

**Blue Hill School Committee Meeting**  
**February 10, 2010**  
**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; Alice Herrick; Jon Smallidge; John Richardson;

Members Absent: Susan Keenan

Others Present: Denis L. Howard; Fred Cole; Deborah Candage, School Nurse;  
Jan Snow; Della Martin; Beth Jackson; Matt Jurick; Colin Powell, reporter for  
*The Weekly Packet*; Brooke Clapp; Troy Clapp; Samantha Politte; Deb Kingston;  
Erin Williamson

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Jon Smallidge to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2010 and January 25, 2010 meetings as printed.

Motion passed 4-0.

D. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Alice Herrick, to approve the agenda with the addition of I. New Business item #9 To Approve Appointment of Audrey Means as the Drama Coach for 2009-2010.

Motion passed 4-0.

E. Communications

PowerSchool Update – Union 93 Technology Coordinator Matt Jurick gave a brief presentation on PowerSchool’s gradebook. Due to “confidentiality issues”, he did not present his powerpoint show. However, he did invite Board members to his office to view such. After some discussion and questions, Ben Wootten thanked him for coming to update the Board. Jan Snow and Fred Cole, who had seen the show earlier, praised Matt for the progress made to date. September 2010 is the date set for Union implementation of the power gradebook system.

PTF Report – Beth Jackson distributed her written report. She highlighted a few areas. A copy of such is attached to the office minutes.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

- Jon Smallidge asked if a new section entitled “Items for Next Agenda” could be part of the printed agenda. Superintendent Howard indicated that it will be part of the March agenda.

- Deb Candage, as a parent, spoke highly of the “parent portal” part of power gradebook. with children in Bucksport High School and GSA, she said it is tremendously helpful to her as a parent.

- After some discussion, a question arose regarding a GSA representative to attend the Board meeting in March. Superintendent Howard indicated he will pass information on to Mark Hurvitt.

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G. Reports (continued)

1. GSA Report – John Greene, Headmaster at GSA has had some conversation with Blue Hill Consolidated School regarding Spanish. Follow up is needed as there appears to be a “disconnect” with GSA about BHCS student success.
2. Principal’s Report – Fred Cole’s printed report was highlighted. He indicated he will bring NECAP results to the Board this spring. Girls “A” Team won the Peninsula Tournament and also received the Sportsmanship Award. The Boys Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fred praised Tara McKechnie and Chris Billings for their hard work and dedication.
3. Superintendent’s Report – Denis Howard indicated that Blue Hill will receive \$57,777.00 in State subsidy, a decrease of \$89,661.00. Three parents have expressed interest in the Principal Search Committee. Mr. Howard took part in the “Wild Hat Wednesday” at BHCS. He also announced that this was his last Board meeting.
4. Other Reports  
Next Agenda Items:
  - 1) Discuss changing meeting time
  - 2) Matching funds for future Boston Trip
  - 3) Participation of 5<sup>th</sup> graders in BHCS sports

H. Old Business

1. Discussion of Mouth Guards and “Opt Out” Clause  
Principal Cole gave some factual information, but stated he really doesn’t feel this is a big issue. He leaned on the side of no mouth guards. Deb Candage, RN gave statistics about reported injuries and showed the Board a display of various injuries to the mouth. Samantha Politte indicated she had done additional research and she felt it should be a parent’s option regarding mouth guards.

A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by John Richardson, to leave wearing of mouth guards to parents and pursue a method to inform and encourage parents of basketball players to make that decision. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Board Goals – No discussion at this time.

I. New Business

1. A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by John Richardson to approve the September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2013 agreement between the Blue Hill School Committee and the Blue Hill Education Support Staff Association/MEA/NEA for the Educational Technicians, Secretaries, Custodians and Food Service Personnel.  
Motion passed 4-0.
2. Chair Ben Wootten read the letter from Mary Cummins. There was little discussion. John Richardson made a motion, and Jon Smallidge seconded to be part of the Union-wide group to discuss items of interest with Union 76.  
Motion passed 3-1  
(Alice Herrick - Nay)

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I. New Business (continued)

3. Discussion of Policy Review – This item was tabled. Ben Wootten indicated the new Superintendent, Mark Hurvitt, wants to make all policies the same throughout the Union.
  
4. Discussion of Tuition Students at the Elementary School  
Alice Herrick felt a competitive tuition would attract students to BHCS instead of our area Schools. Ben Wootten felt it could be done and asked Alice Herrick to continue to research. No action required.
  
5. A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Alice Herrick, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Blue Hill School Committee and the Penobscot Bay Teachers Association to amend the current comprehensive contract (2009-2012) to include the following: For the school year 2010-2011, Fred Cole will be placed on Salary Schedule A (Hired before 8/31/03) step 18 in the BA+ 75 lane. This placement is based on 18 years of continuous service in the Blue Hill School system. In ensuing years, Mr. Cole will be advanced from this step and lane based on education and years of experience. Motion passed 4-0.
  
6. Fred Cole's letter of resignation was read by Chair Ben Wootten.  
A motion by John Richardson, seconded by Alice Herrick, to accept Fred Cole's letter of resignation as Principal of the Blue Hill Consolidated School effective June 30, 2010 with deep regret. Motion passed 4-0.
  
7. There was discussion of the Principal Search Process. A search committee will be made up of two Board members (John Richardson and Jon Smallidge) two teachers, support staff, two parents, and the superintendent. The advertisement will be placed next week with a deadline of March 12, 2010.
  
8. Discussion of the Draft 2010-2011 School Budget:  
A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Alice Herrick, to approve the 2010-2011 proposed budget in the amount of \$4,351,763.11, which is 1.94% increase over present budget. Motion passed 4-0.
  
9. Alice Herrick made a motion and John Richardson seconded to follow Superintendent Howard's recommendation and to appoint Audrey Means as the Drama Coach for the 2010 -2011 school year. Motion passed 4-0.

J. Signing of Vouchers – The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis L. Howard  
Interim Superintendent