

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #16 SCHOOL BOARD

Mechanic Falls – Minot - Poland

The 9th Regular Meeting of the RSU #16 School Board

for 2012–2013 was held

Monday, April 8, 2013

6:30 P.M.

Poland Regional High School, Library

MINUTES

Present: Eleanor Biron, Jennifer Boenig, Sue Callahan, Grace Gendron, Steve Holbrook, Mary Ella Jones, Mary Martin, Joe Parent, Ed Rabasco, Scott Sawyer, Jessica Smith, Scott Tiner, Jack Wiseman, Delaney Woodford

Absent: Melissa Hodgkin, Tina Love

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ella Jones, Chair, Pledge of Allegiance
Mary Ella Jones called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM with the Pledger of Allegiance

2.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
Nicole Patenaude came to the board meeting and provided a letter that she read aloud. She wanted to know what was being planned if the K-2 music program in the budget doesn't pass and that the second language education should be available to all students K-12.
Mary Ella explained that the budget committee would be meeting tomorrow night and recommending a budget to the school board.

3.0 RECOGNITIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

3.1 Shannon Shanning will present a University of Phoenix Scholarship to a student.
Mary Ella talked about Shannon's online blog and encourages everyone to take a look at it.
Shannon Shanning is a Special Ed teacher at WMS and current Teacher of the Year. Through this process she talked about how many gifts she has received and educational travel opportunities she has had. When in Arizona, a reception was hosted by the University of Phoenix who gave everyone there an award to give a full scholarship to a member of his or her community who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford a college degree. She worked with Adult Education on community outreach and received six applications. The scholarship is being awarded to 19-year-old Jeff Cleary. He is a hard working young father, who wants to attain a degree in technology. Jenny Rose and Shannon will be meeting with Jeff on Wednesday and he will receive his scholarship at the adult education graduation on May 10th.
In two weeks, Shannon will be in Washington, DC and will be able to meet the President.

3.2 Maine History Day in Augusta
Congratulations to Whittier Middle School winners... Bailee Kinney, 1st Place paper; Allison Kelly, 1st Place website; John Koczkodan, 2nd Place paper; Emma Galipeau-Eldridge, 2nd Place website; Sigrid Sibley, 2nd Place documentary. They will be attending the National History Day Contest in Washington DC on June 9th-13th.

With over 200 students participating in History Day, students from Whittier MS who won the above awards were present at the board meeting. Kelly Marston spoke about National History Day and what it is about across the nation. March 14, 2013 was National History Day at WMS. We sent 15 students to Augusta to represent WMS and five of our students placed out of fifteen.

These students will go to Washington, DC to compete at the National level. The social studies teams at WMS led this collaborative effort and are now looking at how to pay for this trip. They need to raise \$8,000 within the next six weeks. They will be establishing an account and seeking donations.

Motion: by Joe Parent to approve allowing Mike Wilhelm to find \$500 in the budget for the registration fees for National History Day in Washington, DC.

Seconded: by Jack Wiseman

Vote: Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS:

4.0 AGENDA ADJUSTMENT:

5.0 PRESENTATION:

5.1 Five Year Strategic Plan Draft – Craig Freshly

7 PM Workshop on Strategic Planning, a draft agenda was provided.

Discussion:

1. Joe Parent – The information really made sense. Let's eliminate or describe all acronyms. Some sections had specific dates and some sections had no dates. This document should be readable for everyone to understand.
2. About RSU #16, Page 1 – add statistics about special education and free and reduced lunch rates.
3. How is RSU #16 doing? Page 3, add an introductory paragraph.
4. Vision, Page 4, Jack asked if the NEASC work is consistent with the mission statement.
5. Mission and Educational Philosophy, Page 5 – Joe asked what “in their own way” means? To become good citizens and a contributing member of society, to learn how they learn best, provide students with the tools they need no matter the method of learning.
6. Objectives –
 - A.1. a) Change August to January so it ties in with the budget process; change Inequities in heading to Opportunities; change maintain equity as needed to maintain equal opportunity. Equal services and equal opportunities to succeed. Minot library and guidance curriculum examples.
 - A.1. d) What is student completion rate? Tina Meserve explained that it is students completing their education, including adult education students. Set an annual schedule for reporting out on student achievement.
 - A.1. f) Will we offer PreK for all? Mike explained that we turn students away from PreK. Is it in the budget? Possibly.
 - A.2. a) Add trades at LRTC.
 - A.2. c) Bump up to 2014-2015 instead of 2015-2016. Tina explained the current work.
 - A.2. f) Put in order that we hope to achieve them (other than just at budget time).
 - B.1. b) What is the plan for PD? Dates/years.
 - B.1. f) Clarify and add administrators.
 - B.2. d) Tina explained that feedback from teachers indicates that when asked to fully implement initiatives they would like to see it through before jumping from one to the next without adequate time.
 - B.3. a) Do we really want hiring bonuses? Cari Medd explained that at the high school, upper level math, science and special education teachers are very hard to fill. We need to negotiate.
 - B.3. c) Add: Provide a good, supportive culture for staff so we can hire and retain good teachers.
 - C.1. a) Make tri-town newsletter quarterly.
 - C.1. b) Change August to October.
 - C.2. a) Change *Establish* to *Make steps to establish* a CRC. A volunteer requires an enormous amount of supervision, aim for paid. Position would be a point of contact for volunteers, businesses, etc. Maybe share the position with the town(s).
 - C.3. a) Add community band, hosting bingo, etc., to attract different demographics.
 - D.1. a) Study to assess safety issues and make plans to address.
 - D.1. c) Add annually to language.
 - D.2. d) Change to “define transportation and facilities director’s roles”.
 - D.3 d) through D.3. h) – Explore rather than “do”.

