

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
April 8, 2009
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

Members Absent: Jon Smallidge

Others Present: Art Wittine; Fred Cole; Matt Jurick; Jan Snow; Colin Powell, reporter for the Weekly Packet

B. Flag Salute

Election of a Chair

Alice Herrick moved and Susan Keenan seconded to elect Ben Wootten as chair for the ensuing year. Motion passed 4-0.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. John Richardson moved and Alice Herrick seconded to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2009 meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

D. Approval of the Agenda

John Richardson moved and Alice Herrick seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

E. Communications

1. Technology Update – Matt Jurick gave a presentation on building and union technology advances over the past several months. His report is attached to the office minutes.
2. PTF Report – Beth Jackson’s report outlined recent and upcoming activities as follows:
Recent activities: Model rockets; movie night; family carnival; soup supper; refreshments and silent auction at the town meeting; sports gear and clothing swap.
Upcoming activities include: TV turn off week; teacher appreciation week; spring spruce up. Ongoing interests include bike safety.
3. Principal’s Update on Teacher Evaluation Process – Fred Cole commented that there has been no action over the past three weeks.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public – Alice Herrick said her daughter, Emily, was getting an award for outstanding work in an independent study related to work in Jan Snow’s class.

G. Reports

1. GSA Report – None
2. Principal’s Report- Fred Cole’s report is attached to the office minutes. Some of the items from his report are as follows: He mentioned the adoption of the 2009-2010 school budget at Town Meeting; work on ELA; Response to Intervention union wide work; jazz band has won the state championship for Division IV; Imogen Page has won the Maine State Spelling Bee Championship; Emma Richardson has won the Audubon Society’s essay contest; the Blue Hill Public Library is hosting its annual student art show; Della Martin has submitted a grant proposal to the Maine Memory Network for \$7,500 that will fund a local history project for next year’s 8th grade class; the 3rd and 4th

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G. Reports (continued)

2. Principal's Report (continued)

grade students recently performed skits based on earlier interviews with “senior partners” in the community; plans for Make a Difference Day in May are underway.

3. Superintendent's Report - Art Wittine's report is attached to the office minutes. Some of the items included in his report are as follows: A bulletin from MSMA; an article from USA Today; an article from The New York Times; the fuel oil bid specs are out; Chandra Bisberg has been appointed as Ed. Tech. II/III and Jessica Hutchins has been reassigned as an Ed. Tech. II/III; Rodney Simmons is a volunteer assistant coach for softball and Jeb Billings has been appointed as the baseball coach.

4. Other Reports - None

H. Old Business

1. AOS/Surry Management Services Agreement Update

Attached to the office minutes is the draft agreement and minutes of the “Five Town School District” planning meeting held on March 25, 2009.

2. Board Goals – Goal #3 The board would like to identify parts of the current school curriculum that need improving and the board would like to see a strategy for improving the curriculum worked out.

Given Board Goal #3 and the GSA Feedback Summary; and utilizing student data from the NWEA's and MEA's, the board endorses the creation of a committee made up of the superintendent, the principal, two teachers and a board member to:

- 1) Evaluate the current scheduling by grade and subject for K-8 as to absolute adequacy and relative weighting.
- 2) Consider how/where adjustments might best be made with an immediate goal of increasing ELA time at all grade levels.

3. Field Trip Update

Fred Cole and Art Wittine will draft a policy.

I. New Business

1. Alice Herrick moved and Susan Keenan seconded to approve the 8th grade class trip aboard the “Victory Chimes” June 7, 2009 through June 10, 2009. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Alice Herrick moved and Susan Keenan seconded to approve the Spring 2009 B.E.E.M. Grants as follows: \$250 to Bob McCormick to help fund a day and evening of contra dance activities; \$1000 to Penny Ricker to fund a new pottery wheel and associated tools for the art room; \$1502 to Helen Graikoski to fund two software licenses and teacher training for the Lexia Primary Reading program, a research-based reading intervention. Motion passed 4-0.

3. John Richardson moved and Alice Herrick seconded to approve staff and eighth grade CPR & AED Training in June as outlined in Deb Candage's application to Channing Bete Company CPR & AED Awareness Week Grant. Motion passed 4-0.

4. After discussion of the two draft 2009-2010 school year calendar options, the calendar draft A was favored. The calendar options will be discussed at the April 28th Joint School Union 93 Board Meeting and brought back to the Board for approval at their next meeting in May. Continued on Page 3.

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I. New Business (continued)

5. Art Wittine read the list of continuing contract teachers and their assignments for the 2009-2010 school year as follows: Sherry Holbrook, Kindergarten; Kathy Hally, grade 1; Judy Cole, grade 1; Karen Larkin grade 2; Melissa Norwood, grade 2; Jan Snow, grade 3; Patty Clapp, grade 3; Tara McKechnie; grade 4; Shelly Schildroth, grade 4; Sue Slocum, grade 5; Maryanne Lewandowski, grade 6; Cathy Snow, grades 7 and grade 8; William O’Connell, grade 7 and grade 8; Della Martin, grade 7 and grade 8; Audrey Means, Music; Silvana Cuello; Spanish; Robert McCormick, Physical Education and Health; William Schubeck, Instrumental Music (80%); Megan Granger, Guidance; Beth Jackson, Library; Nancy Bos, Special Education; Lori Wessel, Special Education; Julia O’Neill, Speech and Language (80%); Helen Graikoski, Reading Recovery (50%).
6. Discussion of Self-Evaluation Policy #8379 – Ben Wootten and Art Wittine will look at changing and simplifying the policy.
7. Alice Herrick moved and Susan Keenan seconded to enter into an executive session for the purpose of Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) 20 USC 1412 et seq. 34 CFR Part 300 with the Board, Art Wittine and Fred Cole. Motion passed 4-0.

Time In: 8:22 p.m. Time Out: 8:28 p.m.

No action upon returning to open session.

J. Signing of Vouchers – The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Wittine
Superintendent