

Sheldon Elementary School
Board of Director's Meeting
August 11, 2015

The Sheldon School Board of Directors met on August 11, 2015, 5:30PM at Sheldon Elementary School. Those in attendance were Board Members Travis Perry and Jason McConnell, Superintendent Winton Goodrich, Principal Christie Martin and Bookkeeper/Board Secretary Debbie Kittell. A Channel 15 representative attended the meeting taping it for public access television.

Guests included Paul Gregoire, Facilities Director from MVU, Sheldon Head Custodian, Hazen Stone and Abbey Food Service Staff Tina Bushey and Erika Lamothe. Sheldon/Swanton House Representative Maryanne Gamache was also present.

Call to Order

Mr. Perry called the meeting to order @ 5:30PM and led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments and Correspondence from the Public

Mr. Goodrich welcomed Representative Maryanne Gamache. Ms. Gamache applauded the efforts of the School Board and the important job they are doing; she also shared the complexities of Act 46.

Approval of June/July Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. McConnell made a motion to approve June and July board meetings notes. Mr. Perry seconded and the motion passed 2-0.

Business Report

Mr. Goodrich reported that Sheldon will need to borrow funds in anticipation of taxes. People's Trust will charge .75% to extend a line of credit.

Jason McConnell made a motion to approve and sign the agreement with People's Trust Company; seconded by Travis Perry. Motion passed 2-0.

Finance Report

Mrs. Hart was unable to attend Board Meeting.

Warrants

The Board reviewed and signed warrants.

Principal's Report

Updates, Announcements and Celebrations

The carpet removal and tiling of several classrooms and sidewalk upgrades around the perimeter of the building including cement walk outs from each classroom door are completed. Work in the main office is nearly finished to enclose the area for better security.

Leading, Teaching, and Learning

Kosha Patel and Jennifer Childress recently presented at the Vermont READS Institute; high praise came from program leaders for their work. Sheldon's Literacy work is strong and Kosha and Jenn are leading the way in Literacy.

New Teacher Orientation will take place on Thursday and Friday this week with Libby Bonesteel and Inservice for all staff begins on Tuesday.

Seventeen teachers participated in the Math Workshop that took place at the end of the school year; Grade 3/4 teacher, Natalie Bruzzi will be the studio teacher and her classroom will pilot the Math Program. Teachers from grades 7/8 will participate in the MVU 'algebra' studio.

Ms. Martin has invited every teacher and board member to come in and visit with her during the first month of school; posing these questions:

- What do you think is the most important thing that needs to be worked on?
- What makes Sheldon, Sheldon?
- What are we proud of, what should be protected, what should we fix...?
- What data drives your decisions?

Mr. Goodrich shared that our school nurse, Kathy Gorton attended a workshop with other district employees at Stratton Mountain and worked on a district wide Wellness Plan; working on emotional health, physical exercise, mindfulness, etc. One of the goals was to create a wellness focus at school to be modeled for the children.

Several staff members also attended the BEST Institute focusing on Sheldon PBIS (Positive Behavior Support System).

Preliminary Review of SBAC Assessment Date

Preliminary data show many similarities with NECAP scores across the district.

Calendar Highlights

- Kindergarten Ice Cream Social on Friday, @ 6PM
- Welcome Back BBQ on Tuesday @ 6PM

Superintendent's Report

Facilities and Grounds Summer Work Update

Mr. Goodrich welcomed Paul and Hazen and there was discussion regarding the building HVAC and other building maintenance and system repairs. The school currently employs Control Technologies for these services. Mr. Goodrich proposed working with TCV (Temperature Controls of Vermont); which has served MVU very well in the last few years. Some of the discussion included:

- user components
- better control of building temperature
- knowledge of services could be shared within the district
- web-based control
- no annual contract fee
- no additional costs with current budget

TCV Auto Logic Contract Decision

Jason McConnell made a motion for the Board Chair to sign a contract to transition to TCV; seconded by Travis Perry. Motion passed 2-0.

Abbey Food Service Discussion

Tina Bushey and Erika Lamothe presented and shared upcoming highlights to the Abbey Food Service Program this year:

- Offering free breakfast to every student at school daily at no cost to the school, parents or district (Sheldon School qualifies, federally subsidized);
- Currently 50% breakfast and 72% lunch participation;
- Some menu items will be taken from Vermont Feed Cookbook;
- Using local foods whenever possible;
- Smoothie machine for breakfast weekly.

August 3rd School Break-In Update

There was a forced entry into the music room by breaking through glass; two acoustic guitars were stolen. Law enforcement is involved and Portland Glass is working to repair the damages.

Security Camera Discussion

Upgrading security was also discussed and tabled for the next Board Meeting.

ESP Master Agreement Ratification

The Educational Support Personnel Contract should be ready for signatures in September. No action is necessary at this Board Meeting. Mr. Goodrich will forward the Master Agreement for all parties to review.

Act 46 Update

Discussion regarding outlining possibilities for Sheldon's choices. It was noted that Sheldon Board Members want to choose a consultant that will best work for Sheldon's needs.

Discuss possible PK-8 Regional Education District (RED)

Discussion regarding options for RED for the Franklin Northwest District; it is clear that Sheldon families value high school choice and having their own School Board.

High School Bussing

High School bus bids will be in soon and Sheldon is well positioned for door- to -door pickup for MVU high school students; BFA and EFHS will be pooled pick up and drop offs.

Budget Planning

Mr. Goodrich shared threshold caps with allowable growth with budget revenues and grants combined; FY '17 budget increase should not exceed 3.07%.

There was also discussion regarding a 'task force' that is being created at the state level to work with the Agency of Education for Educator Quality Standards. Discussion will take place with Administrators at the upcoming Administrative Meeting.

Tech Coordinator - No extra summer work days

There has been a contractual change for the Technology Coordinator's summer work day schedule.

Other

Each school in the district will be receiving a defibulator as part of a \$10,000 district grant. Districts / schools that use VSBIT for their school insurance needs share this \$10,000 grant yearly.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session necessary at this meeting.

Jason McConnell made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting @ 7:25PM and was seconded by Travis Perry. Motion passed 2-0.

Board Meeting Dates

FNWSU Board - August 12th, 7:00 PM @ Highgate

Sheldon Welcome Back BBQ - Tuesday, August 18th @ 6PM

Sheldon Elementary Board Meeting - September 8th, 5:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jason McConnell, Board Clerk

Debbie Kittell, Board Secretary