

**Poultney School Board Meeting
August 17, 2010**

Official Minutes

Meeting was **called to order** at 5:30.

In attendance: Superintendent Joan Paustian, Board Members: Tracee Oakman Rupe, Mary Jo Teetor, Alicia Marcy, Jerry Keezer, Pat Davenport; PHS Principal Tom Fitzgerald, PES Principal Kristen Caliguiri, Dean of Students Joe DeBonis. Audience: Melissa and Pedar Kristiansen

Motion to go into executive session for legal matter. Motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Alicia Marcy. Motion carried 4-0. Jerry Keezer joined the meeting late.

Out of executive session at 6:10. Motion made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Pat Davenport; motion carried 5-0. No action taken

The agenda was amended to include: executive session for a student matter, meet with Jonas Rosenthal on Safe Routes to Schools, and determining a new member to represent the Poultney Board at the bargaining table. **Motion to add items was made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0.**

Consent Agenda:

Approval of minutes, July 19, 2010: **Motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer.** Discussion followed. Under Superintendent's report, last bullet-Tom Greenfield should read "Tom Fitzgerald". Under Business Manager's report, first sentence: Discussion centered around the cost of the cell phone system used. Under Old Business: last line on page: change insure to "ensure"; add: Mary Jo continues to advocate for budgeted tech position. Last page, under parent letters: add-in a 2 year period after "At the high school level there are 4 electives as well." Before: Motion to adjourn, add "No action taken" at the end of the executive session notation.

Motion to accept minutes as amended: motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0.

Reports:

Superintendent's Report:

Additions to written report:

- Status of licensed personnel- two people have New York state licenses and need to take the Praxis. One nursing position: the license will be approved but it could take at least 6 weeks. One teacher is in a different content area and is going through peer review. Two other extensions have been applied for as one person is currently in a masters program; the second person has submitted the information to the state, it was denied and an appeal is in process. Provisionals have been applied for in these cases.

- The Board was invited to the Aug. 23 in-service - On August 23 Susan Hayes and Noel Bryant will be joining the district regarding the Roots to Roadmaps initiative.
- All the administration attended the Leadership Academy.
- The new teacher orientation will be August 18, 2010.
- The ARRA funds have been approved.

Report of Business Manager: (Joan spoke for Louis as he was away).

- The stat reports were in ahead of time.
- Two handouts were shared regarding the target monies needed to cover our 2% of educational cuts. A brief discussion followed as to state intent and possible cuts.

Presentation: Jonas Rosenthal joined the meeting at this time to explain the VT Downtown Transportation Improvement Fund project. It entails adding a sidewalk and retaining wall on the main street parking lot that abuts the baseball field. As a small town we qualify for the funding. It would be a 50/50 match, for the cost of paving, with the cost estimated at about \$15,000. Our share would be \$7,500. The project would be about two years out and this would allow us to budget \$3,500. per year. CVPS stated that the lighting could be improved using the current poles in use. The application for this project is due in October. The grant is 100% federal funds with the cost to us being used for the administration of the grant.

Motion to sign a letter of support for this project was made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0 with the understanding that the Superintendent or Board Chair will sign on behalf of the board.

Jonas explained that a second grant was approved. It would cover signage and sidewalks in the area of the elementary school.

PHS Principal's Report:

- The theme this year is "The Road to Excellence". The improvement plan will include using the "Breaking Ranks" philosophy. Supporting literature was offered.
- Tom shared the schedule used this year; it is a 4 block schedule with TA the first thing in the morning.
- Tom wanted to acknowledge the amazing job the custodial staff has done this summer; the school will definitely be ready for the first day.
- Joe DeBonis handed out the Student/Parent Handbook. All parents and students will be asked to sign off on receipt of the handbook.

PES Principal's Report: In addition to her written report, Kristen invited the board to the First Week Celebration on Aug. 27.

Motion to accept the consent agenda and reports: motion made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of warrants:

Warrant #93: amount of \$78,815.00, dated 7/7/10.

Warrant #94: amount of \$190,925.25, dated 7/16/10.

Warrant #95: amount of \$103,751.38, dated 7/30/10.

No Old Business

New Business:

Substitute rates for long term substitutes: a long term sub is needed for the month of September and that person is a certified teacher. It was suggested that \$100. be paid as the full duties of a teacher are expected. **Motion to approve recommended wage: motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0.** Discussion included whether or not Kelly Services had stipulations. Joan felt there should not be a conflict but she would follow up on it. Mary Jo Teetor suggested, that, in the future, this type of situation be considered when doing policy.

Bargaining Team: the supervisory union felt that each board should have two members on the unified team. **Motion made by Alicia Marcy to nominate Jerry Keezer, seconded by Tracee Oakman Rupe. Motion to appoint Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Pat Davenport. Roll call voted was requested by the Board Chair. Motion carried 3-0 to appoint Jerry Keezer to the bargaining unit to represent the board. In favor of the motion: Alicia Marcy, Tracee Oakman Rupe and Jerry Keezer; nay votes: Mary Jo Teetor and Pat Davenport.**

Policies:

The policies included in the packet (Bullying; Search, Seizure and Interrogation of Students by School Personnel; Search, Seizures, and Interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Personnel or Other Non-School Personnel)

Policies are ready for adoption. The word "interrogate" may be changed to "interview". The procedures are currently being worked on; they will include timelines, investigation, letters, etc. The same format used as for harassment is being considered. Tracee questioned the coding of the policies and Joan explained the state system.

Motion to adopt the policies with recommended terminology change: motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0.

- Bullying F-120 (new policy)
- Search, Seizure and Interrogation of Students by School Personnel F3, replaces policy of 6/26/01
- Search, Seizure and Interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Personnel or Other Non-School Personnel F4, replaces policy of 6/26/01

Action of Personnel Contracts

Motion to hire Mark Wood as a long term substitute: motion made by Pat Davenport, seconded by Alicia Marcy; motion carried 5-0

Motion to hire Jenna Lloyd as an IA at PES: motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Pat Davenport; motion carried 5-0.

Terminations: none

Resignations:

Motion to accept the resignation of Anne Colpitts, Board Recording Secretary, with regrets: motion to accept made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Alicia Marcy; motion carried 5-0.

Motion to accept the resignation of Katherine Stephenson, PES IA, with regrets: motion made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor; motion carried 5-0.

Leave of Absence: none

Other: Mary Jo asked why the board did not receive a set of meeting minutes. Joan stated that she would research this and get back to the board.

Public Comment: none

Next meeting: September 21, 2010.

The board took a break so PEG TV could pick up.

Motion for the break and to go into executive session for student matter, employee matter and legal matter: motion made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Alicia Marcy; motion carried 5-0. Executive session started at 7:40. Tom Fitzgerald and Joe DeBonis were asked to attend the executive session.

Motion to move out of executive session at 7:50: motion made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0.

Motion to allow a PHS senior to make a class substitution as recommended by Stafford Technical School: motion made by Tracee Oakman Rupe, seconded by Alicia Marcy; motion carried 5-0.

Motion to go into executive session at 7:52 for legal matter: motion made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor; motion carried 5-0.

Motion to come out of executive session at 8:10: motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer; motion carried 5-0. No action taken.

Motion to adjourn: motion made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Alicia Marcy; motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Davenport
Board Clerk