4 Computer Based Testing: Software has been downloaded to some computers, the 3rd and 4th grade practice testing is currently happening. Soon the software will be downloaded to the entire computer lab and up and running. The 7th graders will do a run through and then the official practice tests will be happening for all groups.
- 4.5 Wind Energy Exploration Update: At the Board's request, Supt. Goodwin followed up on the exploration of alternative energy (wind) by participating in a 1-hour phone conference with McCracken and Mr. Rouse with Northern Power Systems. In order for this to work we must connect to the grid and have full support from the FI Utility Co. Northern is willing to assist us with educating the Board, the Utility, and the community. They feel the best location is the Waste Management current compost facility site. Karen reviewed a handout with further details, and conversation continued as to size, sound decibels, possible finance partners and the need to have Waste Management to come to the table with us when approaching the FI Utility Company. Karen will work on a date for an educational meeting on this topic, a draft letter/invitation and Bill will reach out to Greg Thibodeau, the chairman of the Waste Management Board.
- 4.6 Spanish Room HVAC Unit: This unit is inconsistent in cooling and is still under warranty. Karen has contacted BD who subcontracted the work and they are looking into the replacement as the project architect's engineers have determined that a replacement vs. repair is warranted.

New Business

- 4.7 2017 District Fiscal Stress Score: FIS score has gone down! This is wonderful news and reflects the management of our budget and our decreased reliance on fund balance for revenue.
- 4.8 Grant Update: Currently about \$20,000.00 in Federal Funds. We no longer qualify for Rural School Grants as we don't meet the new threshold for student poverty.
- 4.9 2018-2019 Budget Development- Board Priorities/Parameters: Karen passed out a worksheet to the Board and discussion ensued.
- 4.10 School Accreditation: Christian spoke on this 3-year process, possibly with NEACS

and the importance of this accreditation for our students. They are excited with the possibility of working with FIS as they have worked with unique schools on Martha's Vineyard and on Nantucket. This fits the FIS vision and is a road map to get there. Conversation ensued and the Board expressed strong support.

- 4.11 Mission and Vision Policy #0000 (First Reading)
- 4.12 Purchasing Policy #6700 (First Reading)

5. Information Packet for the Board of Education

- 6.1 ESBOCES Highlights 2017-18 Second Issue
- 6.2 APPR Hardship Waiver Approval

6. Board Committee Reports

- 7.1 Faculty Housing: Jim reported that Eduardo's housing projects and roofing projects will soon to go out to bid.
- 7.2 Safety: None
- 7.3 Personnel: None

7. Public Participation

Tom Shillo brought up the fact that the exterior of the building needs grounds maintenance as in leaves, small branches, etc. cleaned up. Christian said Eduardo's focus has been repairing and maintaining the interior of the building. He has worked out a schedule for him for cleaning and will soon be adding the outside work as well.

8. Executive Session 6:46pm

- 9.1 Sale of School Property
- 9.2 Principal and Superintendent Contracts for 2018-2019
The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:16. No Action was taken

9. Adjournment:

Motion by B. Bloethe to adjourn, Second by L. Mrowka. President Doucette adjourned the meeting at 7:17PM.

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In Attendance:

Karen Goodwin, Christian Arsenault, Jamie Doucette, Bill Bloethe, Linda Mrowka, Tom Shillo, Robin Toldo, Jim Eagan, Caroline Toldo, Nick Oickle, Mike George, Michele Klimczak