

Board of Education Meeting Minutes: October 24, 2018

Board Members in Attendance: President Jamie Doucette, Vice President William Bloethe, Linda Mrowka, Robin Toldo, and Thomas Shillo

Also, in Attendance: Principal Christian Arsenault, Superintendent Karen Goodwin, Secretary Michele Klimczak, Business Manager Jim Eagan, Susie Brinkerhoff, Michael George, and Nick Oickle

1. School Community Session:

1.1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: President Jamie Doucette calls to order at 5:05 pm.

1.2. Public Participation: Susie Brinkerhoff attended and she and Harry Parker were thanked by Principal Arsenault for coming in to speak to the senior class about the St. John's Scholarship which will be due in the Fall, not the Spring.

1.3. Celebrations:

A PSAT/SAT Administration: Principal Arsenault mentioned how this was the Fishers Island Schools' first year doing full school PSAT/SAT as studies have shown that students do better when they're in the regular school environment during their normal school hours, rather than the traditional Saturday testing period. This will happen again next year. Principal Arsenault thanked Julie Arcellus for her efforts on this.

B Generator Permit: Superintendent Goodwin thanked those who were involved in the success of the permit and will be discussing receiving reimbursement in the near future.

C Lake Wales Exchange: There were eight Lake Wales students present on the island during the week of this meeting. Principal Arsenault thanked the host families for opening up their homes. He reports that it had been a great experience and thanked Mr. McCance for sponsoring this exchange

1.4. Additions to the Agenda: Superintendent Karen Goodwin adds 3.8: Motion: To Appoint Douglass Gerherdt of Harris Beach as the Fishers Island School Board Attorney for the 2018-2019 School Year to the agenda. She shares that an RFP is ready but will be sent out for the 2019-2020 school year as district lawyers do not like to start mid-year. Superintendent Goodwin also added 8.3: To Discuss the Sale of School Property and 8.4 To Discuss Potential Litigation for a Community Issue for discussion during executive session. Superintendent Goodwin also proposed a modification to 4.2 to include the landscaping and reimbursement for the generator project.

2. Business Office Reports (July-September)

2.1. Warrants Approved by Claims Auditor Sharon Patterson: Jim Eagan had nothing to add.

2.2. Business Manager Reports

A Budget Status Report as of September 30, 2018: Jim Eagan explains how there were three months' worth of data in the budget status report that was sent out. Mr. Eagan said he would be collecting questions to answer for the next meeting.

B Treasurer's Report Approved by Principal and Treasurer: Jim Eagan had nothing to add

2.3. 2018-2019 Budget Transfers: Jim Eagan reports slight fund transfers and invites the members to approach him with any questions regarding this.

2.4. 2016-2017 Audit Status: Jim Eagan reports that budget transfer revisions are being made and that the year-end accounting adjustments will be coming out the third week of November. He also mentions discussions will be taking place concerning interfund balances and extra classroom activity funds which will be made more up to date. Linda Mrowka and Christian Arsenault discussed the class of 2018's leftover funds briefly.

3. Action Items

3.1. Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the September 19, 2018 Board of Education Meeting: Linda Mrowka made a motion to approve, Robin Toldo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

3.2. Motion: To Approve the Sexual Harassment Policy #0110 (Second Reading) Robin Toldo made a motion to approve, Linda Mrowka seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

3.3. Motion: To Approve the Notice of Public Meetings Policy #2340 (Second Reading): Robin Toldo made a motion to approve, Linda Mrowka seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

3.4. Motion: To Appoint QAM Architect Firm for School/Faculty Housing Renovations Principal Arsenault explains the significance of this architect as they will be using this architect to get quotes to use for future bidding. He suggests the QAM Architect firm. A discussion then took place to clarify this motion. Bill Bloethe made a motion to approve, Tom Shillo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed

3.5. Motion: To Appoint Board of Education Members to the 2018-2019 School Committees: Christian Arsenault explains that all committees would be staying the same from this year to next. Robin Toldo made a motion to approve, Linda Mrowka seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

3.6. Motion: To Appoint Matt Edwards and Zack Hoch as Co-Assistant Basketball Coaches for the 2018-2019 School Year: Linda Mrowka made a motion to approve, Robin Toldo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

3.7. Motion: To Approve the Contract for School Nurse Services with Island Health Project for the 2018-2019 School Year: Linda Mrowka made a motion to approve, Robin Toldo seconded the motion. Jamie Doucette and Tom Shillo abstained. All in favor, none opposed.

3.8. Motion: To Appoint Douglass Gerherdt of Harris Beach as the Fishers Island School Board Attorney for the 2018-2019 School Year: Tom Shillo made a motion to approve, Bill Bloethe seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

4. Administrative Report

Prior Business

- 4.1. **School Accreditation Update:** Principal Arsenault updated the board that he has shared at the annual ICB meeting that they will be pursuing this and received an overwhelmingly positive response for it from the community members.
- 4.2. **Reimbursement for Generator Project & Landscaping Reimbursement:** Superintendent Karen Goodwin explained that the money for this generator was first fronted up before going about getting reimbursed from New York state. She reports that she has started the process of receiving this reimbursement as well as the SAMS grant for which proof of all other funds being used to sponsor the purchase of a generator were needed. She also reports that there will be money left over for which they will be using to fund the electric cable improvements to the school to make it a viable emergency shelter. This change would rest on changing the donations from the Volunteer Fire Department and the Sanger Fund to support the electric cable improvements instead of the generator project so the \$50,000 from the SAMS grant can be utilized to complete the original project. President Jamie Doucette will speak to Candy Sanger on October 25. Superintendent Goodwin will be talking to John Bergquist on behalf of the Volunteer Fire Department to see about allocating those funds to support the new cable. Tom Shillo explained details on estimated pricing for landscaping from Race Rock and Evergreen. Further work needs to be done in making sure that both offers are comparable to one another. Since specifications were not provided, the estimates were based on what each business thought was appropriate for the space. Goodwin encouraged to come back to look at each proposed plan in the future. Superintendent Goodwin asked Tom Shillo to obtain more information on the maintenance of the plantings and how it would look from the contractors.
- 4.3. **Paddle Tennis Project Update:** Superintendent Goodwin reports that delays a result of ProCourt not having the plans ready to show. They said they would be ready in a week, months ago. Waiting on the Community Center to make the decision to stay with ProCourt or change as Fishers Island School is simply donating the land.
- 4.4. **Oil Tank Repair:** Principal Arsenault reported that the company coming to fix the probe should be out to the island by the next board meeting.
- 4.5. **Bring Your Own Technology Device Update:** Principal Arsenault explained the steps that have been taken to try and use this idea. He wants to use an access code system on the WiFi system to allow varied usability types based on age. Principal Arsenault is looking into companies that could possibly assist with this switch over which will come with information on price points and services.

New Business

- 4.6. **Senior Class Trip 2019:** Principal Arsenault reported on the proposed idea for the senior class to take a three-day, two-night trip to Vermont during April break. The final proposal will come in December 19, 2018. Nick Oickle, a 12th grader, further details what will be done during this trip (i.e. hiking, fishing, horseback riding, museum, dining,

etc.) Principal Arsenault explained the need for only one chaperone due to the number of students in the class and the amount of money they have accumulated thus far.

4.7. New Fishers Island Viking Logo: Principal Arsenault spoke on this change as an improvement based on the fact that the old logo was the same as the Minnesota Vikings'. He thanks Adam Baber and Julie Mrowka for their assistance. He also reported that the scoreboard has been ordered. Linda Mrowka reported being asked about the updated names to the basketball banners in the gymnasium.

5. Information Packet for the Board of Education

5.1. SCOPE Forum- Volume 34, Number 17 (Handout)

6. Board Committee Reports

6.1. Faculty Housing: Jim Eagan reported that Eduardo and Christine's utilities are separate now and that addressing roofing will be the next project performed on staff housing.

6.2. Safety

6.3. Personnel

7. Public Participation: None at this time

8. Executive Session: Motion to adjourn to executive session made by Linda Mrowka and seconded by Bill Bloethe at 6:02 pm.

8.1 To Discuss Matters Leading to the Appointment, Employment, Promotion, Demotion, Discipline, Suspension, and/or Dismissal of a Particular Person: The Board came out of executive session at 6:26 pm. Robin Toldo made a motion whereas the District and teacher Linda Bean reached a settlement including a release and waiver of claims to settle and resolve matters pertaining to Ms. Bean's employment; and, be it resolved that the Board of Education now hereby approves the settlement agreement with Linda Bean and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the same. Bill Bloethe seconded this motion. All in favor, none opposed.

8.2 To Discuss Matters Leading to the Appointment, Employment, Promotion, Demotion, Discipline, Suspension, and/or Dismissal of a Particular Person: President Jamie Doucette made a motion to hire Ana Rose Webster as a long-term substitute for the Technology and Education teacher for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Linda Mrowka seconded this motion. All in favor, none opposed.

9. Adjournment: 7:14pm