

FRANKLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2013 9:45 am

(meeting rescheduled from January 8, 2013)

Present:

Board Members: Jonathan Gates, Timothy Magnant and David Rood.

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

Others Present: Colette Ploof of M&C Transport, George Raynak-Technology Coordinator, Pierrette Bouchard School Board, Secretary

Call to Order: Jon Gates called the meeting to order at 9:45am.

Citizens and Staff: Colette Ploof came to the board meeting at the board's invitation to discuss the request from Vickie Gratton to have the elementary school students transported home in the afternoon when there is room on the bus. Colette expressed her concerns regarding what happens if in the future, bus routes change and there is no room on the bus, would the high school like to be transported home too and adding students to a bus changes the dynamics within the bus environment. M&C Bus Transport were willing to be flexible and support the board's decision. Colette Ploof left at 10:05am. Tim Magnant made motion for where the sidewalk ends, to add up to two additional bus stops to be determined between the end of the sidewalk after the Haston Library and Ploofs, on the afternoon run only and provided that there is space available on the bus. It is the intent that this addition is for the current 2012-2013 school year only and at this time, it will be revisited at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. The board approved the motion 3-0 vote.

Correspondence: none

Approval of Minutes: Tim Magnant made motion to approve the December 12, 2012 board minutes with the addition of the executive session and adjournment times. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Business Manager's Report:

Becky Hart reported that she increased the long term substitute expense line item due to the anticipated additional medical leaves. With the additional expense, she anticipates a deficit of \$7,600.00. She feels that they can find the savings in other line items and should get enough revenue from IDEA B for speech. Tim Magnant made motion to approve the financial report. The board approved the motion on a 2-0 vote.

Tim Magnant made motion to approve the check warrants in the amount of \$111,258.90 for December 2012. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

George Raynak was invited to the board meeting so that he could explain how other schools have taken advantage of leases to purchase the technology needed for schools. He explained that if the school wanted to purchase all the computers needed for one to one computing for grades 3,4,5 and 6, they could spread the cost of the technology over a three year lease with a low interest rate. He explained that the technology usually has a five year life span. Highgate and Sheldon are currently purchasing over a three year rotation. The computers left over after four years could go down to the lower grades. He explained that if they purchased 85 computers it would have an annual cost of \$10,095 for the hardware. Vermont is part of the RFP through the Agency of Education, so could have an opportunity for better pricing. These computers meet all the requirements for the online testing, good durable models with enough memory. Software license may also need to be purchased. The computers can be assigned to individual students and students take better care of the computer when they feel ownership as opposed to a shared model. Usually the school purchases a few extra so that if one breaks down or needs repair, they can use a substitute while it is being fixed. With a lap top, the battery usually dies in year 3 or 4 and will need a replacement battery at \$70 each. Year 4 is used to make repairs, replacements as needed. With the computers in the classroom, the lower grades can use the computer lab and Kathy Ovitt can go in to the classroom on a flexible or a scheduled basis. With having the computers in the classroom, the students can build the technological skills for testing, preparation for high school, college and for life. More and more learning is going online, whole continuum in education-individualized education adaptable to student needs. They can produce evidence of their own learning, sharing science projects; opportunities for creativity, innovation and design. Technology skills are embedded in the Common Core Standards. *George Raynak left the board meeting.*

FY14 Budget: Becky Hart handed out draft 5 of the FY14 Budget. She decreased books, decreased speech expense, she put in phase one of the five year plan for transportation to MVU and proposed extended the bus transportation contract for one more year. Next year will be when centralized transportation is supposed to go into effect. The board discussed increasing the technology budget to cover all the computer purchase and cover the software. The board approved increasing the computer line to \$11,000. Becky Hart informed the board that the budget increase will be 3.39% increase but the tax rate may go down or stay the same. Tim Magnant made motion to approve the FY2014 budget at \$1,609,782. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Announced Tuition: Becky Hart explained that the tuition rate for the upcoming school year for tuition students does not included Special Education and transportation expenses. She has a proposal of \$4,619 for Kindergarten and \$9238.00 for grades 1-6 for a tuition rate. Tim Magnant made motion to set and approve the announced tuition rate at \$4,619 for Kindergarten and \$9,238.00 for grades 1-6. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Transportation Issue: Dr. McCarthy brought a five year phase in agreement between Franklin and MVU to share the cost of the transportation. Tim Magnant made motion to approve the five year phase in agreement for the transportation issue and authorize the board chair to sign it. The board approved the motion on a 5-0 vote.

Principal's Report:

Public Informational Meeting: After a short discussion, the board proposed having the informational meeting on Wed., Feb. 13th at 7:30pm. The board will have their regularly scheduled meeting at 7pm of the same evening.

School Happenings: Joyce Hakey reported that the concert went very well. Thank you to Danielle Hurley for substituting for Jennifer McConnell and doing such a good job. The tractor ride was a success thanks to Tim Magnant. NAEP testing will take place on February 7th with grade 4. The school district has not received the NECAP results yet.

The school has reviewed bus policies. The school and staff have revisited school safety. They have ordered a couple of additional locks. Joyce has a student/legal issue for executive session.

Supt's Report:

Policy : Dr. McCarthy requested that the board review policy A,B,C and D sections . He will bring those policies to next month's meeting and designate the sections as reviewed.

MVU Principal: They will be announcing the new MVU Principal on Friday morning.

Next Meeting Date: February 13, 2013 at 7pm. The next Franklin Board meeting will be on Feb. 13, 2013 at 7pm. The next Franklin Northwest SU board meeting will be on April 3, 2013 @ 7pm in Franklin.

Tim Magnant made motion to enter executive session for student and legal issues at 12:10pm. The board approved the motion.

Tim Magnant made motion to exit executive session at 1:09pm. The board approved the motion 3-0 vote.

Jonathan Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 1:10pm,

Respectfully submitted,

David Rood, Clerk

by Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary

