

Draft

North Hero School Board
Meeting.. Wednesday.. December 08, 2010
at North Hero School... room 144

Approval of Minutes for 12.8.10
Date: _____
Andrew Julow _____
Seth Chastenay _____
Jennifer Gariety _____

IN ATTENDANCE School Board: Andrew Julow/Jennifer Gariety and Seth Chastenay
Superintendent of School: Richard Taylor a 7:55
Principal: Joey Bennink
Special Educator Director: Beth Hemingway
Board Secretary: Jo-Ann Tier
Guest List: (signed-in) Bill Karstens (auditor)
Others in attendance who did not sign-in: Bart Wilcox (auditor) 7:08,
Parents, Corinn Julow, Bridget Campbell and Adam Trevits

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Andrew Julow at 7:02 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Andrew Julow

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

The Board did not have any adjustments to the agenda at this time in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF November 1 and November 17, 2010

Board asked that the following correction/notations be made for the minutes of
November 01, 2010
Reports were received from GISU for the accounts.

November 17,2010:
Page 1 Under FY 12 Budget Work Session - Library – Chair phoned the “Friends of the Library”
to see if there could be a possibility of working with them if they had a surplus.. not the Public Library.

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the Board approve the minutes for November 01, 2010
and November 17, 2010 with the noted notations and/or correction. This motion was
seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

At this time of the meeting – no comments and questions from the public were expressed.

BETH HEMINGWAY: Special Education Expenses

Beth reviewed her responsibilities in the District. She and the Board reviewed account
numbers/descriptions and project figures for the FY 12 year. Increases and/or decreases
in staff were noted during this process.

She shared with the Board that if they wanted her to be more specific in some of the
areas it may be necessary to go into Executive Session.

Revenue for State Placed tuition along with travel reimbursement was shared.

Beth informed the Board she would touch base with the Board as the school year progresses with any increases/decreases due to an enrollment change.

Board asked Beth to check in to why the Workmen's Comp. has increased and report back to them. Future agenda item.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from GISU

Letter from Superintendent of Schools, Richard Taylor, which was his response to a communication from Chair Andrew Julow regarding the GRACE program at the North Hero School was given to the Board Secretary to attach to the minutes of this meeting. Letter referenced dates in which the 21 Century Learning Grant was referenced to the Board.

Note: original copy of this letter attached to the minutes given the Town Clerk's Office.

Letter of Thanks to Robert Caneco

Chair shared the letter that he had prepared on behalf of the Board to be sent to Mr. Caneco and family for their involvement in planning and installation of the new school sign.

Note: copy of said letter attached to the copy given the Town Clerk's Office.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Attendance Check

Joey shared that as of December 21st – four (4) students K-6 will have withdrawn.

Calendar Check

Joey shared:

- December 9th – Vermont National Guard – assembly 1:00 P.M.
- December 11th - Santa Breakfast.. a PTO fundraiser
- December 18th Tumble Time in the gym for preschoolers
- December 20th.. Holiday Concert.. at the Town Hall
- December 22nd.. ½ day

Basketball... first games:

- December 11 10:00 a.m. boys St. Albans Town
- December 11 8:00 a.m. girls Swanton

BOARD DISCUSSION

Approval of Action Plan

Joey reviewed the focus area of Language Arts/Reading with the Board –

- Assessment Needs Identified by Data
- Targets for Increased Student Performance
- Action Steps
 - K-2 teachers intentionally teach test taking skills - practice using multiple choice answer format, asking students to

- refer back to the test to support responses to text.
- Grade K-6 – teachers increase the use of nonfiction text in the classroom
- focus being on comprehension scores
- classroom teachers (all) will use the Fontas and Pinnell assessment system to assess students 2 – 3 times per year.

Discussion...

Joey shared with the Board that this is a two year Action Plan which can be revamped every year.

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the North Hero School Board approve this Annual Action Plan 2010 – 2012 – North Hero School (K-6). This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

FY12 Budget-Revenue Items

The Revenue Committee in attendance shared that they continue to work on:

- =a Garden Program
- =a community run
- =also this committee reviewed “use of the facility”.. comparing what other schools charge for the use of their facility.

