

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Ossipee Central School
Monday, October 19, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The school board meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by Chair James Rines.
Members Present: Ernest Brown, Diane Drelick, Wendi Fenderson, Dr. James B. Manning, Charlene Seibel, Stacy Trites, John Widmer

Members Absent: Donald Meader

Also present at this time were Superintendent Robertson and Assistant Superintendent Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert .

II. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: To go into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91 A:3 Subparagraph IIB and IIE at 6:42 PM to discuss A. Student Matter, Personnel & Legal Matters.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mrs. Drelick

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

Mr. Robertson informed the Board of a teacher resignation, effective November 2, 2009.

Motion: To accept the resignation of Amanda Milligan with appreciation for her years of service to the students of the District.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mrs. Drelick

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

Mr. Robertson informed the Board of a request from GWEA to include the two social workers in Article A.1.1 – Recognition.

Motion: To approve the request from GWEA to include the two new social workers in the collective bargaining agreement, Article A.1.1 – Recognition.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mr. Brown

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

Mr. Robertson informed the Board of a personnel matter. No action was taken.

III. END OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion: To come out of non-public session at 6:54 PM.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mr. Brown

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

The regular portion of the meeting began at 7:00 PM. Also in attendance at the regular meeting was Tim Campbell, Student Representative, Elizabeth Hertzfeld, Principal, Chris Diamont, Assistant Principal, and several teachers. Also present was Joseph Bradley, who videotaped the meeting, Heather Terragni from the Granite State News and interested citizens.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

V. AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Robertson added a legislative update as Item F.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the Minutes of September 28, 2009 as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mr. Brown

Vote: All in favor, including the Chair.

VII. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input at this time.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Tim Campbell provided an informative report for the Board. A copy of Tim's report is attached. Tim asked to be excused to go home early to study for testing.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**A. Welcome Principal Hertzfeld**

Mr. Robertson stated he was happy to be visiting Ossipee this evening and then turned the meeting over to Principal Hertzfeld. Ms. Hertzfeld reported the playground equipment that came from a \$5,000 grant from Lowe's was installed over the weekend. Now there is something for everyone and the kids are happy about it. Ms. Hertzfeld stated no students were invited this evening since NECAPS are underway and they would like the children to be well rested. She turned the meeting over to Elaine Meyers who provided a demonstration that involved the Board members taking part in the game "Jeopardy." The game can be loaded with all types of questions that are pertinent to students' courses. The Board members were actively engaged in the game she prepared for this demonstration. They thanked Ms. Meyers for her entertaining presentation.

B. Phase I Update

Mr. Robertson provided some general information to the public. The Bid documents have been sent out to the pre-qualified bidders who are busy working on them now. They are due on November 10, 2009. The next Building & Maintenance meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 4:00 PM at the SAU Office. Mr. Robertson reported he expects the architects Al and Chip to be present to answer questions that might come up. It is hoped to have a ground breaking ceremony before Thanksgiving.

Mr. Robertson reported on the required waiver for the use of artificial turf in order to qualify for the CHPS program. The packet of information has been sent to the NHDOE. Mr. Rines reported the site specific application received a favorable review. The wetlands permit is expected to arrive soon. Mr. Robertson provided some information on the outdoor bleachers setup. Mr. Rines stated the bleachers will hold up to 1102 spectators which includes wheelchairs.

Mr. Brown distributed his notes from the last meeting. Mr. Robertson thanked Mr. Brown for his detailed minutes. Mr. Brown expressed his hope for area drillers to ban together to bid on drilling the 330 geothermal wells.

Mr. Robertson reported the Skylight Dining Room has been reserved for December 4th for a meeting with the PTO's from each town for a quick tour of the building site.

C. Middle School Co-Teaching Project

Middle School teachers Nancy Harwood and Diane Harrington gave a presentation to the Board describing the training they have received from consultant, Carol Kosnitsky, who has been training staff members on co-teaching techniques. It begins with a collaborative relationship that is entered into freely and exists by choice. The teachers share decision making and agree to redistribute their roles as it relates to planning, teaching and assessing. All the while, they are gaining a new experience and the students are reaping the benefits of this new teaching style. Nancy Harwood has teamed up with Krista Abear while Diane Harrington has teamed up with Sally Stewart. Diane showed a video clip of the classroom with two teachers who were sharing the responsibilities. Mr. Brown asked what the students think of this new plan. Diane responded they love it and she felt lucky to have this opportunity. Mrs. Cuddy-Egbert noted student behavior has been much better while the students are actively engaged in what they are doing in the classroom.

Principal Ross was present and noted he has seen a positive change in the behaviors at the middle school this year. Assistant Principal Ms. Onufry stated it appeared the behaviors of this new class is generally better and there are fewer students lingering in the hallways. The students seem to be more interested in what is going on in the classroom. Mrs. Trites noted the students were observing the teachers modeling collaboration. The Board thanked the staff members for their informative presentation.

D. Building Aid/Legislative Update

Mr. Robertson has learned the legislator has found \$56 million in a rainy day fund that has about \$56 million more in it than anticipated; a onetime buffer that will help offset the \$110 JUA fund lost that is now in appeal to the State Supreme Court. He reported on the discouraging news for revenue shortfalls at the state level which were slightly better than originally forecast. The State employees contract negotiations have failed so layoffs are about to begin. Currently NH unemployment is at 7.2% which is lower than the national level of 9.8%. However 25,000 people have lost their jobs here in New Hampshire this year.

Mr. Robertson reports the state continues to send its responsibilities back to the local level by shifting financial responsibilities such as retirement contributions. Also retiree health insurance will no longer be available for future retirees. He noted the vocational funds cannot be tapped by other sources. Ms. Seibel noted the fact that the southern part of the state has a larger distribution of legislators while the northern part of the state has less.

E. NHSBA Resolutions

Mr. Robertson asked the Board if they had any ideas to submit. After a brief discussion it was decided no new suggestions would be forwarded to NHSBA this year.

X. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Correspondence

Mr. Rines noted a sympathy card was sent to Christine Aucoin (Gr 4 teacher at CLS) when her grandmother passed away. A sympathy card was sent to Betty Sackos (SPED Secretary @ SAU) when her mother-in-law passed away and a get well card was sent to Mike Fratantuono (custodian @ CLS) who is recovering from surgery.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Academic Affairs

Mrs. Trites reported the Committee had met earlier this evening to hear a presentation by the World Language teachers, Felice Carr and Kara Jacobs who are proposing a new course for fall 2010 that would be offered to all Spanish students after Level 3 (ctp/honors). The proposal would broaden student knowledge and develop an understanding of Spanish speaking people in this country as well as the Americas. It would also increase student technology. This course would help Level 3 learners gain more confidence before going for Spanish 4. Some students are not ready to move on and this class would be completely submerged in Spanish. Mr. Brown noted the proposal did not involve any new personnel.

Motion: To approve the request to offer Spanish Culture & Civilization as a Level 4 course for students who have completed Level 3 Spanish.

Moved by: Ms. Seibel

Seconded by: Mrs. Drelick

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

Mrs. Trites noted the next meeting will be on November 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM prior to the next board meeting at Tuftonboro Central School.

B. Building & Maintenance

Mr. Brown reported the next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at the SAU Office at 4:00 PM.

C. Public Relations

Dr. Manning reported the Committee will meet on Friday, November 13th at 12:00 PM at the SAU office, which is following the bid opening.

D. Finance

No report at this time.

E. School & Human Resources

No report at this time.

XII. CLOSING ACTIVITIES

A. Advanced Planning

Mr. Rines noted the events scheduled at the bottom of the agenda.

B. Public Input

There was no public input at this time.

C. Closing Comments

Dr. Manning commented on the Jeopardy game and thanked Elaine for doing a great job. Mr. Widmer agreed with Dr. Manning. Mr. Widmer thought it was a great program too. Mrs. Drelick had no further comments. Ms. Seibel said it was great to be here in Ossipee and agreed it was a great program and thanked Beth. Mrs. Trites echoed Ms. Seibel's comments. Mrs. Fenderson had no further comments. Mr. Brown was pleased to hear about the Math Team coming in 2nd out of 17 teams and thanked the teachers for keeping the students motivated. He also thought the Spanish program would help students who plan to attend college be better prepared. Mr. Rines echoed all the previous comments and noted he will be away this week and not be able to attend the Building & Maintenance meeting.

XIII.**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:37 PM.

Moved by: Mr. Widmer Seconded by: Mr. Brown

Vote: All voted in favor, including the Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne K. Fiorini
School Board Secretary

Student Representative Report - Tim Campbell

- As this is the last week of the first quarter, midterms have started. Today was A Block Exam, Tuesday will be B Block, Wednesday C Block, and Thursday will be D Block.
- The Math team finished second out of eleven schools in their first meet of the year at Belmont High School, congratulations. John Jamieson and Corbyn Lamy were high scorers for Kingswood. Seventeen students participated in the meet for Kingswood, which is the highest participation rate ever at Kingswood.
- Monday, October 19th the Girls Volleyball team had their senior night. They are also raised money for Breast Cancer Awareness with a "Dig Pink" theme.
- Starting on Tuesday, October 6th juniors had NECAP testing.
- The SAT's were held at Kingswood on Saturday, October 10th and the PSAT's were held on Saturday, October 17th.
- Agriculture students participated in the Deerfield and Sandwich Fairs over the past few weeks. They came in first at the Inter Scholastic competition and UNH.
- Hospitality and Culinary hosted a meeting for NH Principles Association. Both Mr. Guyer and Mr. Ross were there.
- Marketing has been very successful selling items at football games.
- HOSA is hosting Frank Santos Jr. the hypnotist this Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Kingswood auditorium.
- State Department of Education is visiting the Vocational Center to evaluate all programs. This will help move plans forward in the building process.
- Girl's field hockey begins their play offs on Tuesday, October 20th.
- The National Honor Society is starting the Kingswood and Kids program on Saturday, October 24th at the High School.