

Middletown Springs Board of School Directors
(Regular) Meeting

Middletown Springs Elementary School
December 18, 2008

Official Minutes

Present: Kimberly Mathewson (Chair), Steven Letendre (Clerk), Jim Gilmour (Member). Also present: Aaron Boynton (MSES Principal), Thomas Gallagher (RSWSU Superintendent), and Susan Rosso (MSES Administrative Assistant). Louis Milazzo (RSWSU Business Manager) arrived at 7:05 p.m. Jodi Comau (Member) arrived at 7:20 p.m. Community member Patty Kenyon arrived at 7:10 p.m.; community member Tony Lamberton arrived at 7:23 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
Kimberly Mathewson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda (Action):
 - a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Unofficial Minutes of 11/20/2008
 - The following corrections to Unofficial Minutes of 11/20/08 were requested:
 - The "Policy on Policies" and the Policy on Truancy were tabled for further discussion, not approved.
 - in section 5 c. "Mater Facilities" should read e. "Master Facilities Plan."
 - Change spelling of Lewis Milazzo to Louis Milazzo throughout.
 - Steve Letendre moved to accept the November 20, 2008 meeting minutes with the above corrections. Kimberly Mathewson seconded; the motion passed.

 - b. Report of Superintendent (Written)
 - The Superintendent's Report was distributed.

 - c. Report of Principal (Written)
 - The Principal's written report was distributed. Aaron Boynton informed the Board that the Holiday Storytelling Event has been rescheduled for January 23, 2009.

 - d. Report of the Business Manager (Written)
 - The Business Manager's report was distributed. Louis Milazzo brought the Board up to date on a number of issues. Stafford Technical Center is issuing MSD a refund of \$2,671.25 for tuition overpayment for FY08. The residency issue of a secondary student was discussed. Current residency of the family outside of Middletown Springs is considered (by statute) to be temporary; therefore, MSD is responsible for

and will pay the student's tuition. Louis has been working on the balance sheets for 07-08. He has not yet heard back from the auditors on their report. Louis Milazzo found two accounts that were created prior to 2003: \$1,400 was set aside for capital improvements and \$46,000 for a tuition fund. Patty Kenyon believes the tuition fund was set up in 2002-2003 and was spent over a number of years. The FY09 budget variance as of December 18, 2008 is a deficit of roughly \$3,000. The Board encourages stringent spending for the remainder of the school year and will revisit the deficit issue at its next regular meeting.

- Jim Gilmour moved to accept the reports of the Principal, Superintendent, and Business Manager. Steven Letendre seconded; the motion passed.

i. Approval of Warrants:

1. Warrant #37, in the amount of \$25,817.36, dated 11/21/08
- Jim Gilmour moved to accept Warrant #37 dated 11/21/2008 in the amount of \$25,817.36, Jodi Comeau seconded; the motion carried.

ii. Financial Report (Written)

- The financial report was distributed.

3. General Public Comments (Listen and Defer Action to Future Meeting)

- Tony Lamberton came to address the Board regarding use of the building by community members and means of gaining building access. Discussion ensued on the subject. The Board decided by consensus to ensure that Mr. Lamberton can access the building at requested and approved times. The Board will develop a key distribution policy and building access procedure early in 2009 to assure fair and responsible access to the school buildings for the community. A building use request received from a community group was also discussed and Mr. Boynton was instructed by the Board to approve the request.

4. Old Business (Possible Action)

a. FY10 Budget Preparation

- Louis Milazzo distributed a budget handout. The CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for Middletown Springs is currently at 85.6%. Mr. Gallagher distributed an economic outlook paper he received from the state of Vermont. He informed the Board that the Legislature is considering moving teacher retirement costs from the state's General Fund to the Education Fund; effectively decreasing monies available to schools.
- The board discussed several issues related to the draft FY10 budget prepared by Mr. Milazzo. Steven Letendre moved to approve the Middletown Springs School District budget for 2009-2010 of \$1,987,598.14. Kimberly Mathewson seconded the motion; the motion carried.

5. New Business (Receive Information and Possible Action)

- a. Confirm pre-town meeting (informational meeting) date and time
 - The pre-town meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2009. The School Board will present the budget second; after the Middletown Springs Select Board present the town budget.
- b. Reminder of time constraints for warning (for town meeting)
 - The budget warning needs to be posted between January 22 and February 2, 2009. The final warning must be given to the town clerk by January 29, 2009.
- c. Review (and approve if appropriate, reports for town report)
 - This item was tabled until the next meeting.
6. Facilities Master Planning (Discussion, Possible Action)
 - This item was tabled until the next meeting.
7. Personnel and Contracts (Action)
 - a. New Hires: Chere Tournet (Basketball Coach) volunteering
 - b. Terminations/Resignations – None
 - c. Transfers – None
 - d. Leave of Absences – None
 - Jim Gilmour moved to approve the new hire; Jodi Comeau seconded. The motion passed. Aaron Boynton asked about the stipend for the recorder of the meeting minutes. A stipend of \$60 per meeting was agreed upon by the Board.
8. Executive Session 1 V.S.A. & 313 (1-9) (b) (if warranted)
 - Kimberly Mathewson moved the Board into Executive Session at 10:12 p.m. Kimberly Mathewson moved the Board out of Executive Session at 10:27. No action was taken.
9. Other Lawful Business (Information Gathering Only)
10. Set Next Meeting Date:
 - January 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. (Special)
 - January 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. (Regular)
11. Adjournment
 - Steven Letendre moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm. Jodi Comeau seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso