

Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union
Board of School Directors
May 24, 2010 – 7:00PM – Tinmouth Elementary School

Official Minutes

Board Members Present: Kimberly Mathewson (M); Helen Mango (M); Mary Jo Teetor (A); Matt Peschl (A/M); Jerry Keezer (M); Alicia Marcy (M); Kimberly Stewart (M); Pat Davenport (A); Jim Gilmour (M); Tammy Holcomb (M); Tracee Oakman Rupe (M).

Administrators Present: Joan Paustian, Superintendent; Louis Milazzo, Business Manager; Darren McIntyre, Assistant Special Education Coordinator.

Guests Present: Karen and Leslie Klami; Paul Eaton.

The meeting was **called to order** at 7:03PM by Chair Kimberly Mathewson.

Matthew Peschl was introduced as a new Middletown Springs board member and alternate representative SU board.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Helen Mango, seconded by Tammy Holcomb to approve the minutes of April 26, 2010. Discussion ensued. **Motion to approve minutes with one amendment noted carried.**

The Superintendent introduced Leslie Klami, recommended candidate for Itinerant Music Teacher position. Mr. Klami spoke briefly regarding his work history and excitement at the possibility of becoming the Itinerant Music Teacher. There were no questions of Mr. Klami.

The Superintendent introduced Paul Eaton, recommended candidate for Assistant Special Education Coordinator position. Mr. Eaton spoke briefly regarding his work history and what he would bring to our supervisory union. There were no questions of Mr. Eaton.

Both candidates were thanked for their attendance and were excused.

Report of the Superintendent: Dr. Paustian informed the board that all boards have agreed to work toward a Supervisory Union Negotiated Agreement; however, she also reported that the Legislature has just passed a law which requires all boards to negotiate at the Supervisory Union level. In order to move this process forward, the superintendent suggested that Attorney Dennis Wells attend the June meeting. The meeting will be moved to 5:00PM at Poultney High School.

Superintendent Paustian informed the board that Attorney Zawistoski has been re-sent the RSWSU Teacher benefits and salary information. Bonnie Lenihan was nominated for the Special Education Administrator of the Year by the Superintendent, Darren and Tom. Another nominee received the award; however, Bonnie was honored by the nomination. The letters of nomination have been placed in Mrs. Lenihan's personnel file in lieu of an evaluation since she will not be returning next year.

An updated (PHS) NECAP score report was included in the board packet.

Superintendent Paustian presented the board with Tom Gallagher's report on Title Grant funding. She reminded the board that unspent Title (Consolidated Federal Program) funds may be carried over while 21st Century Grant funds may not.

Superintendent Paustian also provided a brief Legislative update.

A board member inquired what the status of the Curriculum Coordinating Council's work is. Dr. Paustian indicated that the council has created their strategies, and that English Language Arts and Technology will be the first areas of curriculum addressed. Most of the members of the CCC will be attending a course this summer offered at Castleton State College; Roots to Success. The Superintendent will participate as needed or requested by the council.

A board member requested that his RSWSU e-mail account be reactivated as he preferred to receive board information through the SU account rather than his personal home account. Superintendent Paustian suggested that any other members who wished the same should contact her Administrative Assistant. There were no further questions of the Superintendent.

Report of the Business Manager: Mr. Milazzo's written report was included in the board packet. He reported that he was beginning to finalize account activities and anticipates few changes to the fund balance. The surplus is anticipated to increase and not decrease based on his current projections at this time. Mr. Milazzo reported that he had received three (3) Fuel Oil bids. He discussed them with the Finance Committee and provided a summary to the full board.

Motion made by Jim Gilmour, seconded by Helen Mango to accept the bid from Local Fuel at a variable rate of 18 cents over rack. Discussion ensued. Motion carried. By consensus the board agreed that each local board should confirm the decision to use Local Fuel Company.

Mr. Milazzo provided the board with handouts regarding the proposed changes to Challenges for Changes. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Milazzo informed the board that the state has set the tax rate at 0.86 which will result in a savings to most of the member districts. He provided a handout explaining same.

Report of Director of Student Support Services: Mr. McIntyre reported on behalf of Mrs. Lenihan who was unable to attend due to a family emergency. Mrs. Lenihan's written report was handed out to board members. The IDEA-B Basic Grant for FY11 is \$225,891.00 and the IDEA-B Pre School Grant is \$7,150.48. In addition, \$11,054.25 unspent FY10 IDEA-B Basic and \$70,137.68 unspent ARRA FY10 will be carried forward. Mrs. Lenihan and Mr. McIntyre requested board approval for the FY11 Grants.

Motion made by Jim Gilmour, seconded by Helen Mango to approve Bonnie's report to include the FY11 IDEA-B Basic Grant in the amount of \$225,891.00 and IDEA-B Pre School Grant in the amount of \$7,150.48. Motion carried.

Report of Director of Educational Advancement: The Superintendent had presented the board with Mr. Gallagher's written report during her report earlier in the meeting. A recap report was requested by the board for the June meeting.

Motion made by Helen Mango, seconded by Kimberly Stewart to accept the reports as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the inclusion of the continuation minutes in the motion for approval along with the regular meeting minutes. **Motion made by Helen Mango, seconded by Tammy Holcomb to approve the continuation minutes of April 26, 2010 as presented. Motion carried.**

Approval of Warrants: **Motion made by Helen Mango, seconded by Kimberly Stewart to approve warrant #84 in the amount of \$49,128.56, dated 4/23/10 and warrant #85 in the amount of \$30,221.86 dated 5/7/10. Motion carried.**

General Public Comments: None.

Old Business: None for action.

New Business:

Report of Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met just prior to the meeting on May 24, 2010 and discussed the construction of the wall at Central Office; they reviewed the financial statements, and reviewed merit raise recommendations. There will be no meeting set for June.

Report of Systems Management Committee: The Systems Management Committee will meet on June 1, 2010 at Central Office at 3:00PM to continue working on policies. A board member inquired regarding whether there had been any progress on establishing an Exit Interview Policy/Procedure. The committee will consider this at their June meeting.

Report of Human Resource Committee: The committee has elected Clarence Haynes as Chair of the committee. Goals were established. Guidelines are to be established for job descriptions. The committee is scheduled to meet every other month beginning July 20, 2010 at 1:00PM at Central Office. The Long Term Substitute rate of pay will be addressed by the committee as well as review of several job descriptions.

Approve Substitute List: **Motion made by Tammy Holcomb, seconded by Jim Gilmour to approve the substitute list as presented. Motion carried.**

Policies: Policies listed on the agenda will be tabled to the June meeting in anticipation that all local boards will have reviewed and approved same by that time.

The Chair called for a short break at 8:10PM. Meeting back in session at 8:20PM.

Action on Contracts:

New Hires: **By consensus, the board agreed to discuss in executive session.**

Resignations: Shirley Thieser- **Motion made by Tammy Holcomb to accept Mrs. Thieser's resignation with deep regret, seconded by Kimberly Mathewson. Motion carried.**

Terminations: None.

Other Lawful Business: None.

Set Next Meeting: June 28, 2010 at Poultney High School beginning at 5:00PM (anticipated executive session with Attorney Wells to discuss Supervisory Union-wide Negotiations). All board members are encouraged and invited to attend. Members are asked to RSVP to Jan. By consensus due to the early start date, pizza will be provided.

Motion made by Helen Mango, seconded by Jim Gilmour to move into executive session at 8:25PM for the purpose of contract and personnel matters. Motion carried.

The Recording Secretary was excused.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Dente
RSWSU Recording Secretary