- D.4. e) Change “continue review” to “start a conversation about a policy”.
- E.1. a) Change July to October.
- E.2 b) Remove first two bullets. Keep third bullet. Add another bullet - Educate the community about the job of school board member and what it entails.
- E.3. b) Start by next meeting.

7. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Make sure the Strategic Plan is mentioned at the top of every school board agenda.
- Create a one-page executive summary of goals.
- Align recurring dates.
- Chart the goals with who, what and timeline.
- Have the PR subcommittee working on this.

Craig reported that we are \$300 under budget in the project right now. Funds are available for another meeting or we can do more writing on the plan. Each board member voiced closing comments on the process and the plan.

Send in any grammatical changes within the next couple of days, all acronyms will be spelled out and any rates explained with actual numbers in the revised plan document.

Next steps: Good Group Decisions will attend the May 13th board workshop. Invite town leaders also, end the process on a positive note.

The workshop concluded at 8:45 PM.

- 6.0 ACT ON MINUTES:** Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of 02/25/13, 03/04/13 and 03/11/13
 Motion: by Jack Wiseman to accept the minutes of the 02/25/13, 03/04/13 and 03/11/13 meetings
 Seconded: by Mary Martin
 Vote: Unanimous

- 7.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Approve Financial Statement of March 2013
 Motion: by Jack Wiseman to accept the Financial Statement of March 2013
 Seconded: by Steve Holbrook
 Vote: Unanimous
 Mike: 25% of our revenue is left at the end of the third quarter; we still have 30% of expenditures remaining.

8.0 OLD BUSINESS:

- 8.1. To extend the administrative contracts of Angie Taylor, Elm Street School Principal and Patrick Flynn, Poland Regional High School Dean of Students, for two years. This was postponed until the 4/22/13 meeting. There is a meeting with administrators about contracts this Thursday.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS:

- 9.1 To appoint Tina Meserve to a 2-year contract as RSU #16 Superintendent of Schools to commence on July 1, 2013.
 Motion: by Steve Holbrook to appoint Tina Meserve to a 2-year contract as RSU #16 Superintendent effective 07/01/13.
 Seconded: by Jack Wiseman
 Vote: Unanimous
Discussion: Mary Martin thanked Tina for being patient with the process and said we feel we have the best candidate. Tina thanked the board and everyone involved in the process and is ready to get working on the strategic plan. We will be advertising for an Assistant Superintendent very soon.

- 9.2 To approve PCS Life Program Boston Field Trip
 Motion: by Jack Wiseman to approve the PCS field trip to Boston

Seconded: by Steve Holbrook

Vote: Unanimous

Discussion: Donald Drake, Life Program teacher at PCS is taking kids to the Museum of Science. They will be taking the train down. The itinerary was provided.

10.0 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION – REPORTS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT:

A Team Reports

Jessica asked a question about the PCS capital funds/CIP funds. It was explained that the money was left over pre-consolidation. Rick Benoit has met with Poland town leaders; there is \$300,000 in funds they would like to see spent by the end of FY 2014. The funds are for use and support of community use of the building/facility with benefits to the town and school system. Rick explained that the selectmen will have to approve how the money is spent.

11.0 REPORTS TO THE SCHOOL BOARD:

Sub-Committees:

11.1 Budget Committee – meeting tomorrow night, public information meetings are done and community input has been collected. Tomorrow night the committee will decide what it wants to recommend to the board on 4/22/13. Currently \$735,000 above the current budget, not firm.

11.2 Curriculum Committee - N/A

11.3 Facilities Committee - N/A

11.4 Negotiations Committee - N/A

11.5 Policy Committee - N/A

11.6 Public Relations Committee - N/A

11.7 Stipend Committee - N/A

11.8 Superintendent Search Committee – Mary Martin reported that they will continue to work on the superintendent evaluation.

Report of the Superintendent

11.9 Insurance Committee – Mike Wilhelm

We now have association representation for the Insurance Study Committee. The committee's charge is to research available options, develop a list of price estimates and pros and cons for each option, and from that list specify those worthy of consideration. The committee will consist of: board members Scott Sawyer and Jack Wiseman, administrators and representatives from the association.

12.0 COMMUNICATIONS: Communications to the School Board

13.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1. M.S.R.A. 405 (6)(D) to discuss the stipend recommendations resulting from the negotiations between the RSU #16 School Board and the RSU #16 Education Association.

Motion: by Scott Tiner to enter into executive session pursuant to 1. M.S.R.A. 405 (6)(D) to discuss the stipend recommendations resulting from the negotiations between the RSU #16 School Board and the RSU #16 Education Association at 8:56 PM.

Seconded: by Sue Callahan

Vote: Unanimous

14.0 REMINDER

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to adjourn at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Wilhelm