

**Sheldon Elementary School
Board of Directors Meeting
September 9, 2014**

The Sheldon School Board of Directors met on Tuesday, September 9 at 5:30 pm @ Sheldon School.

Those in attendance were Board members Celeste Kane-Stebbins, Jason McConnell, and Travis Perry. Superintendent Winton Goodrich, Becky Hart, Principal Linda Keating and Board Secretary Debbie Kittell. A Channel 15 representative attended the meeting taping it for Public Access TV. Several Sheldon citizens attended the meeting who were concerned about this year's high school busing schedule. Mike and Diane Begnoche, from Grand Avenue Bus Company and Mariann Gamache were also in attendance.

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. McConnell called the Board meeting to order at 5:35PM and led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

- **Agenda Revision**

None

Comments and Correspondence from the Public (Listen)

- **Possible Topics for Future Board Meeting Agendas**

- **High School Transportation Feedback**

Tom Oliver, representing the group of parents present, shared concerns about high school bussing schedule change(s) that affected Enosburg High School students. Parents expressed safety concerns regarding new pick up / drop off points vs home pick up.

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes (Action)

Ms. Kane-Stebbins moved to approve the August, 2014 Board minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Travis Perry and adopted by the Board 3-0.

Old Business

- **High School Transportation Discussion**

The Board discussed options addressing parent concerns:

- Can Grand Avenue put together a revised bus schedule?
- Will this route reconfiguration meet the safety needs of the students?
- How will adding the 3rd bus impact the current budget?

Ms. Kane-Stebbins moved to reinstate a 3rd bus for high school transportation. Travis Perry seconded the motion and adopted by the Board 3-0.

- **Transportation Collaboration with Receiving High Schools**

The Board and Mr. Goodrich will move forward with communication with Franklin Central and Franklin Northeast Supervisory Unions regarding busing and their role in providing high school transportation for Sheldon students. The Board and Superintendent also agreed to improve communication with high school parents.

Business Manager's Report

- **Financial Report**

Ms. Hart presented a condensed Financial Report highlighting expenditure and revenue analysis. Ms. Hart reported the Affordable Care Act penalty has been pushed back until FY'16 and these budgeted funds are not anticipated to be expended this year.

Ms. Kane-Stebbins moved to accept the Financial Report as presented; motion seconded by Mr. McConnell. Motion passed 3-0.

- **Check Warrants (Action)**

N/A

- **Contracts (Action)**

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Principal's Report

- **Updates and Announcements**

Ms. Keating shared a new Friday Focus for staff as a way to keep initiatives in the forefront for school improvement. Ms. Keating also presented the Board with a 2014-15 calendar for professional staff.

- **Leading, Teaching and Learning**

The school now has an Integrated Leadership Team. The Team incorporates priorities from the SWIFT, Action Planning and Data Oversight Teams. The role of the ILT is to build capacity with new initiatives.

- **Monthly SWIFT Bits**

Sheldon's new SWIFT Liaison, from the University of Kansas, is Bonnie Poe. Ms. Poe is a former Sheldon School Principal and will join the Integration Team.

- **Facilities**

The new Special Education Room is working out extremely well for assessments, and instruction, in addition to providing additional meeting space.

- **Other**

Ms. Keating shared that 30 new students enrolled this school year; 50% are in the primary grades.

Old Business

High School Transportation

See High School Transportation Discussion

Other

None

Superintendent's Report

- **School Board Code of Ethics**

Mr. Goodrich presented a Code of Ethics highlighting:

- Board Roles
- Ethical Standards
- Respect

Mr. Goodrich will present the Code of Ethics for signature from all FNWSU District Board Members at the Carousel Board meeting.

- **Board Goals**

Mr. Goodrich will send Board goals to the members via email.

- **Preparation for Budget Development**

The October FNWSU Board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 8th @ MVU. During these meetings a framework for budget planning will be presented. The Carousel Meeting schedule includes:

- 6PM meeting for the Supervisory Board;
- 7PM all Board Member information sharing;
- 8PM individual school boards meet.

- **SU Custodial and Facilities Planning**

Planning is underway for the possibility of sharing facilities expertise within our district. Shared expertise may include plumbing, HVAC, grounds, electrical, etc. The Superintendent is also looking into possible benefits with Vermont School Board's Insurance Trust.

- **SWIFT Parent Letter**

A letter outlining SWIFT participation was recently sent home to all Sheldon Parents.

- **New Board Member Email Addresses**

Mr. Goodrich asked Board members to create separate Gmail accounts to, solely for the purpose of conducting electronic board business.

New Business

- Energy Efficiency – John Ho

Mr. Ho will be present at the next board meeting.

Meeting Dates

SU Board Meeting – September 10th @ 6PM @ Highgate

- VSBA School Finance Regional Meeting – October 1st @ 5:00PM @ Milton
- FNWSU Carousel Board Meeting – October 8th @ 6:00PM @ MVU

Executive Session

Before entering into Executive Session, the Superintendent signed “Letters of Intent” for newly hired para-educators.

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to enter executive session; the motion was seconded by Ms. Kane-Stebbins. The motion passed 3-0. The Board entered Executive Session @ 7:45PM to discuss a contract, personnel issue and negotiations update. The Board exited executive session at 8:20.

Board action moved by Ms. Kane-Stebbins, seconded by Mr. Perry and passed by 3-0 vote:

- Directed the business manager to post snow plow bids and place an advertisement in the St. Albans Messenger for six days
- Directed principal to follow up with complainant as discussed in executive session

The Board reviewed and signed orders.

Adjournment

C. Kane-Stebbins made motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Perry. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Kane-Stebbins

Board Clerk

Debbie Kittell
Board Secretary