

**MINUTES**  
**MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 27, 2009**  
**MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Present:

Mont Vernon School Board: Jayson Darula, Trevor Girard, Kim Roberge, Bruce Schmidt, and Leo White  
Administrative Team: Sue Blair, Nicole Heimarck, and Dr. Mary Jennings  
Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

**I. PUBLIC HEARING  
ATTENDANCE**

Leo White called the board meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Principal's Report – Board members received a copy of the Principal's Report in their board packets. The report was prepared by Susan Blair, Interim Principal at Mont Vernon Village School and dated August 24, 2009.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Susan Blair said five Mont Vernon students attended ESY Summer School at AMS. Susan said the program was a great success with students receiving services as identified in their IEP while gaining confidence in their skills.

During the months of July and August the DINI Committee met three times to develop a plan which will be submitted to the State in early September. Susan said the committee worked on developing an understanding or root cause for their identification as a "School In Need of Improvement." Also, they worked on developing and instituting a plan that will meet the academic needs of all the students that attend the Mont Vernon Village School.

Leo White asked if the board would have a chance to see the plan and Susan said yes, they would. Susan said they will be bringing the plan to the board on September 8,

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2009.

Susan said she believes they developed a very strong plan, she said attendance by the staff was very good at the last meeting there were at least 10-11 committee members present.

Susan said the draft plan would be presented to the staff for input during the first week of school.

Susan provided the opening day 2009-2010 Enrollment Numbers:

Kindergarten: 25  
Grade 1: 30  
Grade 2: 33  
Grade 3: 32  
Grade 4: 47  
Grade 5: 32  
Grade 6: 50

Susan said all staff hires have been recommended and will be filled before the start of the school year.

Susan Blair thanked parent, Heather Stine for the mural she painted outside the library.

Susan said the testing with regards to the moisture level has been completed on the floor in the computer lab. She said it has been found to be within normal limits and there is no need to replace the floor.

Susan said a Safety Inspection was done at the Village School on August 20, 2009, with Chief Wilson and Sean Mamone. Susan said the most common problem noted was the 18-inch limit required for storage to the ceiling. Most classrooms had materials to the ceiling but this was also before teachers came in to set up their classrooms. Susan said the Chief also reminded them of the 15% paper limit

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which was in force due to the fact that all classrooms at the Village School do not have sprinklers.

Bruce Schmidt questioned the need for a sprinkler system at the Village School.

Kim Roberge suggested they invite the Fire Chief in to understand the pros and cons of installing a sprinkler system at the Village School.

Leo White suggested prior to inviting the Fire Chief in, they could have Jim Miner come before the board to speak about the pros and cons of a sprinkler system.

Susan told board members Registration Day was held at the Village School today and she spoke with Charlotte Jameson to see how it went and Charlotte told her 80% of parents came in to register their children. Susan said the administration felt it was a great success. On hand for Registration Day were representatives from Guidance, School Nurse, Food Service, and Charlotte Jameson.

Board members received a handout entitled MVSD Board & Selectmen Review of MVVS Site Conditions dated July 9, 2009.

Board Members, School Personnel and Town Personnel were present at the walk through of the Village School.

Attendees included: Leo White, Kim Roberge, Jack Esposito, John Quinlan, Bucky Grugnale, Jim Miner, and Dennis Melanson.

The handout detailed the issues raised during the walk through and the associated cost estimates, which were not covered in the MVVS 2010 budget.

The issues raised involved a total estimated cost of \$5,785.

Both Leo White and Kim Roberge voiced their concerns that they did not believe during the walk through they had given their permission to go ahead and fix all the issues outlined.

Kim Roberge said she definitely questioned the drainage corrections, swale and runoff berm for a cost of \$1,750 as well as expanding the retaining wall and drainage protection for a cost of \$600.

Leo said he didn't believe they asked Jim Miner to fix all the items on the list, they were just suggestions as to what could be done.

Kim Roberge said she thinks Jim Miner needs to come before the board and talk about fixing the items as outlined on the list dated July 9, 2009.

Betty Shankel said she didn't know how the misunderstanding happened and both she and Dr. Jennings agreed they should invite Jim Miner to a board meeting to speak about what has been done and what needs to be done.

Leo White said he doesn't see anything that was done that was superfluous, there were problems and they were fixed. However, he said in the future, he will be more careful when making suggestions to make sure they are not taken as authorizations.

Jayson Darula said they can't undo what's been done, but he finds Jim's initiative quite commendable.

- B. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jennings spoke about the Year of Transition. Dr. Jennings said the SAU Staff would be working with some new administrators, one of which is the Interim Principal at the Village School, Susan Blair.

Dr. Jennings said the administration would be talking a lot about the H1N1 virus on Opening Day. Dr. Jennings said she was involved in a conference call with the Governor, Commission of Education, etcetera, and received the latest information with regards to the H1N1 virus as well as the states expectations.

Dr. Jennings said since the H1N1 is a pandemic, they will no longer use Global Connect to update parents on the H1N1 virus.

