

FRANKLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2014 6:30pm

Present:

Board Members: Timothy Magnant, Bob Berger. David Rood was absent from the meeting.

Administration: Joyce Hakey, Principal, Becky Hart, Business Manager, Lora McAllister, Assistant Business Manager and Dr. John McCarthy, Superintendent.

Others Present: Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary.

Call to Order: Tim Magnant called the meeting to order at 6:45pm.

Citizens and Staff: Joyce explained that Yvon Dandurand had requested to be placed on the agenda but because he has a Select Board meeting, he will come to the next meeting.

Correspondence: Tim explained that he will be working with Peter Magnant and the Select-Board to write a letter to the State Legislators about H883 with their concerns about the loss of local control.

Approval of Minutes: Bob Berger made motion to approve the March 2014 board minutes. The board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote.

Business Manager's Report: Becky Hart reported that the revenues are up because the last Special Education payment came in higher than expected. The Speech expenses are up and other transportation such as homeless transportation. Joyce reported that there will be some anticipated tractor repair. At this time, Franklin is showing an anticipated carryover of \$8,061.67. Bob Berger made motion to approve the financial report as presented. The Board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote.

Check Warrants: Bob Berger made motion, to approve the March 2014 check warrants totaling \$109,535.46. The board approved on a 2-0 vote.

Becky stated that she is still seeking information so that she can complete the RFP for the energy efficiency article. She will bring the information to the next board meeting.

Executive Session: Bob Berger made motion to enter executive session at 7:15pm for personnel and contracts. Bob Berger made motion to exit executive session at 7:35pm. The board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote. Bob Berger made motion to add to the support staff benefits one additional sick day totaling 11 accumulating to 60 sick days. The board approved the motion 2-0 vote.

Bob Berger made motion, seconded by Tim Magnant to offer the support staff the Municipal Retirement Plan A effective July 1, 2015. The board approved the vote on a 2-0 vote.

Principal's Report:

School Report Info: Joyce Hakey reviewed some of the School Report information including enrollment numbers from October 2010 to October 2013 which has been stable over time. Joyce showed the Music

Band participation percentages in grades 4-6, the health report, Early Childhood information and the Local Comprehensive assessments plan. She explained about the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment and the Student Numeracy Assessment Progression. (SNAP) for K-2 students. She showed the 2013 Grades 3-7 NECAP results from Franklin, FNWSU (Sheldon, Swanton, Highgate, and Franklin elementary schools) and the State of Vermont. In reading, Franklin 85% of the students achieved proficient or proficient with distinction level with FNWSU 60% and the State of Vermont 70%. For the State's 70% proficient, students not on free/reduced were 81% proficient and students on free/reduced were 57% proficient. In Franklin in reading for the 85% proficient, 87% of not free/reduced were proficient and 80% of free/reduced students were proficient. In Math, Franklin's results were 79% of the students achieved proficient or proficient with distinction level with FNWSU 51% and the State of Vermont at 62%. Out of the state's 62% proficient in math, 72% were not free/reduced and 47% of free/reduced were proficient. In Franklin, out of the 79% proficient 82% were not free/reduced and 73% of free/reduced were proficient. The State is working hard to address the difference in achievement levels for students on free/reduced lunch and those who are not. The "poverty gap" in achievement that is such a concern at the state and national level is much less in Franklin. Franklin has been recognized several times for the high achievement for all students as well as other positive outcomes. Franklin was one of 3 schools in the state that was written about in the publication "Roots of Success: Effective Practices in Vermont Schools" as well as being named one of 14 "effective schools" by the Dept. of Education. In Writing (applicable to grade five students), Franklin had 72% proficient, FNWSU 52% and the State 53%. She also showed a comparison of NECAP Math/Reading/Writing test results from grades 3-7 from 2005-2013. Joyce also shared some other local indicators of student progress. Joyce explained that with Fountas and Pinnell testing, the expectation for the Kindergarten class is to achieve a level D by the end of the year. Joyce reported that in February testing, almost all of the Kindergarten students had already reached or exceeded the level D. Joyce also reported 3rd grade NECAP (which is done in October) results from several years including last year's which for reading Franklin was 89% proficient, FNWSU 57%, and the state 68% and for math Franklin was 82% proficient, FNWSU 53% and the state 65%. She also showed the NECAP Science Assessment comparisons for Grade 4 from 2008 to 2013 which are also higher than state and supervisory union results (in 2013 results Franklin was 64% proficient, FNWSU 28%, and the State 48%). Joyce discussed other indicators of success in non-academic areas as well. Discussion about the high number of seventh graders on the Honor Roll at MVU and just in the last couple of weeks two Franklin students were accepted and will attend Dartmouth and Princeton University. Joyce also showed samples of the NECAP released test items from different content areas and different grades.

Joyce reported that Franklin has been doing the Speech Contest since 1963. They had the contest on March 27th in the evening and the day time contest was the week before. Congratulations to all of the students. The top three from the evening contest were: First place-Dylan Goetz; Second Place- Riley Noel; Third Place- May Gratton. The top three in the daytime contest were: First Place- Ben Magnant, Second Place- Keirra McFadden and Third Place- Annie Ploof. Joyce said it is a lot of work for parents, staff, and students, and thanked everyone for all their effort, work and the courage each student displayed to speak publicly in front of an audience. The school will have the "Penny War" during Sprit Week and will donate the funds for the food shelf. Thanks to Kathy Rouleau for coordinating the Four Winds Science Program and to the other volunteers who have made this program possible for grades k-3. Franklin School participated in the Reading is an Investment program and two Franklin students won a

\$250 savings account (Maggie Rouleau and Brandi Paradis). We also had a student (Alan Rivers) win 2nd place in the Money Wise poster contest. All of the winners and their families were invited to a ceremony in Montpelier on April 10th.

Carolyn will come at the May board meeting to provide an update about the hot lunch programs. Joyce met with a representative from Franklin County Sheriff's office as it had been mentioned at a Select Board meeting about doing a training for their officers at the school. We will have more specific information at a later board meeting. The State visit for the After School Program went well. The board was supportive of the gun safety course to be held at the school during the After School Program.

Supt's Report:

Legislative Report is in the board's packets.

Dr. McCarthy has a negotiations meeting scheduled for April 29th with the board council only at MVU at 6pm.

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 14th, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Executive Session and Adjournment

Bob Berger made motion to enter executive session for legal issues at 9:00pm. The board approved the motion 2-0 vote. Bob Berger made motion to exit executive session at 9:44pm. The board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote. Tim Magnant declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45pm. The board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Berger, Board Clerk

by Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary