

**Sheldon Elementary School
Board of Directors Meeting
January 12, 2010**

The Sheldon School Board of Directors met on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 5:30 pm in the school library.

Those in attendance were Board members Paula Howrigan, Celeste Kane-Stebbins, and Jacob Bourdeau, administrators Lenny Rosenberg and Becky Hart and board secretary Susan Brouillette.

Ms. Howrigan called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Howrigan made a motion to approve the November 10, 2009 minutes as printed, which was seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to approve the December 7, 2009 minutes as printed. Ms. Howrigan seconded the motion. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to approve the January 6, 2010 Budget Meeting minutes as printed. Ms. Howrigan seconded the motion.

Correspondence: The Board received a thank you note from Diane Chaffee as well as a copy of a letter from the State of Vermont Department of Taxes that was mailed to the Sheldon Town Clerk.

Contracts: none.

Old Business:

- Mr. Rosenberg shared that Control Technologies has completed all the work in the gym and will be finishing up work in library.
- Mr. Rosenberg shared that copies of the school's blueprints have been made. He will follow up on having additional blueprints copied. Originals will be stored at the Town Office; a copy will be left at the school for easy access.
- Ms. Kane-Stebbins inquired about the internet connection and Mr. Rosenberg shared that per Mr. Raynak changing our internet service can be less expensive but more difficult to transition. Mr. Rosenberg agreed to follow up asking for more details as to the difficulties with transitioning.
- Ms. Howrigan inquired about the ARRA Grant application and Ms. Hart shared that Sheldon School did not receive an invitation to complete round 2 of the grant application. She stated that it appeared most projects that were accepted seemed to pertain to outside lighting projects.
- Ms. Howrigan shared that she checked with Dr. McCarthy about the Long Term Planning minutes and they have not yet been completed.

Business Manager's Report

Ms. Hart presented the December 2009 financial report, which has a projected carryover of \$56,000, basically unchanged from previous month. Mr. Rosenberg shared that a new student has enrolled that may need to have a one-on-one aide and there is an upcoming meeting to discuss this further. There was Board discussion. Ms. Kane-Stebbins moved to accept the December 2009 financial report as presented; Mr. Bourdeau seconded the motion.

Ms. Hart presented the 2011 announced tuition rates, which are based on the proposed budget for next year. She is recommending the rate for Kindergarten be \$4,360, for grades 1-6 to be \$8,720,

and for grades 7-8 to be \$9,756. These rates are due to the State January 15, 2010 and will become the maximum amounts that can be charged until after the year is completed. Ms. Hart reported that rates are down from the 2010 announced tuition rates as enrollment is up slightly and our capital debt is down. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to approve the announced tuition rates as presented; seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins.

Budget – Ms. Hart presented Draft 4 of the 2010-2011 school budget. Changes included the health insurance cost at the Supervisory Union, which is 3% and other changes that were discussed at the January 6, 2010 budget meeting. There was Board discussion; discussion regarding salaries was tabled to Executive Session.

The Board discussed scheduling two Informational Meetings for a 2010-2011 school budget presentation. One will be the same evening as the February Board meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. and the second scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Hart is planning to have all information given for the Town Report by January 22, 2010. The Board agreed to meet on Monday, January 18, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for final preparation of information for the Town Report and Informational Meetings.

Other – none.

Principal's Report

Grants, Cultural Awareness and Literacy/Technology – Mr. Rosenberg reported that Sheldon received a \$1,500 grant to help support the school-wide African project which supports cultural diversity. A grant of \$10,000 was also received on Literacy/Technology that was prepared by Kosha Patel. He noted there was a training today on using the new netbooks and how to incorporate them in the classroom learning for the 7/8 grade students. These netbooks are in addition to those previously received in the computer lab.

Personnel – to be discussed in Executive Session.

H1N1 Clinic Update – is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2010; the school is set to go.

School Wide Presentations – BFA and Anti Bullying – Mr. Rosenberg shared there was a BFA on presentation January 11, 2010 for grades 5-8 on the Fine Arts opportunities at their school. The presentation included 45 minutes of their band, vocal and dance team. The anti-bullying TIGER group is postponed to a future date.

Other –

- Dedication of the Town Report was discussed. Mr. Rosenberg will follow up with the Board members.

Superintendent's Report

Tabled in Dr. McCarthy's absence.

Legislative Report – was included in the School Board's packets.

New Business

Meeting Dates - The next regular Sheldon School Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. The agenda meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 7:30 a.m. The Board will meet Monday, January 18, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for final preparation of budget information for the Town Report. The next FNWSU Board meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Franklin Elementary School. Budget informational meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the school Library.

At 6:30 p.m. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss salary budget, a student issue, and negotiations with professional staff. Ms. Kane-Stebbins seconded the motion.

Executive Session – Mr. Bourdeau moved to exit Executive Session; motion seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:35pm.

Mr. Bourdeau moved to approve the Head Custodian's request for 5 sick days, cumulative to 15 days; motion seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins.

Mr. Bourdeau moved to approve Debbie Kittell's request to decrease hours by combining Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeping duties, dependent on FY 2011 budget approval; motion seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins.

Mr. Bourdeau moved to approve a FY 2011 proposed budget in the amount of \$5,279,433.00; motion seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins.

The Board reviewed and signed orders. It was noted the IRS rate for mileage reimbursement changed effective January 1, 2010.

Ms. Kane-Stebbins moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Mr. Bourdeau. Meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Celeste Kane-Stebbins, Board Clerk