

Board of Education Meeting Minutes August 18, 2021

Present: Jamie Doucette (President), Bill Bloethe (Vice President), Matthew Edwards (Member), Catherine Edwards (Member), Christian Arsenault (Superintendent/Principal), Jim Eagan (Business Manager) and Public.

Absent: Robin Toldo (Member)

1. Community Session:

1.1 Call to Order- President Jamie Doucette called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

1.2 Public Participation- None.

1.3 Celebrations:

A. Gymnasium Wall Mat Installation- The multi-class donation of wall mats in the gymnasium has been completed.

B. Summer 2021 IPP- The Island People's Project was able to hold summer camp on the school grounds using limited indoor space.

1.4 Additions to Agenda-

4.8 Motion to Authorize the Superintendent to Obtain Two Appraisals for the Excess Land at Reservoir Road

2. Business Reports

2.1 Warrants Approved by Claims Auditor- No questions or comments.

A. Warrant 37- June 9, 2021 Paid

B. Warrant 39- June 29, 2021 Paid

C. Warrant 3- July 20, 2021 Paid

2.2 Business Manager Reports- No questions or comments.

A. Revenue-Expense Status Report (June)- No questions or comments.

B. Treasurer Report (June)- No questions or comments.

2.3 2020-2021 Budget Transfers- No questions or comments.

3. Board Committee Reports

3.1 Faculty Housing Committee (FHC)- The faculty housing committee had some discussion at the last FHC meeting regarding the financial burden of maintaining the housing units. The potential of assessing the need for all current units was raised. Community members Mike George, Paul Giles, Carol Giles and Meg Atkin attended the Board meeting to express their concern over the District considering selling and of the housing units. The FHC will meet next month and report to the Board.

3.2 Safety Committee- The safety committee met to review school protocols regarding COVID-19 in regards to school re-opening. The committee came up with a re-opening plan that was shared with the Board. This plan included the use of masks, appropriate social distancing and testing options.

3.3 Personnel Committee- None.

4. Action Items

4.1 Approval of the Minutes of the July 7, 2021 Board of Education Meeting- Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Catherine Edwards . All in favor/none opposed.

4.2 Approval of the Minutes of the July 7, 2021 Audit Committee Meeting- Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Bill Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

4.3 Approval of the Minutes of the July 28, 2021 Special Board of Education Meeting- Motion made by Bill Bloethe, seconded by Matt Edwards. All in favor/none opposed.

4.4 Approval of the 2021-2022 Fuel Oil Bid-- Motion made by Catherine Edwards, seconded by Bill Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

4.5 Approval of the Donation of Approximately 50 Chromebooks from Sacred Heart, NYC School- - Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Bill Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

4.6 Approval of the 2021-2022 Emergency Response Plan-- Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Catherine Edwards . All in favor/none opposed.

4.7 Motion to Approve a Resolution to adopt the 2021-2022 School Reopening Guidelines- Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Catherine Edwards. All in favor/none opposed.

4.8 Authorization of the Superintendent to Obtain Two Appraisals for the Excess Land at Reservoir Road- Motion made by Matt Edwards, seconded by Bill Bloethe. All in favor/none opposed.

5. Administrative Report

5.1 Capital Improvement Project- The architects received an additional estimate as rates have increased for supplies and materials since the original estimate. The Board had included all alternates in the original estimate and needed to review necessities in order to make up for the increase. Alternates were reviewed with the Board. Catherine Edwards raised concern over the fire suppression system not being upgraded. Angela from QA+M indicated that a sprinkler system would be very expensive due to the amount of water pressure required to run the system on island. Additional smoke detection would need to be added to the school to ensure safety. The air conditioning option was also reviewed. Community member Paul Giles offered to donate an air conditioning unit to the school. QA+M asked the Board to further discuss and review the alternates over the next several months. QA+M also informed the Board that they should be letting interested companies know that a bid should be coming out by January 2022.

5.2 NEASC Accreditation- The staff will be participating in a meeting with NEASC to continue the accreditation process.

5.3 Reimbursement for Generator Grant Project- No updates.

5.4 Walsh Park/FIS Land Sale (Winthrop Drive)- Walsh Park is diligently working on receiving all the proper information to continue to

5.5 Reservoir Road Potential Land Sale- Mr. Arsenault will be obtaining additional

appraisals and will report back to the Board.

5.6 School Properties Tree Inspections- The trees on the school properties were evaluated and three trees were deemed unsafe due to rot or damage. Mr. Arsenault is obtaining quotes for removal.

5.7 Dress Code Policy #5300 Revision (First Reading)- The dress code was reviewed per student request. The updated policy reflects more generic/general neutral rules. There was a discussion around allowing students to wear hats and hoodies. The updated policy indicates that students will not be permitted to wear hats or hoodies in school.

6. Information Packet

6.1 2020-2021 Final Exam Schedule- No comments.

7. Public Participation- Meg Atkin indicated that the Board should consider discussing faculty housing with the Island Community Board. Carol Giles asked if the old mats from the gym could go to the community. Mr. Arsenault indicated that the mats are not rated for gymnastics but can be offered to the community with that understanding. Paul Giles notified the community and Board that COVID testing would no longer be covered under District insurance. He also asked the Board to consider hiring a full-time maintenance person for the faculty housing units in order to prevent larger costs due to lack of consistent maintenance.

8. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by Matthew Edwards, seconded by William Bloethe at 7:28 pm.