

MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 27, 2006
MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

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Leo White called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Present:

ATTENDANCE

Mont Vernon School Board: Peter King, John Schwope, Jayson Darula and Leo White

Administrative Team: Mary Jennings, Nicole Heimarck and Meredith Nadeau.

Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

Leo White invited comments from the public but none were forthcoming.

PUBLIC TIME

Leo White told board members a proposal to replace the Alpha Program with the Advanced Math Program was presented at the last board meeting. Leo said the teachers would administer the advanced Math Program whereas the Alpha Program was to be administered by Bob Kent. Leo said academic program changes need to be approved by the board and the board said they would decide at the next meeting, which was tonight's meeting, July 27, 2006.

**BUSINESS &
INSTRUCTION
*Curriculum and
Instruction***

Leo said the administration has decided to amend their proposal and the board received copies of the amended proposal.

1. 6th Grade Math Program- Revised Administrative Recommendation – Meredith highlighted the Sixth Grade Math Proposal which was dated July 27, 2006. Meredith said the Village School would continue to offer the Alpha Math program but needed to address some concerns regarding the program. Meredith presented the following revised program:

- Only students who meet the placement criteria established by the school are eligible for participation in the program, and parental consent will continue to be required.
- The program schedule will be determined by school administration and class time will be comparable to the mathematics instructional time allotted for other sixth graders.
- The program's instructor will receive observations and feedback from administration and/or the mathematics curriculum coordinator in a manner similar to that of other members of the instructional

staff.

- Scores from in-class exams only will be utilized in AMS placement determinations for Alpha students.
- The program’s effectiveness will continue to be monitored (through measures such as student performance in 7th and 8th grade mathematics, NECAP and NWEA results, student and parent surveys, etc.)

The sixth grade-advanced curriculum will be offered to qualifying students who choose not to participate in the Alpha program within the regular classroom by MVVS staff.

Leo welcomed questions from the board.

John Schwope asked if the Advanced Math Program would be available this coming year. Meredith said yes.

Peter King asked if the current proposal had been communicated to Mr. Kent. Leo and Meredith said bullet items one through three have been communicated to Mr. Kent and four and five remained the same.

Board members asked if at this point, Mr. Kent was willing to come back.

Leslie Ashcraft said she was really glad there was a compromise reached. She said the Alpha Math Program is important and she was surprised more people were not at the meeting. Leslie said she hoped Mr. Kent could come back.

A motion was made by Jayson Darula and seconded by John Schwope to approve the amended proposal as presented by the administration. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

Leo and Meredith said they would place a call to Mr. Kent in the morning to invite him back to teach the Alpha Math Program.

A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by Jayson Darula to personally thank Mr. Kent for all the hard work and dedication over his past ten years of service. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

1. Parent Request per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) – Leo White informed members of the board, this was not necessary, since the parents had changed their mind in regards to their request.

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

1. Handbook Approval – Board members received copies of the Student Handbook and the Staff Information / Policy & Procedure Manual.

**STUDENT
SERVICES**

Leo said he didn’t see any major changes to the Student Handbook. Meredith highlighted some of the changes:

- Field Trips
- Bullying
- Sexual Harassment

A motion was made by Jayson Darula and seconded by John Schwope to accept the Student / Parent Handbook as presented with the specific policy's highlighted included in the handbook. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

Meredith provided board members with a copy of the Staff Information / Policy & Procedure Manual.

A motion was made by Jayson Darula and seconded by John Schwope to approve the Staff Handbook as presented. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

1. End of Year Survey Results – Board members received copies of the end of the year survey results from the student surveys for Grades 1-6.

**COMMUNICATION
AND COMMUNITY
RELATIONS**

Meredith said she used a 75% cutoff to highlight the results. Meredith highlighted some of survey results using the 75% cutoff. The results were as follows:

- 44% of the students believe they can help make rules and decisions in the school.
- There were lots of comments regarding the building / bathrooms being kept clean.
- 61 % of students responded they were encouraged to use computers in their schoolwork.

John Schwope asked if students had the opportunity to write in comments. Meredith said they were given this opportunity, and many students wrote comments. Meredith provided a page highlighting some of the comments she received from Grade 1 through Grade 6 students.

Meredith said they will be posting a narrative as well as the survey results on the SAU website. She hopes to have this completed by the start of the school year.

Board members received a copy of the results from the Teacher Survey.

Meredith highlighted the following results:

- 75% of the teachers say Meredith delegate's leadership to others and helps them to be successful.
- 68% of the teachers say Meredith celebrates academic improvement.

Meredith also provided some of the comments written by staff, which highlighted the areas for Meredith to improve as well as additional comments or suggestions.

Mary Jennings congratulated Meredith for putting together

such a survey and sharing it with the school board. She said it was very brave of Meredith to put together a checklist survey and she thanked her for doing it.

Meredith said she had the raw data and members of the board were welcome to review it, if they wanted.

Mary Jennings asked Meredith if she had a chance to compare the results of this years survey to last years. Meredith said last year the results highlighted concerns of safety in the school as well as understanding rules and expectations. She said a large percentage of the students said they didn't have anyone to talk to, but believes all the issues from last year have been addressed and improved.

Meredith said she received more comments from parents last year as compared to this year.

A motion was made by John Schwope and seconded by Jayson Darula to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 7:00 p.m. By a roll call vote, White-I; King-I; Darula-I; and Schwope-I, all members of the board voted in favor of entering into non-public session.

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

The board discussed personnel matters.

A motion was made by John Schwope and seconded by Jayson Darula to come out of non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 7:06 p.m. By a roll call vote, White-I; King-I; Darula-I; and Schwope-I, all members of the board voted in favor of entering into non-public session.

1. NOMINATIONS – Mary Jennings nominated Linda Pomeroy and Robert Daniels as Title I Tutors for the 2006-2007 school year.

PERSONNEL

Peter King asked where we were the getting the difference needed to fund these positions. Meredith said carryover funds from Title I were going to be used as well some money from the general fund.

Mary Jennings nominated Amy Pelletier as a 3rd grade teacher at the Village School.

Meredith said Amy has 2 years experience. John Schwope sat in on the second interviews and they are comfortable with their choice.

Meredith recommended Adam Baddeley for the 1-1 Special Education Aid position, which is budgeted through Special Education. She said Adam is obtaining his Bachelors Degree from Bentley College. Meredith said he is very mature, articulate, and has been a supervisor of camp counselors for the

past five years.

Mary Jennings nominated Adam Baddeley for the 1-1 Special Education position.

A motion was made by John Schwope and seconded by Jayson Darula to accept the administrations nominations as presented. All members of the board voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

- A. June 8, 2006 – A motion was made by Peter King and seconded by John Schwope to approve the minutes of June 8, 2006. Members of the board voted in favor of the motion, with one abstention, Leo White. The motion passed.
- B. June 22, 2006 - A motion was made by John Schwope and seconded by Peter King to approve the minutes as amended of June 22, 2006. Members of the board voted in favor of the motion, with one abstention, Jayson Darula. The motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Board members received a copy of a letter from the Selectmen's office regarding the school bus turn-around.

CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Peter King to adjourn the meeting. John Schwope seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT