

MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2006
MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

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Jayson Darula called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Present:

ATTENDANCE

Mont Vernon School Board: Howard Brown, Peter King, John Schwope, and Jayson Darula.

Administrative Team: Howard Colter, Susan Ward, and Meredith Nadeau.

Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

Jayson Darula invited comments from the public but none were forthcoming.

PUBLIC TIME

1. Title I Funding – Meredith told Board Members the state said they are unlikely to hear from them prior to school closing. Therefore, they should go ahead and use the figure they have previously received which was a reduction of \$13,000 over last years funding.

**BUSINESS &
INSTRUCTION**
Student Services

To determine where costs could be reduced, Meredith said she and Linda met and they have eliminated the 2007 Summer Program, which is a two-week program in August. Meredith said last year 20 students participated in the program. Meredith said with the carry over funding available, the elimination of the 2007 summer program, and the indirect cost waiver, they have reduced the costs by \$11,000 and need to fund an approximate additional \$2,000. Meredith said they would maintain the same level of staffing as well as provide the same level of instruction for the students.

1. Summer Professional Development Work – Meredith highlighted some of the Professional Development work that will be done by the staff over the summer.

Meredith said seven teachers would be involved in the following: Two days would be for Differentiated Instruction on Everyday Mathematics, one day for Differentiated Instruction for 5th graders, 6 Paraprofessionals will receive training on Everyday Math, and 5 staff members will receive Responsive Classroom Training which is a 5 day class.

Meredith said there would be two SAU wide Curriculum Teams.

One team for Science and the other for Literacy. Four staff members will be participating.

Peter King asked if anything was planned for the teachers because of the two professional days they need to make up from the flooding rains.

Meredith said a list went out SAU wide which asked teachers what their priority areas were to discuss, and the administration determined which of the topics made the most sense for these two days.

Howard said the teachers will need to submit a formal report or notes, which highlight the activities, they worked on.

Howard said a challenge faced SAU wide was childcare. Therefore, the principals decided to provide childcare on a case-by-case basis in local schools.

Howard said these two professional days give the vast majority of teachers an opportunity to work on very appropriate work. He said it would be very interesting to see how the teachers spent this time.

Susan said at the last board meeting she suggested topping off the oil tank at the Village School. Susan said it was determined they were misreading the oil tank and it is actually full, therefore, there is no need to top it off.

**MAINTENANCE
AND CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT**

1. Acceptance of Donation - Meredith informed members of the board she received a \$1,000 donation from Clarice and Gerald Dearborn, parents of Rhonda Johnson. The donation honored several people for all they did for the Dearborn family. Meredith recommended the donation be used for new equipment in technology, to purchase a Smart Board.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to accept the donation with gratitude. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

2. Appointment of Treasurer – Susan Ward informed members of the board she spoke with John Hubbard and he is no longer interested in serving as the Treasurer for Mont Vernon.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to nominate Lyn Jennings as the Treasurer beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007.

All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

1. Department of Education Letter 2006-2007 School Calendar - Board members received a copy of the letter from the State of New Hampshire approving the 2006-2007 School Calendar for the Mont Vernon Village School.

**COMMUNICATION
AND COMMUNITY
RELATIONS**

- 2. Town of Mont Vernon Letter – Mason Road – Student Safety Issue – Board members received a copy of a letter written by Dorothy Gaudette, the current owner of the property on Mason Road, which the board requested be used for a bus turnaround. Ms. Gaudette is in the process of selling this land, has had several offers on the land, and said she would prefer to wait to see what the new buyers would want to do.

John Schwope agreed to speak with the parents that voiced their concern on the safety issue on Mason road. John will update them on the current status of this issue.

For now, it was agreed, the bus would continue to bring the students down to Spring Hill and Mason Road.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (A) at 6:40 p.m. By a roll call vote, King-I; Darula-I; Schwope-I; and Brown-I, all members of the board voted in favor of going into non-public session.

**NON PUBLIC
SESSION PER RSA
91-A:3, II (A)
Personnel**

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to come out of non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (A) at 6:51 p.m. By a roll call vote, King-I; Darula-I; Schwope-I; and Brown-I, all members of the board voted in favor of coming out of non-public session.

1. NOMINATIONS

PERSONNEL

- a. Para educators – Howard Colter nominated Dawn Schnitzer as a full time 1 on 1 Special Education Assistant for the 2006-2007 academic school year at the MVVS.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to accept the nomination of Dawn Schnitzer as presented by the administration. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

- b. Curriculum Coordinators – Howard Colter recommended members of the board approve the nominations of Anne Forest and Kim Tighe as curriculum coordinators for the Mont Vernon School District for a three-year term to begin July 1, 2006, subject to the availability of funding.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to accept the recommendations of the administration and nominate Anne Forest and Kim Tighe as curriculum coordinators for the Mont Vernon School

District. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

c. Lead Teacher – Howard Colter recommended the board appoint Kim Tighe for the Temporary Lead Teacher Position. Howard said this position is for eight weeks.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to appoint Kim Tighe as the Temporary Lead Teacher. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

A. May 25, 2006 – A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to approve the minutes of May 25, 2006. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Howard and Meredith informed members of the board, a facilities request was received to use the Village School one night a week, bi-weekly, during the summer for the use of Cribbage. The policy states a custodian must be on call and a fee must be charged for the custodian to be available. The administration asked if this fee could be waived.

OTHER

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to grant the waiver of charging a fee for the custodian to be on call. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

Members of the board received a copy of the letter dated June 1, 2006 from the State of New Hampshire, Department of Education granting a waiver for the two days missed on May 15, and 16, 2006 due to the recent flooding.

Board members were notified the last day of school at the Village School would be a half-day, lunch will still be served.

John Schwope told members of the board they had the meeting with the teachers on June 7, 2006. He said it went well, and he and Howard Brown were in attendance. John said he did not know if they spent enough time on the items for next year. He asked if it was possible to elicit more input from teachers on go forward items.

John said teachers really appreciated what the board did to put the current salary contract in place. He said the teachers saw it as recognition to their accomplishments.

Howard Colter said the teachers are very complimentary towards the school board. However, he said they would like to see a greater commitment towards providing more technology in the classroom. Howard said many teachers expressed an interest in a laptop cart.

Howard said he has asked the other districts that have a surplus at the end of the year to provide a rank order list of important items needed with justification by the end of June.

Meredith said she would prefer to see each teacher with a laptop in their classroom rather than a laptop cart.

Discussion amongst board members followed about providing a rank order list.

Susan Ward agreed to check with the DRA to see what can and cannot be done with a surplus. The question posed was can money be taken from the budget and transferred into the Technology Trust Fund. Peter King said if so, he would want the voters to decide whether money should be spent towards technology. He said the board has a good rapport with the voters and he would not want to jeopardize it by spending some of the surplus without their consent.

Howard Colter said he agreed, but just thought he would put this process being done by other districts out for discussion.

A. Mont Vernon School Board Meeting June 22, 2006 at 6 p.m.

Peter King moved to adjourn. John Schwope seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING
ADJOURNMENT**