

FRANKLIN SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
September 30, 2014
6:30 PM

Present: Tim Magnant, Chairperson, David Rood, Bob Berger, Winton Goodrich, Superintendent of Schools, Joyce Hakey, Principal, Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary, Community Members-Adam Kane, Sarah Kane, Andy Godin, Stacie Kittell-Godin, Yvon Dandurand, Carrie Butler, Jason Butler, John Ho, Stephanie Ho, Courtney Bowen, Deb Berger, Annie Wagner

Tim Magnant called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. The board discussed changing the board meeting regarding the tractor sharing to October 22, 2014. Win Goodrich went over the different quotes and cost comparisons on different tractors. Win and Tim will get quotes from other equipment vendors.

7:00pm Kindergarten Program Discussion

Tim Magnant welcomed the parents/community to the special board meeting and the kindergarten discussion. He went over some ground rules for the visitors speaking. Some of the parents want a full day of Kindergarten and others want the Kindergarten to remain a half day.

The parents wanting a full day outlined the following:

More social time for their children

Transporting children to and from Kindergarten

With new challenging Common Core Curriculum, the students needed more time to learn.

With lengthening the day, it would provide a less stressful environment by spreading the work over a longer period of time.

The parents wanting to maintain a half day stated the following:

Franklin has good performance with a half day Kindergarten.

Smaller groups of kids works in favor of the child.

Students currently are tired after just half-day, what will it be when they have a full day?

Small class size is so advantageous; doubling the class adds more distractions, diverts teacher attention.

A full day has very little additional curriculum being taught with the addition of rest time, lunch and recesses.

Data shows that Franklin School has higher test scores than the rest of the Supervisory Union with all day Kindergarten.

Tim Magnant thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. The board will be making a decision on two things: starting a full day of Kindergarten in January for this school year or leaving it to a half day of Kindergarten.

This decision will be made at the October 8th meeting at MVU. The second consideration will be made during the budget process on whether to budget to have a full day of Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year or keep it at the current half day of Kindergarten. The board will post their decision for the all day Kindergarten or half day Kindergarten beginning in January on the website after the October 8th school board meeting and the Superintendent will write a letter to current Kindergarten parents.

The parents and community members left at 7:45pm.

Bob Berger made motion, seconded by David Rood to enter Executive Session for a Leave Request. They entered executive session at 7:47pm. The board approved the motion 3-0 vote.

The board exited executive session at 8:04pm.

The board discussed parents' reasons for wanting the full day versus the half day of Kindergarten.

Tim Magnant declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.