

Blue Hill School Committee Meeting
January 13, 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; Susan Keenan
Members Absent: None

Others Present: Denis L. Howard; Fred Cole; Jan Snow; Brooke Clapp; Beth Jackson; Della Martin; Shani Billings; Colin Powell, reporter for *The Weekly Packet*.

B. Flag Salute

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Susan Keenan, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2009 meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.

D. Approval of the Agenda

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

E. Communications

1. PTF Report – Beth Jackson distributed her written report and highlighted areas. She praised the efforts of the community and the hard work of Loretta Smith regarding the “Giving Tree Project.”

F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public

Brooke Clapp spoke up about a parent petition regarding the use of mouth guards for basketball. A petition of 25 signatures was presented. The main concern was to have an “opt out” clause. Some discussion about sanitation and mouth trauma took place. On suggestion of the Superintendent and Principal, the Board placed it on the February agenda to be further discussed and action taken.

A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by Jon Smallidge, to further discuss this at their February Board meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.

G. Reports

1. GSA Report – Superintendent Denis L. Howard reported about the January 20th, 8th Grade Open House from 6-8 p.m. Snow date is January 27th.
2. Principal’s Report – Principal Fred Cole gave an oral report highlighting elevator repair, new fans for the bathrooms and three new smart boards for the 7th and 8th grade classrooms. He mentioned the Geography Bee and the winner was Erin Niehoff. He announced the upcoming Union 93 Spelling Bee. The Board had a couple of questions regarding the Proper “game entrance” and the communications between BHCS Spanish Program and GSA.
3. Superintendent’s Report – In place of a Superintendent’s Report, Mr. Howard read the “Intent to Negotiate” letter from Gary Mitchell of the BHCS support staff. It was agreed that the Superintendent, Jon Smallidge and Association Representatives will set meeting dates for negotiation. Continued on page 2.

G. Reports (continued)

4. Other Reports

- a. Update on Superintendent Search – Ben Wootten briefed the Board. The new Superintendent will be voted on at the Union 93 meeting. He also spoke about the “Efficiency Committee” and what they were doing. He said the Central Office probably will move to another financial software and the committee will probably be the interviewing group to hire a new “bookkeeper.”
- b. The Board did not choose to delegate their votes for the Tuesday, January 19, 2010 Joint Union 93 School Committee Meeting to be held at the Penobscot Community School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- c. Glacial Energy Update –
A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by John Richardson, to use Glacier Energy as the school’s provider of electricity. Motion passed 5-0-0.

H. Old Business

1. Board Goals – The Board reviewed the goals briefly and talked about report cards. Ben Wootten asked the Superintendent to have Matt Jurick at the next meeting to Discuss the parent portal portion.
2. Field Trip Approvals for 2010-2011 –
A motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by Jon Smallidge, to approve both the field trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Schoodic Education Adventure for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion passed 5-0-0.
3. Middle School ELA Update – Della Martin spoke at length about the English Language Arts (ELA) Program and how the ELA teaching has changed since last year. She distributed a printed report that is attached to the office minutes and went through it with the Board. She emphasized the need for more student time and how the ELA teacher and specialist truly compete for student time.

I. New Business

1. Discussion of the Draft 2010-2011 School Budget – The Board deferred this item until January 25th at the BHCS Library.
2. A motion was made by Jon Smallidge, seconded by Susan Keenan, to enter into an Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) for the Purpose of a Personnel Matter with the Board, Superintendent Denis L. Howard, Principal Fred Cole and Jan Snow. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Time In: 7:39 p.m. Time Out: 8:34 p.m.

3. Upon returning to open session, a motion was made by Alice Herrick, seconded by Susan Keenan to appoint Fred Cole to the newly created 7th-8th grade position for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion passed 5-0-0.
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J. Signing of Vouchers – The vouchers were signed.

K. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis L. Howard
Superintendent