

**Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
December 13, 2006
Blue Hill Consolidated School
Minutes**

6:00 PM Budget Workshop

School Committee Members Present: Ben Wootten; Jon Smallidge; Alice Herrick;
Susan Keenan (arrived 6:50 p.m.)
School Committee Members Absent: John Richardson
Others Present: Denis Howard; Fred Cole; Anne Louise d'Entremont

Chair Ben Wootten opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. The flag salute was delayed until the 7:00 p.m. meeting.

Denis Howard and Fred Cole reviewed the budget with the Board indicating changes since last time. Mr. Howard indicated an additional Board expense of \$3500.00 as half of the Town's automated payroll service. Again, no specific amounts were available for Union #93 expenses until after the December 18th meeting. Another \$4,500.00 was added under bus fuel so the 2007-2008 request is \$27,500. Under Instruction, put Computer Teacher back in at full time \$34,000.00 and reduced Technology Hourly Worker from \$10,000 to \$3,346.00 The half time Pre-K teacher amount was left as budgeted.

There was discussion about a reserve account for substitutes, but no decision was made. Fred Cole provided a breakdown of the educational trips. Instructional Equipment was reduced to \$10,500.00.

It was agreed to appoint a two-person Budget Subcommittee to meet with Denis Howard and Fred Cole to finalize a proposed budget. Ben Wootten and Alice Herrick are the representatives of the Budget subcommittee.

Budget meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis L. Howard, Ed. D.
Superintendent

**Blue Hill Consolidated School
Minutes**

Regular Meeting

A. Call to Order - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Ben Wootten followed by the salute to the flag.
Members Present: Ben Wootten; Susan Keenan; Alice Herrick; Jon Smallidge
Members Absent: John Richardson
Others Present: Denis Howard; Fred Cole; Anne Louise d'Entremont; Cara Guerrieri; Beth Jackson;
Clifton Page; Jeanie Mills; Shawn Scheff; Kim Williamson; David Walsh; Jim Schatz; Beth Jackson

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of Agenda

A motion by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Susan Keenan to approve the agenda with the addition of
Item #E5 Letter from Jan Haldane and add I. New Business item #6 Action on Jane Haldane' Request
for a leave of absence. Motion passed 4-0-0.

D. Approval of Minutes of Previous School Board Meetings

1. Motion by Susan Keenan, seconded by Alice Herrick to approve the minutes of the November 8,
2006 meeting. Motion passed 4-0-0.

2. Motion by Susan Keenan, seconded by Alice Herrick to approve the minutes of the November 29,
2006 meeting. Motion passed 4-0-0.

E. Communications

1. Letter from Maegan Haney
2. Letter from Gary Mitchell
3. Letter from Patty Clapp
4. PTF Update - Beth Jackson indicated the Craft Fair raised approximately \$1400.00 for various activities and funding requests. Six Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to area homes. The PTF is recycling ink cartridges at BHCS. A survey of middle school students indicated their first priority was a dance and a movie night. Fred Cole praised Beth on the swift evolution of the PTF.
5. Letter from Jane Haldane was distributed. Chair Ben Wootten read Jane Haldane's request.

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

Chair Ben Wootten announced that any discussion pertaining to the Pre-K Program will take place elsewhere on the agenda. Susan Keenan expressed a complaint she had received about inadequate lighting outside the gymnasium. Mr. Cole will follow up on the concern. Susan Keenan also noted that with events taking place at Blue Hill Consolidated and George Stevens, parking should be coordinated.

Continued on page 2.

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting Minutes - December 13, 2006 - Page 2.

G. Information

1. GSA Report - Mr. Wootten reported that Frank Wanning was not present due to a special scheduled Trustees meeting.

2. Principal's Report - Principal Cole commended Beth Jackson on her part in developing a positive impression for the PTF. He also indicated the staff is still working on school safety. Volunteers will wear identification badges and people will sign in at the office. Fred praised efforts of those involved in the recent concert. He said it was the largest crowd to date with over 300 spectators in attendance with another 100 plus students. He indicated BHCS had "weathered the storm" regarding report cards and that some learning took place and professional growth was made. He announced "pod casting" being done with short science projects and will be broadcast over the airwaves at WERU in East Orland.

3. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Howard reported on his recent meeting at GSA and what was covered on the agenda. He indicated he is consumed with budgets and evaluations presently. He informed the Board that the Union meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m.

4. Other Reports/Information - None

H. Old Business

1. Child and Family Opportunities Discussion - Pre K Program for 2007-2008

There was considerable discussion on the merits of a Pre K Program for BHCS and the greater Blue Hill area in general. Jim Schatz indicated he was present to listen and learn more about the wants and needs of the school system as he feels that school funding will be a big legislative issue this year. Jeanie Mills praised Fred Cole for the time he has put into data gathering and his openness for such a Program. Clifton Page, Cara Guerrieri, and others expressed their views regarding the topic. Ben Wootten suggested that if there is an immediate need, perhaps it could be housed elsewhere. Jeanie Mills gave some options to locations, and configurations.

Chair Wootten explained that it will still be under budget consideration and that he'd like to see some data regarding need. Fred Cole said he could "make it fit" by having specialists without a base

classroom, but instead as floaters. However, down the road if a public K-8 Program is added, then the Pre K could be bumped. No action was taken at this time. The Board will take it under advisement.

2. Board Goal #4 - "Encourage the active interaction of its staff with that of the secondary schools which are attended by Blue Hill children to understand how well prepared Consolidated school grads

are for high school. This would include academic and social criteria."

Chair Ben Wootten informed the Board that if we were going to meet the goal, then "we need to get cracking." Fred Cole mentioned that we do get grades from GSA and compare students by subject. After some discussion, it was agreed that we need to develop a survey to give K-8 teachers and the 9-12 staff asking the same questions.

3. Motion by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Susan Keenan to approve the Resignation of School Employees Policy (8100E) as presented. Motion passed 4-0-0.
Continued on page 3.

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting Minutes - December 13, 2006 - Page 3.

I. New Business

1. Possible Delegation of Votes for the December 18th Joint Union 93 School Committee Meeting
No action - All members plan to attend the Union Meeting on December 18, 2006.

2. Motion by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Alice Herrick to accept the letter of resignation of Maegan Haney as presented. Motion passed 4-0-0.

3. Jon Smallidge moved, and Susan Keenan seconded to appoint Gary Mitchell as the Asbestos Coordinator for the 2006-2007 school year. Motion passed 4-0-0.

4. Susan Keenan moved, and Alice Herrick seconded to follow the superintendent's nomination and to appoint Patty Clapp to the fourth grade half-time vacancy for the 2006-2007 school year. Motion passed 4-0-0.

5. Jon Smallidge moved and Susan Keenan seconded to acknowledge receipt of the Blue Hill School Department Financial Statements with Auditor's Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006. Motion passed 4-0-0.

6. Susan Keenan moved and Jon Smallidge seconded to approve Jane Haldane's request for a leave of absence. Motion passed 4-0-0.

J. Signing of Vouchers - The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis L. Howard, Ed. D
Superintendent