

Wells Town School District
Board of Directors
December 16, 2009

Official Minutes

Attendance: Tammy Holcomb (Chair), Karen Stomski (Clerk), Linda O'Leary (Principal), Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Louis Milazzo (Business Manager), Elizabeth Ambuhl (Recording Secretary).
Charity Downs (Vice Chair) Arrived at 6:45pm.

Audience: Sue Burke, Bob Birbeck, Karin Birbeck, Joann Johnson, Jessica Kilgard, Ryan Blizzard

1. Call to Order: Tammy Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
2. Consent Agenda: Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to accept the consent agenda.
Karen Stomski asked that the name of the policy with code numbers be included in all future minutes as deemed necessary.

- A. Approval of Minutes: Approval of minutes of November 18 2009 with the following changes:
 - o Page 2 comma after Currently Wells has,
 - o Page 3 Under General Public comments, change information to informative

B. Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Joan Paustian reviewed that there is a public perception that student enrollment levels are decreasing and as a result staffing levels should also be decreasing.

- The Curriculum Coordinating Council met last week under the leadership of Kristen Caliguiri with the assistance of other administrators. The scopes of the responsibilities for the Council were shared along with some targeted outcomes such as a strategic plan for curriculum development and for professional development.
- Heather Lynn Thomas, an attorney in Burlington, who specializes in the field of special education and other areas such as harassment; Held a training for the administrative team on December 15th. Attorney Lynn informed the team as to required timelines, sample letters and forms. After the administrative training, Attorney Lynn held training for all RSWSU faculty and instructional support staff.
- Jay Niles has been working with the RSWSU administrators as well as groups of teachers to analyze results of the NECAP testing. Four years of data is entered in the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Tool (VCAT), which allows us to look at patterns over time as well as to analyze how groups of students have performed, and content areas that students have done well or poorly in. We are also able to determine which students entered the class in a particular grade or those who have left school. Mr. Niles and Dr. Paustian will be presenting NECAP scores to the supervisory union board after they arrive. He will also spend a few minutes showing board members a few of the many analyses we are able to conduct.

C. Principal's Report (No written report):

- ✓ Wells Village School held the second H1N1 Vaccination Clinic on Tuesday December 8th, 29 Students were vaccinated.
- ✓ Audrey Butler from the VT Epilepsy Foundation present programs on epilepsy to the students and faculty on December 1st.
- ✓ Students participated in the 2nd Annual Wells Tree Lighting on Friday December 11th. Ms. Holzmacher led our students in singing.
- ✓ Members of the Wells Methodist Church conducted their annual Holiday Store on December 14th. Each Student had the opportunity to shop for two gifts from a vast array of items for a fee of 25 cents each. The elves wrapped each gift for the children to take home.
- ✓ Music teacher, Christina Holzmacher will conduct our annual Holiday Concert at 6:30pm on December 15th. Parent/PTO members will provide refreshments.
- ✓ Holiday classroom parties will occur on December 21st. December vacation begins after school on Dec 22nd. Classes resume on Monday Jan 4th.
- ✓ Our traditional holiday movies will also be shown on Monday December 21st.

- ✓ Step one in the process of applying for the Energy Efficient and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) has been completed and received. Proposed projects include the following:
 - Replacement of four doors
 - Purchase of two ceiling fans and guards for the MPR
 - Retrofit all light fixtures throughout the school to T 5's
 - Retrofit all light switches with motion and heat occupancy sensors
 - Retrofit all exit lights throughout the building
 - Purchase a new Energy Star rated stove
 - Replace electric dishwasher hot water booster with Energy Star Rated
 - Install automatic outside temperature reset
 - Install vinyl siding
 - Rewire the multipurpose room and kitchen to rectify inadequate load
 - Replace exterior lights
 - Add heating zone for grades 5 and 6 rooms
- ✓ Norm Etkind, from the School Energy Management Program of the Vermont Superintendents' Association, came to school on Friday December 11th and completed a tour. He will forward his recommendations that will be beneficial in completing phase two of the grant application if we are accepted.
- ✓ Eric Law, from Vermont Water Supply, called to let us know that we will be informed officially in mid January about our application for the forgiveness loan for the installation of the secondary disinfection system, but meanwhile he would like us to contract with an engineer. Linda is meeting on December 16th with Ian Schrauf from Vermont Rural Water Supply again to work on the next steps that will include a vote by the town at our March Town Meeting.
- ✓ We have had multiple displays of generosity aimed at our students within the past several weeks. Many of them are long standing traditions such as the Granville Lion's Club Adoption of Families. Wells also benefits from others such as the Community Sharing project serving 20 Wells Families, and the call we received today looking for two families who could use live Christmas trees with all the decorations. The Wells School also received a cash donation from the Pastor of the Peru Church
- ✓ The motor was replaced in the freezer.
- ✓ JISP program starts in Jan.
- ✓ Tuesday was the first Senior Citizens luncheon. 10 seniors attended.
- ✓ Basketball Practice has begun.
- ✓ Bill Rezensky has donated a remodeled bicycle for a family in need.

D. Business Manager's Report:

Louis was asked to provide the EEE and the Pre -K ADM for Wells. For FY 09, (08-09 school year) the total elementary ADM was 85.65. Of this amount , the EEE and Pre-K ADM was 4.25. For FY 10 (09-10 school year) the total ADM is 79.37 . The Pre-K / EEE portion of that is not out yet.

The financials as of 12/04/09 are attached, it is anticipated to be under budget by \$23,712.09.

II. Approve warrants.

- o 1. Warrant # 72 in the amount of \$130, 722.03 dated 11/06/09
- o 2. Warrant # 73 in the amount of \$33,570.52 dated 11/20/09

All in favor of approving the above warrants.

3. General Public Comments:

Jessica Kuelgaard was in attendance to complete a requirement for graduation from Granville High School.

Teachers:

Karen Birbeck reported that this is her best year of teaching and she has a wonderful class of students. They present a wide range of skills and are currently concentrating on literacy, math along with science and social studies.

4. New Business:

a. Approve Substitute List

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to approve substitute list adding Michele Folger, Karen Stomski seconded, motioned passed 2-0.

b. Motion made by Karen Stomski, seconded by Tammy Holcomb to raise the IA rate of pay to 65.00 per day. 2-0 motioned carried.

c. Ian Schrauf of the Vermont Rural Water met with Wells School Administration. He recommended that the school go with the chlorinated vs. the UV water system. It was discussed that an article be placed on the town meeting ballot addressing the expenses of the water system and that the school is applying for a grant to cover the expenses however, the money for the system needs to be placed up front and the school will be reimbursed after the completion of the system. Four different engineers were recommended. Linda O'Leary will contact the recommended engineers for the chlorination system.

5. Old Business:

- a. Basement Follow-up: The electrical bid has been received from Tyler Electric. The board recommended waiting until January for another electrical quote before deciding on an electrical contactor.
- b. Building Maintenance: Lux Brush quote for painting the exterior of the building following the new rules enforceable in April for lead based painting has been received. Linda will follow up for the breakdown of the quote and will follow up with Lemay Vinyl.
- c. The water boiling notice has been lifted.

6:45pm : Tammy Holcomb asked for a break

6:55 pm Meeting back in session

Board member Charity Downs joined the meeting.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to enter into executive session. All in favor motion passed.

7:28pm Karen Stomski made a motion seconded by Tammy Holcomb to come out of executive session.

Meeting back in session

Budget:

Discussion ensued on the proposed budget.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to approve the budget at @ \$2,148,463.00, which is an increase of 1.91% from last year. Karen Stomski seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The board would like to discuss at the next meeting a strategy for presentation of the budget for the town meeting in March.

6. Policies:

All policies are tabled until the board receives copies of the most recent policies.

7. Action on Personnel Contracts:

New Hires: Tammy Holcomb made a motion to hire Benjamin Vanguilder at a rate to be discussed in executive session. Karen Stomski seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Resignations: None

8. Other Lawful Business that Tom Gallagher suggested that the funds for the scoreboard be taken out of the budget that will be offset through grant funding.

9. Executive Session: At 8:30pm Tammy Holcomb made a motion to enter into executive session for legal and personnel reasons. Charity Downs second, motion carried 3-0.

10. Next Regular Board Meeting (January 13, 2010 at 7:00pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Ambuhl
Recording Secretary

