

Poultney Board of School Directors'
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2010 5:30PM
Poultney High School

Official Minutes

Meeting was **called to order at 5:30**. Members present: Tracee Oakman Rupe, Mary Jo Teetor, Alicia Marcy, Jerry Keezer and Pat Davenport as board members; Joan Paustian, Superintendent; Louis Milazzo, Business Manager; Kristen Caliguiri, PES Principal; Tom Fitzgerald, PHS Principal.

Tracee welcomed Tom to Poultney High. Introductions were made as well.

Motion to go into executive session for personnel, benefits and contracts; motion made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Pat Davenport. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to come out of executive session at 6:00. Motion made by Jerry Keezer; seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. Motion carried 5-0.

The open session began with the flag salute. **The agenda was amended to include approval of sub grants, move executive session to the end of the agenda, and to meet with Vinnie Covino to receive an update on technology. Motion made by Alicia Marcy; seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.**

Motion to have Louis meet with Gary Jurnak to discuss the dental program. Motion made by Alicia Marcy; seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of minutes:

March 30: **Motion to approve made by Jerry Keezer; seconded by Alicia Marcy.** Discussion followed.

Page 1: (First paragraph, starting with "a prepared statement...") At the end of the paragraph add: A copy of notes read by Tracee are attached.

Last paragraph: typo-executive session

Page 2: (5th paragraph, starting with "Kandi asked if the board...") Add at the end of the paragraph: Tracee asked if chaperones had seen the guidelines. They stated they had not.

Motion to accept minutes as amended. Motion to approve made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. Motion carried 5-0.

May 18: **Motion to approve made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor.** Discussion followed.

Page 5: (after letter d) Add: Mark Teetor stated that the superintendent should resign.

(at the end of letter h) Add: Alicia shared that she would like to thank the public for their comments, as United States citizens we are all entitled to our opinions. As a new board member, newly elected, it is her goal to work hard to do what is in the best interest of Poultney school students and for the SU students as well. Alicia stated that all are entitled to express their opinions. Alicia stated that she will continue to ask questions because she believes that is what the taxpayers of Poultney, and herself, want us, as a board who are responsible for the policies and the budget of Poultney to do and she will continue to ask questions. Alicia asked Al what he was referring to in a previous statement made. Alicia stated that the comment was not stated by her. Alicia was interrupted and stated that the person speaking had their chance to speak and she would like to finish her comments. Al made a comment and Alicia clarified stating that what was inferred was not what was actually said. Alicia stated that she did appreciate the fact that Al came to the meeting and stated what he felt needed to be said. Al asked that Alicia stop all the lies. Alicia responded that she was not lying and that she was here to work hard to the do best we can and clearly we need to work with Winton Goodrich. Alicia stated that she was looking forward to working with Winton. As an educator she stated that she knew the importance of working together. Al stated that he hoped she was right but that she still did not trust her.

Motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.

June 22: **Motion to approve the June 22 minutes and the continuation minutes was made by Jerry Keezer; seconded by Pat Davenport.** Discussion followed.

On the continuation minutes, add Kristen Caliguiri to those that were excused from the meeting at 9:30.

Motion to accept minutes as amended was made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Alicia Marcy. Motion carried 5-0.

June 29: **Motion to approve minutes made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor.** Discussion followed.

Page 1: (Under the paragraph that starts: part time tech assistant...) The name should read Nick Striglia, not Nick Sawyer. At the end of the paragraph add: Tracee asked that Vinnie report back to the board.

Page 1 (Under the paragraph that starts: motion made to hire a part time tech...) It should read: Motion carried 4-1, not 4-0.

Page 1 (Under the paragraph that starts: the board authorized...) The sentence should read: The board authorized Vinnie to submit the ad to Jan with the goal to have the ad run in the papers this weekend.

Page 1 (Last paragraph on page 1) Poultney Town Dog Ordinance should be capitalized.

Motion to accept minutes as amended was made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports:

Superintendent:

- Joan shared that there are five candidates for the Technology Integration Specialist. Interviews will be Wednesday.
- The new conference room at Central Office has been completed.
- Paul Eaton and Susan McKelvie have started and are a great addition to the team.
- The Occupational Therapist interviews are complete.
- Poultney has received the Safe Routes to School grant. \$149,200 will be used for sidewalks and \$67,100 will be used for radar signs.
- Kristen Caliguiri: Kristen shared the Action Plan created at the Roots to Roadmaps course that took place last week.
- The PES student handbook was given out.
- The feedback regarding the work that Abbess has done with the school was very positive.
- Tom Fitzgerald: Tom shared that everyone has been very supportive. He will be meeting with the administrative team to work on schedules, IA assignments due to individual needs and will be starting to formulate a 100 day plan.

