

Middletown Springs School District
Board of School Directors (Regular) Meeting
Middletown Springs Elementary School
March, 20 2008

Minutes

Present: Kimberly Mathewson (Chair); Clarence Haynes (Vice-Chair); and Steven Letendre (Clerk).
Also present: Michelle Folger and Joe LaRosa, RSWSU; Sarah Bolster and Michele Pfenning-Carter
VAC (Vermont Achievement Center)

1. Call to Order: 7:10 pm by Michelle Folger
2. Re-Organization of Board
 - a. Select Board Members
 - Steven Letendre nominated Kimberly Mathewson for the position of board chair; the nomination was seconded by Clarence Haynes. No other nominations were made. Kimberly Mathewson was elected to the position of board chair by unanimous consent.
 - Steven Letendre nominated Clarence Haynes for the position of vice-chair; the nomination was seconded by Kimberly Mathewson. Clarence Haynes was elected to the position of vice-chair by unanimous consent.
 - Kimberly Mathewson nominated Steven Letendre for the position of clerk; the nomination was seconded by Clarence Haynes. Steven Letendre was elected to the position of clerk by unanimous consent.
 - b. Appointment/Elect RSWSU Board Member Representatives
 - Clarence Haynes moved that Steven Letendre, Kimberly Mathewson, and he be appointed as the representatives to the RSWSU. Kimberly Mathewson seconded, the motion carried.
 - c. Appoint School District Treasurer
 - No motion was made to appoint a school district treasurer, thus the position defaults to the Town Treasurer.
 - d. Appoint Truant Officer
 - Clarence Haynes moved to table the appointment of the truant officer and Steven Letendre seconded, the motion carried.
 - E. Identify Newspaper of record
 - Clarence Haynes moved that the Lakes Region Free Press serves as the MSES board newspaper of record. Steven Letendre seconded, the motion carried.
 - F. Affirm Robert Rules of Order (per statute)
 - Clarence Haynes moved that the MSES board adopt Robert Rules of Order for Small Boards. Kimberly Mathewson seconded, the motion carried.
 - G. Re-affirm/set schedule for regular monthly board meetings
 - The board re-affirmed that the MSES board will hold its regular meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of Unofficial Minutes: February 28th, 2008 (regular) meeting
 - Steven Letendre moved to accept the draft minutes with the suggested edits by Kimberly Mathewson. The motion was seconded by Kimberly Mathewson; the motion carried.
 - B & C. Report of Superintendent & Principal

- Steven Letendre moved that the board accept the reports of the Superintendent and the Principal. Kimberly Mathewson seconded the motion; the motion carried

D. Report of Business Manager

- By unanimous consent the decision was made to table the business manager's report until the next regular meeting.
- Action was taken on Warrant #17 (\$23,976.56) & #18 (\$3,210.83). Clarence Haynes moved to approve warrants #17 & #18. Steven Letendre seconded; the motion carried. The board requests more information from Principal Boynton on the Control Tech and Rutland Herald payments contained in the warrants for the purpose of clarity.

4. General Public Comments

- None.

5. Old Business

- School Boiler: While the report provided by Principal Boynton in his written report provided additional information on the needed boiler repairs, the board requires additional information from Principal Boynton before a final decision can be made. Given the fact that we are ending the heating season, the board decided to postpone a decision until the next regular meeting, when Principal Boynton can respond to questions from the board.
- School Roof Repairs: The Principal's report indicated progress on the roof repairs. The board requests additional information on the final work and costs of the repairs.
- The board is still seeking to resolve the deed issue with the town. Kimberly Mathewson agreed to attend the next select board meeting to inquire about the status of our request to move forward with the proper filing of paperwork to transfer the deed for the school grounds.

6. New Business

- After School Program: Joe LaRosa informed the board that he has been planning for the inevitable transition of the districts' after school programs as funding for the 21st Century grant is phased out. He was present today to share with the MSES board the opportunity to work with the Vermont Achievement Center (VAC), a not-for-profit regional organization providing educational and social services, to deliver after school services. A pilot program at the elementary school in Poultney demonstrates the organizational and financial advantages of working with VAC to provide after school programs. The board unanimously encouraged Joe LaRosa to move forward with a proposal for a pilot program at MSES, working with VAC to deliver their after school programs.
- Technology: Kimberly informed the board that MSES recently purchased two "smart boards" from unused grant funds.
- Request to transfer \$4,000 to payroll (ACH) account: The board unanimously decided to table this item until the next regular meeting.
- Clarence Haynes moved to accept Principal Boynton's recommendation to maintain staffing levels for the 08 – 09 school year. Kimberly Mathewson seconded, the motion carried.
- MSES letter to Mill River: The MSES board acknowledged the letter from the Mill River Union Board in response to the MSES letter expressing concern about recent tuition increases. The MSES board will decide at a later date to accept the invitation to participate in the Mill River Union School District's budget process.
- Consider Number of Board Members Required to Authorize Warrants: Through unanimous consent, the board decided to continue past practices whereby payroll can be authorized by the board chair (vice-chair in the chair's absence) and the payables by 3 board member signatures.

- The board currently has one vacant position. Kimberly Mathewson volunteered to promote the opening in an effort to identify a suitable candidate for appointment to the board.
7. Policies
 - The board decided to schedule two or more special meetings with the sole purpose to update board policies. These meetings will be schedule during the spring and summer months, prior to the budget building season.
 8. Personnel and Contracts
 - i. New Hires: None
 - ii. Terminations/Resignations: None
 - III. Transfers: None
 9. Executive Session
 - Clarence Haynes moved that the board move into Executive Session at 8:50 pm to discuss personnel and contract issues. Steven Letendre seconded; the motion carried. Clarence Haynes moved to leave executive session at 9:15 pm. Kimberly Mathewson seconded; the motion carried. No action was taken.
 10. Other Lawful Business
 - The board discussed representation on the superintendent search that was recently authorized by the SU board. The board agreed that Kimberly Mathewson and MSES Principal Aaron Boynton would represent MSES in the process, and that Kimberly would contact a community member to join them in the process.
 11. **Next Meeting** is Thursday April 10th, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment: Steven Letendre's moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Kimberly Mathewson seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven Letendre, Board Clerk