

**Middletown Springs School District
Board of School Directors Regular Meeting**

Date: June 17, 2010

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Place: Middletown Springs Elementary School

Official Meeting Minutes

Present: Kimberly Mathewson (Chair), Steven Letendre (Vice-Chair), Matt Peschl, Member. Also present: Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Louis Milazzo (Business Manager), Aaron Boynton (Principal), and Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary). Clarence Haynes (Member) arrived at 6:20 PM. Bob Bruttomesso arrived at 6:35 PM.

1. Call to Order

Kimberly Mathewson called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

2. Consent Agenda: (Action)

a. Approval of Minutes:

- i. December 1, 2009; December 10, 2009; March 24, 2010 (special), April 8, 2010 (regular), May 6, 2010 (special) and May 27, 2010 (regular). No minutes received to date for 12/1/2009, 12/10/2009, 5/6/2010, or 5/27/2010.

Kimberly Mathewson moved to table the above listed minutes until the next meeting when Board Clerk, Jim Gilmour is present.

b. Report of Superintendent (Verbal)

Supt. Paustian reported that almost all open positions in the supervisory union have been filled. The new music teacher for MSES, Tinmouth, and Wells has been hired, as well as a new principal for PHS. Supt. Paustian wishes to express her appreciation for working with the Board this year; it has been a most positive experience.

c. Report of Principal (Written)

Mr. Boynton reported on end-of-year activities, including Field Day with Tinmouth School. MSES is looking forward to working closely with them in the future to share resources and costs. Regarding building maintenance: a new hot water heater has been ordered and will be installed, the chair lift repairs are almost complete, an electrician will be in to check and repair emergency lighting, the chimney bricks will be repaired/replaced as needed. Summer Program begins on July 6th; teachers will cover academics in the morning, with enrichment activities in the afternoon. The teachers have been asked to read Ruby Payne's book A Framework for Understanding Poverty to increase understanding and address performance challenges experienced by low-income children. A final faculty meeting was held on the last in-service day at which the principal, teachers, and assistants reflected on the past school year in preparation for the upcoming one.

d. Report of the Business Manager (Written)

i. Finance Report

Mr. Milazzo included a financial summary and a variance report showing an anticipated surplus for this year. Savings were realized through grant funds paying for our Title I teaching position and by prudent spending. We also received unanticipated tuition payments for three Ira students attending MSES. Mr. Haynes asked about cash flow and the potential need for a tax anticipation loan. Mr. Milazzo replied that with current rates it would not negatively impact the district if we were to take one. Mr. Haynes moved to take out a tax anticipation note for \$180,000 with Chittenden Bank, Kimberly Mathewson seconded the motion; the motion carried. The Ira School Board is willing to pay for up to five of their Pre-K students to attend Pre-K at Tinmouth, Middletown, West Rutland, or Clarendon; giving us the opportunity to accept Pre-K students should the families choose to send them here. Mr. Boynton would welcome tuition students from Ira, provided there is room after accommodating the resident children of Middletown Springs. Clarence Haynes asked about special education

costs. Mr. Milazzo stated that any special service costs would be paid by the Ira School District. Kimberly Mathewson moved to accept Pre-K tuition students from Ira, just as we do their K-6 students, dependent on a payment of 46% of the state base education rate, Steven Letendre seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Steven Letendre moved to accept the reports of the Superintendent, Principal, and Business Manager, Matt Peschl seconded the motion; the motion carried.

3. Approval of Warrants: (Action)

a. Warrant #78 in the amount of \$46,599.81, dated 5/21/10

b. Warrant #79 in the amount of \$22,056.01, dated 6/4/10

Clarence Haynes moved to approve Warrant #78 in the amount of \$46,599.81, dated 5/21/10, and Warrant #79 in the amount of 22,056.01, dated 6/4/10, Steven Letendre seconded the motion; the motion carried.

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

Mr. Bruttomesso addressed the board regarding provisional licensing for teachers; in the past it has not been a major issue to obtain one, whereas now it seems to present great difficulty. Supt. Paustian explained that provisional licenses have become an area of greater focus and that a two-year provisional license can still be granted with requirements to be completed within that time frame; a third year may only be given in extreme circumstances.

5. Old Business: (Itemize Subjects for Deliberation & Possible Action)

a. Land Transfer

This item will be covered later in Executive Session as it is a legal issue.

6. New Business (Receive Information and Possible Action)

a. Approve Substitute List (no new names this month)

No action.

b. 21st Century Funds

No new information.

c. Gifted & Talented Program

At the next board meeting, Mr. Boynton would like to discuss a new referral system for students regarding potential enrollment in the Young Scholars Program.

d. Special Education Needs

Mr. Boynton reiterated the need for an additional Instructional Assistant and the need to increase the Special Educator's position from .7 to .8 FTE. Clarence Haynes moved to hire an Instructional Assistant to be funded 50% through special education funds and 50% through regular education funds, and to increase the Special Educator position from the current .7 to a .8, Kimberly Mathewson seconded the motion; the motion carried.

e. Health and Wellness Model

No new information.

7. Policies: (Action, if warranted)

1. E-202 Animals in School

2. F-101 International Exchange Student

3. E-516 Sales Tax Reimbursement

4. A-1a Policy Development, Adoption, Dissemination, Administration and Review

5. F-104 Entrance Age

6. E-9 HIV/AIDS

Kimberly Mathewson moved to adopt the above listed policies: E-202, F-101, E-516, A-1a, F-104, and E-9, Clarence Haynes seconded the motion; the motion carried.

8. Master Facilities Planning (Discussion, possible action)

This topic was also covered in the financial reporting section of the meeting. Mr. Letendre discussed the model we use for scheduling repairs and maintenance. Mr. Boynton thanked Mr. Letendre for all of his assistance with building maintenance planning. Mr. Letendre and Mr. Boynton are looking forward to receiving a detailed plan from Ground Up Engineering shortly. The exterior of the building needs to be painted; the new section in particular. Kimberly Mathewson moved to request bids to repair the clapboards and paint the new section of the building this summer and/or fall; using two separate bids; one for the clapboard repairs and one for the painting, Clarence Haynes seconded the motion; the motion carried.

9. Personnel and Contracts (Action, if warranted)

- a. New Hires - None
- b. Terminations/Resignations - None
- c. Transfers – None
- d. Leave of Absences - None

10. Anticipated Executive Session 1 V.S.A. § 313 (1-9)(a)(b) (if warranted)

Kimberly Mathewson made a motion to enter Executive Session for personnel and legal issues, Steven Letendre seconded the motion; the motion carried. The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:42 PM. Steven Letendre made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:40 p.m., Matt Peschl seconded the motion; the motion carried. Action Taken: Kimberly Mathewson made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding the personnel issue, Clarence Haynes seconded the motion; the motion carried.

11. Other Lawful Business (Information Gathering Only): None.

12. Set Next Meeting (Action) (Anticipated July 15, 2010 7:00 PM), and Agenda Building
Next meeting set for Thursday, July 15, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

13. Adjournment (Action)

Steven Letendre made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m., Matt Peschl seconded the motion; the motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso
Recording Secretary