

Wells Town School District
Board of Directors
November 18, 2009

Official Minutes

Attendance: Tammy Holcomb (Chair), Charity Downs (Vice Chair), Karen Stomski (Clerk), Linda O'Leary (Principal), Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Louis Milazzo (Business Manager), Elizabeth Ambuhl (Recording Secretary).

Audience: Tracey Tinsley and Meghan Keith.

1. Call to Order: Tammy Holcomb called the meeting to order at 5:22pm.
2. Consent Agenda: Karen Stomski made a motion, seconded by Tammy Holcomb, to accept the consent agenda.

- Approval of Minutes: No Changes noted to October 13, 2009 minutes,
- B. Superintendent's Report: Dr. Joan Paustian has completed her second round of visiting area classrooms. Tom Gallagher, previous superintendent, and Joan Paustian are working with the ASCU team at the University of Vermont to develop assessments of technology, analyze needs assessments, and to facilitate a technology team.
- Kelly Services notified the Superintendents' office that the current rate of pay for substitute instructional assistants, when calculated at ½ day, does not meet the requirements for minimum wage regulations (per Department of Labor). The Superintendent recommends increasing the substitute rate of pay for instructional assistants to \$65. per day in order to comply with the minimum wage regulation. The Supervisory Union board will vote on a recommendation Monday Night.
- The Systems Management Committee and the RSWSU Board have approved the "Curriculum Management and Adoption" and the "Curriculum Coordinating Council" policies pending local school district approval. Kristen Caliguiri, Principal of Poultney Elementary School, will serve as Chair of the committee. All principals, as well as teacher representatives from each school, will serve on the Curriculum Coordinating Council.

- Susan McKelvie, Principal of Tinmouth Elementary School and Kristen Caliguri, Principal of Poultney Elementary School, have offered to attend future Southwest Vermont Curriculum Coordinators meetings.

- C. Principal's Report (No written report):
 - ✓ The Wells School enrollment has increased to 72 over the past several weeks.
 - ✓ Students made cards and wrote letters, which were sent to the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington in honor of Veterans Day.
 - ✓ Currently Wells has, 4 Green Mountain College work study students, 2 High School Student Volunteers, and 8 Adult Volunteers. These numbers do not include the faculty members who also volunteer.
 - ✓ The H1N1 Vaccination Clinic was held on Tuesday, November 10th where 35 students and two adults received the vaccination.
 - ✓ The "Share Because We Care Project" began on November 12th and will last through 2pm on November 14.
 - ✓ The first marking period ended today and report cards will go home on November 20th.
 - ✓ The annual Thanksgiving feast will be held on November 19th.
 - ✓ The members of the Wells Methodist Church will conduct their annual Holiday Store on December 14th. Each student will shop for two gifts from a vast array of items for a fee of .25 each.
 - ✓ Music teacher, Christina Holzmacher, will conduct the annual Wells Village School Holiday Concert at 6:30pm on December 15th.
 - ✓ Classroom holiday parties will occur on Dec 21st. December vacation begins after school on December 22nd. Classes resume on Monday, Jan. 4th.
 - ✓ The teachers spent the November 11th in service working on assessing student writing, discussing student needs, sharing of technology, learning from conferences attended and certifying in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).
 - ✓ The Alert Now System has been installed and a training date of December 2nd has been set. Due to the small size of the school the cost was \$3.00 per student.

- D. Business Manager's Report:
 - I. Financial Statements

Financial statements were presented with an announced tuition rate recommendation for FY 11 of \$8,544.00

Charity Downs made a motion to approve the recommendation for announced tuition rate of \$8,544.00 for the Wells School District, seconded by Tammy Holcomb.

Motion passed 3-0

II. Approve warrants.

- o 1. Warrant # 69 in the amount of \$108,885.80, dated 9/30/09
- o 2. Warrant # 70 in the amount of \$ 4,724.30, dated 10/9/09
- o 3. Warrant # 71 in the amount of \$ 28, 954.64, dated 10/23/09

Motion to approve consent agenda, approved 3-0.

3. General Public Comments:

Teachers:

Megan Keith, Third Grade Teacher, gave an informative presentation using the Smart Board and a tour of her classroom. It was apparent of her time spent in using the Smart Board for her lessons and the caring for her students.

4. Old Business:

- a. Basement follow up: DS Masonry has completed the exterior work; Tri State will complete the interior work over the February Vacation. The plumber is all set to complete his work, however, we are still waiting for the second electrical quote.
- b. Building Maintenance: Waiting for bids for gutters, paint, and exterior carpentry.
- c. Exterior Siding Estimates are still being researched.
- d. Water Boiling Notice: The last two samples have been chloroform free. Wells still needs to take 5 samples on three consecutive days and return them to Rutland. Another sample will need to be taken in December and if all samples are clear then the Water Boiling Notice can be lifted.
- e. Grants: Grants for Energy Efficiency and Block Grants are being researched.
- f. NECAP Scores: NECAP scores were discussed and on average the RSWSU scores lower than the state average. For future reference the NECAP scores will be analyzed and the results shared in order to better prepare the students for testing.

5. New Business:

Approval of Substitute List: Karen Stomski made a motion to approve the sub list as presented. Charity Downs seconded the motion. Motioned carried 3-0.

At 6:55 pm Tammy Holcomb asked for a break .

Meeting resumed at 7:00pm

Presentation: Tracey Tinsley, Itinerant Physical Education Teacher, presented information regarding that Wells School currently does not meet the State Standards for Physical Education. A discussion ensued on how to develop a plan to meet state standards in relation to the budget and the needs of Tinmouth and Middletown Schools.

FY11 Budget: The first draft of the budget was presented and lengthy discussion ensued. Items to think about in relation to the budget are the Homework Club and Afterschool Program. Continuation of budget talks will take place at the next meeting.

6. Policies:

All Policies are tables except G1A and G1B. Karen Stomski made a motion to accept the policies G1A and G1B, seconded by Tammy Holcomb. No discussion. Motion passed 2-1.

Karen Stomski made a motion to accept the residency policy. Motion passed 3-0.

Karen Stomski presented the Animals in School Policy for review.

7. Action on Personnel Contracts:

New Hires:

- o Ralph Bleeks as the substitute custodian. Tammy Holcomb made a motion to hire Ralph Bleeks as the substitute custodian at his former hourly rate of pay Charity Downs seconded, motioned passed 3-0.

Resignations: Ralph Bleeks. Tammy Holcomb made a motion to regretfullt accept resignation and Charity Downs seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Termination: None

Leave of Absence: None

8. Other Lawful Business: None

9. Executive Session: Tammy Holcomb made a motion to enter into executive session at 9:20pm to discuss personnel and negotiations, Karen Stomski seconded the motion, passed 3-0

10. Next Regular Board Meeting (December 16, 2009 at 6:00pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Ambuhl
Recording Secretary