Chair reported he has yet to visit with the Water Board.

Board asked Superintendent Taylor to have the Central Office check with the bus company to see what kind of a savings would take if there were regional stops for the elementary school students for pick-ups and drop-offs. Future agenda item

King Fund Update

Chair Andrew Julow shared with the Board that he has reviewed expenditures from this fund and that it was discovered that the fiber optic payment was not made for the 2009-2010 school year. Therefore, payment was made in the amount of \$3,600.00 which covers the school years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

The Board agreed that monies for the smart boards would come out of budget line item 001-1100-5734-000-00 (Instructional Computer Equipment). Note: the amount remaining in this account as of December 08, 2010 is \$2,386.00)

It was also noted come February of 2011 a deposit should be received for the King Fund. The September 2010 was the final payment for the fiber optic obligation.

Class Size Policy

Superintendent Taylor reviewed.. Section 15 Act 153 of 2010 requires superintendents to “work with the school boards of the members districts to develop and implement policies regarding minimum and optimal average class sizes for regular and technical education classes.

The class size guidelines will be used to inform annual decision related to staffing and program offerings. (page 2 = grid was reviewed by Superintendent Taylor)

Dick shared that policies are drafted by John Nelson for the Boards.

Discussion...

Board agreed that the 1st reading for the policy will be warned for the next scheduled School Board Meeting.

Grace Board Meeting Update

Andrew shared his experience in attending a Grace Board Meeting and his disappointment with the reception. Some of the discussion areas that surfaced during his attendance was..

- the idea of having a school board liaison
- who is this Board responsible to
- what is the amount of money being taken in by NH families
- the concern for a sustaining program
- etc.

Board continued a discussion... all three Board members continuing to have concerns about

- amount of money being brought in by NH families
- are all families contributing to the daily cost
- a sustaining program
- children staying here and not going to their homes
- salaries paid for those running the program
- etc

Joey shared the model could be somewhat different for next year and that she will keep the Board abreast as decisions are being made.

Future.. agenda item..

New Master Teacher's Agreement

The new Master Teacher's Agreement was presented to the Board by Superintendent Taylor.

BOARD ACTION

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

A North Hero Town School District - expenses – budget to actual (includes expenses on voucher warrant of December 08, 2010) report was given to the Board.

Warrant was presented to the Board in the amount of \$133,481.91.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion that this warrant in the amount of \$133,481.91 be paid. This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion... this motion was carried 3-0.

CONTRACT FOR SIGNATURE

Contract for Mary Ann Fisher was given the Board for their signatures.

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the Board sign this contract for Mary Ann Fisher... this motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

ACT ON MASTER TEACHER'S AGREEMENT

Seth Chastenay made a motion to approve the ratification of the Agreement between the Board of School Directors for the following School Districts – Alburgh Elementary, Grand Isle Elementary, North Hero Elementary, and South Hero Elementary and The Grand Isle Supervisory Union Education Association

Vermont-NEA/NEW.. July 01, 2010 – June 30, 2013. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion as carried 3-0.

Seth Chastenay made a motion that Chair Andrew Julow sign this agreement on behalf of the North Hero Board.. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

Next Board Meeting

Board agreed at this time that the next meeting would be in January and that warrants between now and that meeting would be signed by Board members.

Communication

At this time in the meeting Bart Wilcox, auditor, presented a communication from him to the North Hero Board.... short discussion followed.

The Board agreed that they would read said communication and have this communication as an agenda item at their next schedule meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the meeting be recessed and that the Board go into Executive Session for a personnel matter.

This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the meeting This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

Note: no action to be taken following this Executive Session.

ADJOURN

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 9:27 P.M. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jo-Ann Tier

C: Board Andrew Julow/Jennifer Gariety/Seth Chastenay
Central Office
Town Clerk
Principal
North Hero Town Web Page
File