

**Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
February 9, 2011
Blue Hill Consolidated School
Minutes**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten followed by the salute to the flag.

Members Present: Ben Wootten; John Richardson; Alice Herrick; Susan Keenan; Jon Smallidge

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mark Hurvitt; Carolyn Heller; Della Martin; Jan Snow; Christie Snow; Becky Fernandez; Stephanie Larson; Doris Webb; Brooke Clapp; Beth Jackson; Deb Kingston; Maryanne Lewandowski; Michelle Schildroth; Melissa Emerton; Samantha Politte; Tara McKechnie; Kim Williamson; Susan Vinall; Amy Rice; Kathy Soper; Colin Powell, reporter for *The Weekly Packet*

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by John Richardson, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2011 meeting. Motion passed 5-0.
2. A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by John Richardson, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2011 meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

D. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Susan Keenan, seconded by Jon Smallidge, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

E. Communications

Mark Hurvitt informed the Board about Jan Snow's intent to retire at the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

He informed the Board about Gary Mitchell's intent to retire at the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

He read a letter from the State of Vermont - Department of Education praising Bob McCormick's Celtic dance presentation in Vermont.

Mark handed out a letter to the Board from Foster Smith.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

None

G. Reports

1. GSA Report – Mark Hurvitt informed the Board about the January 31, 2011 meeting in Sedgwick. He handed out the “GSA School Board Report”.
2. Principal's Report – Della Martin's written report is attached to the office minutes.
3. Superintendent's Report – Mark Hurvitt informed the Board about the ad for the two 8th grade long-term substitute teachers which will close on February 15th. There will need to be board representation on both interview committees. Interested board members should see Della Martin.
4. Other Reports – None
5. PTF Report – Beth Jackson's written report is attached to the office minutes.
6. Building and Grounds Committee Report – None at this time.

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H. Old Business

1. Board Goals

2. To Set the Details for the March 5, 2011 Retreat -

The retreat will be held in the library at the Blue Hill Consolidated School beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2011.

I. New Business

1. December 30, 2010 letter from Heather Neal, Supervisor of Audit, State of Maine –

Carolyn Heller was present to explain the three material weaknesses in the audit.

1. This is a weakness for all small districts, as we do not have a CPA on staff to prepare financial statements.
2. Ledger reconciliation will improve now that the new software will be running for a year.
3. School Union #93 has not done receivables and payables. Now we are.
Carolyn Heller and Ben Wootten will discuss financial statement issues with ADS.

2. Update on Math Curriculum K-8

Several parents spoke about the Math program. There seemed to be three issues.

- a. It is difficult for a student to accelerate and this translates back to a staffing and scheduling issue.
- b. The current Math curriculum is not strong in math facts.
- c. There is no G/T, or enrichment program, in Math, or otherwise.

The Board will note these issues at the March 5th retreat.

3. Discussion of Whether to Seek a Legal Opinion on Bloc Voting at Union Meetings -

Ben Wootten will call Drummond, Woodsum and MacMahon for an estimate. This will be a March agenda item.

4. Possible Delegation of Votes for the Upcoming Union 93 Joint School Committee Meeting -

A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by Susan Keenan, to delegate their votes to Ben Wootten for the February 16, 2011 Union 93 Joint School Committee Meeting.

Motion passed 5-0.

5. Discussion of the Draft 2011-2012 FY School Budget –

There was much discussion of the budget. The Board decided to add a healthy chunk (\$50,000.00) for roof repairs. After some adding and cutting, the budget was up approximately 1.27 %.

A motion was made by Susan Keenan, seconded by Alice Herrick, to approve the 2011-2012 Blue Hill fiscal year school budget, as amended tonight, at \$4,406,919.09.

Motion passed 5-0.

Note: There were no changes to the two reserve accounts.

J. Signing of Vouchers

The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark E. Hurvitt
Superintendent