

**Sheldon Elementary School
Board of Directors Meeting
Sheldon Elementary School Library
December 13, 2011**

Board Members in attendance: Celeste Kane-Stebbins, Jacob Bourdeau, and Laurie Oliver, administrators Jack McCarthy, Becky Hart and Principal Lenny Rosenberg.

A Channel 15 representative attended the meeting taping it for public access.

Guests included Lora McAllister, FNWSU Assistant Business Manager and Jenna Clark

Mr. Bourdeau called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Citizens and Staff

Ms. Clark presented the Board with a check for \$476 from Sheldon Cares that was previously raised by the group that was intended to cover playground expenses.

Chris Comstock presented an overview of the instrumental and choral program that he is currently responsible for. Overall, he presented that the number of students in the 3 instrumental groups has grown, but will lose 10-12 students with this year's graduating class. He stressed that the ability to provide private lessons is what makes or breaks a music program and he hopes that this opportunity will continue into the future. Goals for the program include expanding participation in outside school activities.

George Raynak, Technology Director, Supervisory Union, presented Powerschool. Discussion took place on training needs, cost, comparison to current software (Web-2-School and Jupiter Grades), use by other school districts and implementation plan and timeline. Conversion to the new software was supported by Mr. Rosenberg with the understanding adequate training would be provided to staff. The goal would be to implement the new software across all districts in FNWSU prior to the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Ms. Kane-Stebbins to accept the November 8, 2011 minutes with corrections. Motion was seconded by Ms. Oliver. Motion passed 3-0.

Correspondence:

Mr. Bourdeau shared a letter from the State had been received, but not yet read.

Old Business:

- Exordium—a contract was presented for the 2011-2012 school year as a follow up to the prior month's meeting.
- Jay Peak Job Fair – Mr. Rosenberg presented that it appeared to be well attended.
- Notecards – Ms. Kane-Stebbins inquired if notecards had been printed. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he would follow up with Kay Grimes.
- Website – Ms. Oliver indicated she had missed the opportunity to get the survey into the Bear News.

Business Manager's Report

Mrs. Hart distributed and presented the November 2011 financial report. Tuition lines had been updated based on the final tuition bills. There was discussion on various line items. Ms. Kane-Stebbins made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Ms. Oliver seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Principal's Report

- Career Exploration – This initiative was the result of the Long Term Planning meeting. The first two presentations occurred and were considered favorable by both students and administration. The goal is to have these one or two times a month.
- Efficiency VT Rebate – a \$2k rebate was received as expected for the installation of the two circular pumps.
- Personnel – to be discussed in Executive Session
- Parent Teacher Conferences – Attendance percentages were shared by grade for the current session as compared to previous years with a noticeable increase in attendance overall, with significant improvement in middle school attendance and Kindergarten.
- Concerts – a reminder of the holiday music concerts taking place during the week.
- Improvement Plan – District Principals met with the Department of Education official. While no changes to the content were received, it was noted that the Plan required 2 peer reviews and Sheldon's plan had only been subject to one. A second review will be coordinated. The plan will be placed on the website once the final approval is received by the State.

Superintendent's Report

- Board Secretary – Dr. McCarthy shared that there has been an inquiry by an individual on the position. He asked that this be discussed in Executive Session as it involves a current employee.
- Negotiations – general update that the paraprofessional staff contract had been ratified and legal counsel is currently working on the final drafts.
- Powerschool – Dr. McCarthy asked the Board to make a motion to take action on the implementation of the software so that budget planning and overall implementation planning among the schools in the FNSWU can be coordinated. Ms. Kane-Stebbins made a motion to implement Powerschool for the 2012-2013 school year. Ms. Oliver seconded the motion. There was further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business

No new business.

Meeting Dates –

- Sheldon School Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. The agenda meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 7:00 a.m.

Due to budget planning and Town Meeting, the FNWSU will not meet again until April 2012.

At 7:05 p.m. Mrs. Kane-Stebbins moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and contract issues. Mrs. Oliver seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Executive Session

The Board exited Executive Session at 8:25p.m.

Ms. Kane Stebbins made a motion to approve the Exordium contract for the 2011-2012 school year. Seconded by Ms. Oliver. Motion passed 3-0.

Ms. Kane Stebbins made a motion to approve the Student Assistance Program (SAP) contract for the 2011-2012 school year. Seconded by Ms. Oliver. Motion passed 3-0.

Dr. McCarthy would follow up with individual regarding the Board Secretary position.

The Board reviewed and signed orders.

Mr. Bourdeau moved to adjourn; Mrs. Kane-Stebbins seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laurie Oliver, Board Clerk

Laurie M. Oliver