

**Wells Town School District
Board of Directors**

September 16, 2009
Official Minutes

Attendance: Tammy Holcomb (Chair), Karen Stomski (Clerk), Linda O’Leary (Principal), Joan Paustain (Superintendent), Louis Milazzo (Business Manager), Elizabeth Ambuhl (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Charity Downs (Vice Chair)

Audience: Mr. and Mrs. Chmielwski
Rachel Ynesta
Shirley Thieser

1. Call To Order: Tammy Holcomb called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to go into executive session at 7:01 pm, seconded by Karen Stomski. Motion passed 2-0.

Karen Stomski made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:10pm, Tammy Holcomb second. Motion passed 2-0.

2. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes – Unofficial minutes of August 19, 2009.
Karen Stomski made a motion, seconded by Tammy Holcomb, to accept the consent agenda of September 16, 2009. Motioned carried 2-0.

Tammy Holcomb requested that she be emailed a copy of the minutes.

B. Superintendent’s Report:

Tom Gallagher with the assistance of the Department of Education is working on the final strategy for the 21st Century Grants, Funds, and ARA Funds. They are making significant headway.

Parents of a Tinmouth Student attending Granville High School are asking if the student can ride the Wells bus, if he boards the bus on Lilly Hill Road. The board has approved the request for the Tinmouth Student to ride the Wells Bus to Granville High School.

C. Principal's Report

- ✚ Currently Well's School does not have a speech language pathologist. They have been granted permission to hire a certified Special Education Teacher who will be supervised by a Speech Language Pathologist. Sheila Ploof and Eileen Guyette will fulfill this requirement. The program will be evaluated in December. In the mean time various local colleges and universities will be contacted for possible graduates interested in applying for the position.
- ✚ Wells Grade Four teacher, Mickey Moore, has been selected as our Elementary UVM Teacher of the Year. She will be attending the awards ceremony on the 21st of October at UVM.
- ✚ The Welcome back BBQ was well attended. It provided an opportunity for the school community to meet our new superintendent.
- ✚ The 3rd-5th graders will be participating in the Star Base Program on Sept 9, 16, 23 and 30th at the Rutland Armory and the final session will be held on October 7th at the Rutland Airport.
- ✚ NECAP Testing will be held the weeks of October 5th and 12th for grades 3-6
- ✚ Our Annual Open House and Pot Luck Dinner are scheduled for Tuesday Oct 6th at 5:00pm.
- ✚ Barb Festa and Shirley Thieser have been working on literacy assessments. The faculty will be meeting on September 15th to review the data.
- ✚ The teachers have administered a math assessment and will meet as a faculty on September 8th to review the data.
- ✚ On September 16, Jay Niles and Steve Peery will be here to up date our VCAT files and demonstrate some new features.
- ✚ The first PTO meeting was held on September 1st. The group is enthusiastic and already making plans for fundraising next summer. The Pie Booth at the MWA Carnival this year brought in \$1,560.00. Additionally, several members worked at an MWA Bingo, which added \$324.00 to the treasury.
- ✚ The Afterschool program will begin on September 8th, Katie Crowley and Kathy Hunter will once again assume the roles of Coordinators. The Homework Club portion will run from 3-4pm and the afterschool program

will run from 4-5:30pm. It is our interest to offer service on all early release days this year.

✚ The Assistant custodial has returned to work.

Tammy Holcomb requested the numbers of students per class. Linda presented Tammy with the number: a total of 68 children are enrolled in Wells School.

D. Business Manager's Report (No Written Report)

I. Financial Statements

II. Approve warrants.

1. Warrant #65 in the amount of \$246.76, dated 8/14/09

2. Warrant # 66 in the amount of \$41,181.36, dated 8/28/09

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to approve, seconded by Karen Stomski, all in consent, motion carried 2-0.

3. General Public Comments:

Shirley Thieser presented her concerns about the reading recovery program being cancelled. She wanted to know how to proceed and what steps are being put into place to address the students that were in the reading recovery program. Joan Paustian expressed that the program was cancelled due to funding matters. The administrative team felt it is more cost effective to address concerns in a group setting rather than on an individual level.

Wells will continue with the reading recovery program, but will not offer teachers any training. A meeting will be scheduled to address future years for the reading recovery program with the past and present superintendents, the principal and the reading teachers.

Teachers: None

4. New Business: None

5. Old Business:

a. Tuition Reimbursement Request: Mr. and Mrs. Chmielwski were present to hear the opinion on the tuition reimbursement request. In essence, it is in the opinion of the supervisory union that they are not legally bound to approve tuition reimbursement for a religious school. Discussion ensued on the topic and it was decided to invite Tom Gallagher to the next board meeting to address the concerns and readdress the issue.

8:25pm Tammy Holcomb requested a 5-minute break

8:30pm The meeting was called back to order.

Business Manger's Report:

During the next couple of months Louis will be working with Linda on the first draft of the budget. He has requested an overview sheet with budget changes. The audit was completed 2 weeks ago and Wells School passed with no adjustments needed.

a. The Leap Frog Nursery School presented their program outline to the Board. They are a Nursery school located in Poultney licensed for 15 students. They have 2 Wells students currently enrolled in the school. They are asking the board to consider funding the student tuition and to have the ADM counted and reimbursed by the state. The school board will discuss the proposal in executive session and communicate their decision to the Leap Frog Preschool.

b. Building Maintenance:
Vosha Health was on site and passed the school.
Calvin Borne will be taking the tree down in the playground area
Saturday.

The snow removal equipment will be going in for service.

The furnace has been cleaned.

Telescope has donated wood chips for the school's playground if someone can pick them up.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion to hire DS Masonry to provide the exterior work on the school, to hire Tri State and Poultney Heating for heating. Grants should be explored to cover new radiators and the electrical work.

Karen Stomski seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

The building meeting for community input is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, to discuss to side or paint the building.

6. Polices:

Policies were reviewed and discussed.

7. New Hires:

Continue employment for Roberta Chesnutt

Resignations: None
Termination: None
Leave of Absence: None

8. Other Lawful Business: No action needed

9. Executive Session:

Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to enter into executive session at 9:58 pm. Motion carried 2-0.
Please see continuation of minutes

10. Next Regular Board Meeting (October 13 or 14 at 7:00pm)

Respectively Submitted,

Elizabeth Ambuhl