Business Manager:

- Discussion centered around the cost of the cell phone system used.

Motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of warrants:

Warrant #91: \$1,138,583.70, dated 6/18/10.

Warrant # 92: \$188,757.50, dated 6/30/10.

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

Motion to approve made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business:

Vinnie was asked to report back to the board as an update on the progress being made over the summer. Vinnie explained that there were no applicants for the part time position. Jess is working now to help out. Nick Striglia has been injured and his help was diminished for a period of time. The switchover to Comcast has been completed. Six Smart Boards have been installed and two more are to be installed. The Web 2 School has been upgraded. Student data has been transferred from PES to PHS. Personnel accounts still need to be upgraded. Vinnie explained the rationale for the purchase of the Tom-Tom. Literature was handed out to explain the device and cost. It was purchased because Vinnie is called upon consistently and it makes communication much easier and quicker. It is not used for navigation purposes. Vinnie also presented a printout to verify he had taken personal time off to work at the town hall with the Listers.

Discussion followed regarding Nick Striglia's time. It has been agreed upon that he will work mornings with Vinnie. Vinnie and Nick meet daily and go over the list of items that need to be completed. The board would like a set

schedule to ensure that we are getting the allotted time coming to us. Mary Jo continues to advocate for budgeting a tech position.

New Business:

Board goals: In the past the board goals have been put on the agenda. Tracee read the goals aloud. Joan will see that the goals are added to the agenda.

Substitutes: no list to approve.

Approval of Sub-grants: Louis explained the sub-grants that needed approval. They are tied to the Title program. The first sub grant was for Margo MacDonald in the amount of \$82,668. Motion to approve was made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. **Motion carried 5-0. The second sub grant was for Don Keagy in the amount of \$72,000. Motion made by Mary Jo Teetor, seconded by Jerry Keezer. Motion carried 5-0.**

Parent letters: Letters were received from two parents in regards to the art classes offered. Mr. Robert Bach was in attendance and participated in the discussion. Mary Jo had received some communication from two parents and she referred them to Tracey Gallipo and Tom Fitzgerald. Tom explained that art classes have not been cut. At the high school level there are 4 electives as well in a two year period. Mary Jo explained the options that have been available in the past.. Tom stated that he will gladly meet with parents on the issue. Mr. Bach stated that he would welcome having a conversation regarding the art classes. He asked for clarification on the IT tech position. Mr. Bach asked if the public could be involved/informed regarding the technology piece and Joan invited him to participate in the interview process. Mr. Bach asked when the budget process begins and Louis explained that the process will start in September and end in November or December. A request for monthly minutes was made and this will be taken care of. Tom stated that Mr. Bach and all parents were welcome to call anytime with questions or concerns. Mr. Bach shared that diligence on the budget items is important. A second parent letter raised a concern about the lack of visual arts at the high school. Discussion followed.

Policies:

Bullying: a great deal of discussion took place regarding the policy and procedures. Also discussed were the following policies: Search, Seizure and Interrogation of Students by School Personnel and Search, Seizure and Interrogation of Students by Law Enforcement Personnel or Non-School Personnel. They will come back for a second reading next month. Tracee stated that it was important to recognize those committee members who have been working so hard on the policies.

Action of Personnel Contracts:

New Hire: Lisa Wilson is our new Administrative Assistant. Her contract is a 260 day contract; \$15.00 an hour. **Motion to approve was made by Alicia Marcy, seconded by Mary Jo Teetor. Motion carried 5-0.** Lisa is already on the job.

Next meeting date: August 17. Executive session will begin at 5:30; regular meeting will start at 6:00

Motion to go into executive session at 8:25 for personnel. Motion made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Pat Davenport. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to come out of executive session at 9:22. Motion made by Jerry Keezer, seconded by Alicia Marcy. Motion carried 5-0.

No action taken.

Motion to adjourn at 9:24.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Davenport
Poultney School Board Clerk
September 15, 2010

