

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
March 8, 2007
Blue Hill Consolidated School
Minutes

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten followed by the salute to the flag.

Members Present: Ben Wootten; John Richardson; Susan Keenan; Alice Herrick; Jon Smallidge arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Denis Howard, Fred Cole, Gail Breslin-Keith, Frank Wanning

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of the Agenda

John Richardson motioned and Susan Keenan seconded to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion passed 4-0-0.

D. Approval of Minutes of Previous School Board Meetings

1. John Richardson motioned and Alice Herrick seconded to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2007 meeting and the minutes of the February 13, 2007 meeting.

Motion passed 4-0-0.

* Jon Smallidge arrived at this point in the meeting.

E. Communications

1. PTF Update - In Beth Jackson's absence, Principal Fred Cole gave a brief update of the PTF activities including the upcoming welcome home for Jeb Billings and the Middle School "Back to the 70's" Dance.

2. Student Achievement Data, Grades 9-12

Gail Breslin-Keith presented achievement data beginning with the SAT Initiative which is replacing the 11th Grade MEAs. She gave scores in reading, writing and mathematics.

The SAT assumes all students are receiving instruction at the college prep level and that is not fact. Mrs. Breslin-Keith also showed achievement by grades and by class (2006-2009) with anecdotal information. After many questions and opinions stated, there was a discussion about gifted and talented, and 8th grade Algebra.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

None

G. Information

1. GSA Report - None

2. Principal's Report - Principal Cole reiterated the upcoming festivities for Jeb Billing's homecoming. He informed the Board that the newly revised "volunteer policy" is working very well to date. He mentioned the evening parent-teacher conferences and MEA testing.

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G. Information (continued)

3. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Howard updated the Board on the hiring of a new Superintendent, Arthur Wittine, and that he will be on board June 11th (visiting classes the week of June 4th) and that there may be some overlap with Mr. Wittine's arrival and Mr. Howard's departure. The two will meet to make a smooth transition.

4. Other Reports/Information - None

H. Old Business

1. Board Goals - The Board indirectly addressed goals 2, 3, and 5.

2. To Revisit the Tobacco Free School Policy #1320.2

A motion by John Richardson and seconded by Alice Herrick to approve the amendments as follows: Paragraph two was changed to begin sentence two with "Consistent with state law..." and changed the word "will" to "may" in the ninth paragraph. The motion passed 5-0-0.

I. New Business

1. Getting Ready for Town Meeting - After much discussion and the fact that the proposed 15% for health insurance has now been confirmed at 8.8%, it was agreed to reduce the appropriate four articles with health insurance by a total of \$31,639.00.

John Richardson motioned and Susan Keenan seconded to approve the reduction.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

It was agreed that Denis Howard and Ben Wootten will meet prior to Town Meeting. It was also agreed that motions will be made and seconded regarding the four articles effected by the health insurance reduction.

2. Discuss Changing Meeting Times April through June - The Board will meet one more time on Tuesday, April 10th and then go back to their former schedule of meeting every second Wednesday of the month.

J. Signing of Vouchers

The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis L. Howard, Ed. D.
Superintendent