

**“Special” Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
“Retreat”
Saturday – March 5, 2011- 8:00 AM
Blue Hill Consolidated School Library
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chair Ben Wootten.

Members Present: Ben Wotten; Susan Keenan; Alice Herrick; Jon Smallidge;

John Richardson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mark Hurvitt; Della Martin; Anne Rice

2. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Alice Herrick, to approve the agenda with the following amendments: #3. Business item C. 6-8 Curriculum discussion, focusing on Math changed to Math/ELA Curriculum, and the addition of #3. Item G. Sports discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Business

Each topic was discussed thoroughly and follow up was arranged for specific points. As this was a retreat, no votes were taken.

A. Pre – K discussion

This will be a discussion item on the April agenda.

B. 7-8 MLTI discussion

This will be a discussion item on the May agenda.

C. Math/ELA Curriculum

This will be a follow up item on the April agenda, concerning Math.

There is interest in reviewing our current two Math programs (Everyday Math and Connected Math) along with some other programs which are out there (Singapore Math). If there were to be a change in curriculum, it would have to be phased in, starting in Kindergarten. Math should be an April agenda item. ELA, while important, will follow Math.

D. Extended school day discussion

The extended school day discussion turned into a broader use of time discussion. The Board would like to review the draft or final specialist schedule in June, and have a conversation about time use at school.

E. Grading policy discussion

There was much discussion about grading, and a broad feeling that an M was too great of a range. Perhaps it should be M+ or M-? Perhaps it should be M-86? The Board would like to discuss grading, particularly 6-8 grading, at the April meeting.

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3. Business (continued)

F. Gifted & Talented Enrichment discussion

Perhaps there needs to be a re-focus on differentiation in the classroom.

No clear resolution on this difficult topic.

G. The Board would like to review the sports policy again, at the July meeting.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark E. Hurvitt
Superintendent