

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
July 11, 2012
Blue Hill Consolidated School
Minutes

A. Call to Order

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

Members Present: Ben Wootten; Jon Smallidge; John Richardson; Annie Rice; Susan Keenan

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mark Hurvitt; Della Martin, Rachel Kohrman-Ramos, Kathy Hally, Silvana Cuello, Beth Jackson, Franklin Burke, Harlie Burke, Katie Danielson, Matt Jurick, Kate Kennedy, Anne Berleant, reporter for *The Penobscot Bay Press*, Deb Kingston, Megan Granger, Audrey Means, Tara McKechnie

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Ben Wootten, to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2012 meeting with an amendment to I. New Business item #5 as follows:

“The board discussed the value and amount of homework in light of Blue Hill’s written policy.

The consensus was that the real value of homework at the elementary school level is that it “sets a habit” for high school and it reinforces skills which are taught.” Motion passed 5-0.

D. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Annie Rice, to approve the agenda with the following amendments: Delete I. New Business item #4. Summary of Accounts and item #7 Possible Appointments; Add I. New Business item #11 Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) Duties of Officials. Motion passed 5-0.

E. Communications

Handed out Carolyn Heller’s memo about the June, 2012 Summary of Accounts.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

None

G. Reports

1. GSA Report – The written report is attached to the office minutes. Ben Wootten mentioned that he had talked with Paul Perkinson about special education.
2. Principal’s Report – Della Martin’s written report is attached to the office minutes.
3. Superintendent’s Report –
 - a. Mr. Hurvitt informed the board on the copier RFP, due July 27th.
 - b. He polled the board on the desire to have MSMA do a Blue Hill Board Training. There was interest. Mark Hurvitt will call Dale Douglass to schedule it.
 - c. He informed the board about two recent resignations: Fred Cole, Grade 7-8 Science and Judy Park, Ed. Tech. I.

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G. Reports (continued)

4. PTF Report

None

5. Building and Grounds Committee Report

a. Field Maintenance

Franklin Burke filled the board in on summer maintenance projects.

1. New cafeteria floor
2. The schedule of classrooms being done
3. The need to fix the baseball fence
4. The gym ceiling project
5. The maintenance of the soccer field

6. Other Reports - None

H. Old Business

1. Board Goals 2011-2012 -

a. Curriculum Items -

Rachel Kohrman-Ramos spoke to the board about her efforts in the Union and Blue Hill. She handed out an update of some accomplishments. She informed the board about Ames-Webb screening which will be in place in each school. She participated in the discussion about grading and report cards. She also participated in the ensuing discussion about writing at BHCS. As a culmination of this discussion, the board decided to form a sub committee which would report to the board, and would be able to move topics like grading, report cards, and writing forward quickly. A motion was made by Ben Wootten, seconded by John Richardson, to form a sub committee on curriculum with the following standing membership: Ben Wootten, Annie Rice, Della Martin, (alternate John Richardson) and other teachers, administrators, community members as necessary. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Choice Based Specials – Della Martin pointed out the handout.

I. New Business

1. Sabbatical Proposal: Kathy Hally discussed her proposal for going to New Zealand to gain skills in literacy. The board asked questions and discussed details.

A motion was made by Ben Wootten, seconded by Annie Rice, to grant the sabbatical proposal, for a maximum of three months, in the winter of 2014. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Leave of Absence Proposal: Silvana Cuello discussed her request for a one year leave of absence in Sweden. The board asked questions and discussed details.

A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Ben Wootten, to grant the one year leave of absence. Motion failed 0-4-1.
(John Richardson abstained)

3. Leave of Absence Proposal: Beth Jackson discussed her proposal for a four month leave of absence in Arizona. The board asked questions and discussed details.

A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Annie Rice to grant the four month leave of absence. Motion passed 3-0-2.
(Ben Wootten, John Richardson abstained)
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I. New Business (continued)

4. Summary of Accounts – This was deleted. The Summary of Accounts will be emailed to the board next week.

5. School Security Discussion, Continued
A motion was made by Annie Rice, seconded by Jon Smallidge, to approve the school security proposal put together by Matt Jurick and Franklin Burke for this summer. (\$5,138.00)
Motion passed 4-0.
(Susan Keenan – Nay)

6. NECAP/AYP Report
Della Martin went over the numbers. BHCS did not make AYP for 5th grade reading, but did make AYP for math.

7. Possible Appointments
None at this time.

8. A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Jon Smallidge, to apply \$9,300.00 in the Contingency Fund from the 2011-2012 Budget to Office of the Principal to cover the copier overage.
Motion passed 5-0.

9. Union 93 Board Topics – The Blue Hill Board would like Union 93 to set up an Advisory Committee to the Superintendent on Union 93 office personnel. Ben Wootten would like to draft a proposal for the next Union 93 meeting.
A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Annie Rice, to allow Ben Wootten to draft the proposal on behalf of the Blue Hill Board.
Motion passed 5-0.

10. Principal and Superintendent Review
Tabled.

11. A motion was made by John Richardson, seconded by Ben Wootten, to enter into an executive session per 1 M.R.S.A. § (6)(A) Duties of Officials with the board, Mark Hurvitt and Della Martin.
Motion passed 5-0.

Time In: 7:41 p.m. Time Out: 8:07 p.m.

There was no action upon returning to open session.

J. Items for Next Month's Agenda

1. Student and Faculty Handbooks
2. Possible Hirings

K. Signing of Vouchers – The vouchers were signed.

L. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. by Chair Jon Smallidge.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark E. Hurvitt
Superintendent of Schools