Dr. Jennings said they would work with other health officials to control the spread of the H1N1 virus.

Dr. Jennings said they would continue to utilize the hygiene practices they have always instituted in the schools. (For example, hand sanitizer)

Dr. Jennings said they will work hard to keep students and staff as safe as possible.

Dr. Jennings said they will be reviewing the K-12 Math Curriculum this year.

Dr. Jennings said they are going to continue their work on Differentiated Instruction and have people ready to train the rest of the staff.

Dr. Jennings invited board members to the Opening Day with faculty at Souhegan High School on August 31, 2009. Dr. Jennings said a light breakfast would be served from 8-8:30 followed by a faculty meeting from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Leo White asked if there were any comments from the public however, none were forthcoming.

### **III. PUBLIC TIME**

The A. Minutes 1. June 11, 2009, were pulled from the Consent Agenda. Board members requested changes be

### **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

made to the minutes and brought back for approval at the next board meeting on September 10, 2009.

The D. Transfers were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

**A motion was made by Jayson Darula to approve Consent Agenda Items B. Treasurer's Report 1. May 2009, 2. June 2009; C. Manifest 1 May 2009; E. Nominations and F. DOE 25/MS 25. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)**

Leo White questioned Budget Transfer # 2009033. Betty Shankel told board members the transfer was done in order to clean up last fiscal year. The money (\$4,720) was needed due to the retirement of Gail Westergren.

**A motion was made by Jayson Darula to approve Budget Transfer #'s 2009030, 2009031, 2009032, 2009033, and 2010001. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)**

Dr. Jennings told board members the SAU is hosting an orientation for new staff tomorrow, August 28, 2009. Dr. Jennings said they would continue staff orientation with new hires once a month for the next 4-5 months.

Dr. Jennings told board members per the MVEA Contract, teachers are to come to school for two days prior to the start of the new school year. Dr. Jennings said she requested that the Union meet with her to discuss when the teachers were to come in for those two days. Dr. Jennings said she was a little disappointed the Union didn't negotiate with her, she said she sent a letter asking when and where they could meet and she did not receive a response back. Therefore, they notified the teachers as to when they needed to come in prior to the start of the school year.

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## V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Use of Grant/ARRA Funds – Board members received a handout entitled ARRA Application Expenses – Mont Vernon.

Dr. Jennings told board members she would be discussing this topic at this evening's board meeting since Renea Sparks was not able to make it to this meeting.

Dr. Jennings reminded board members they approved this basic budget at the end of the school year.

The handout detailed the Priorities to be addressed, Performance Measurement, Desired Outcome, Projected Expense and the Actual Expense.

In the case of Coordinated Early Intervening Services, the Performance Measurement was to Train the Trainer in Differentiated Instruction. The Desired Outcome was three Differentiated Instruction Coaches were trained, and at a recent staff meeting they established milestones. The projected expense for this priority was \$8,186 and the actual expense was \$10,589.

Nicole Heimarck explained they neglected to include some of the required supply costs in the projected expense. Nicole said three staff members were trained as Differentiated Instructors this summer.

The projected expense for the ARRA Expenses totals \$57,866 however, to date \$18,813 has been expended.

- B. Agenda Goals 2009-10 – Board members discussed future agenda goals during their board meeting.
- C. Personnel Budget: FY10 Hiring – Board members received a handout at the board meeting detailing the 2009-2010 Mont Vernon Hiring.

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Dr. Jennings told board members they realized a savings of \$31,405 when replacements were hired for open positions.

The handout showed a savings of \$22,104 in replacement of Professional Staff positions. Dr. Jennings said one of these hires was for a one-year position to replace Meghan Libby. This position realized a savings of \$11,862.

In Support, there was a total savings of \$4,974.

In Administration there was a total savings of \$4,327.

- D. Revised Strategic Plan Goal – Board members received a handout in their board packets entitled SAU 39 Strategic Plan years 1-3 School Goals Summary.

Dr. Jennings highlighted the Mont Vernon Village School goals for Year 1 – 2007-2008, Year 2 – 2008-2009, and the draft goal for Year 3 – 2009-2010.

The Year 3 – 2009-2010 goal was for 90% of the students to show personal growth in MWEA and DIBELS in Math and reading.

Dr. Jennings explained at the next board meeting on September 10, 2009, they would be bringing the board the goals that Mont Vernon worked on and an action plan as to how they can achieve them.

Dr. Jennings said they plan on drilling down the above-mentioned goal by grade level.

Dr. Jennings said at the next board meeting they will be asking board members whether they will accept the goal or change it in some way.

- A. NH Teacher Retirement Litigation – Board members were given a copy of the letter dated July

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

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9, 2009, regarding the Proposed Article 28-a Lawsuit Against the State, which was addressed to Cities and Towns, School Districts, SAUs and County Governments.

Dr. Jennings reminded board members they received this letter also in their SAU Board meeting a week ago. The SAU board unanimously voted to support the lawsuit with the appropriate contribution.

The Mont Vernon's suggested amount to support the litigation is \$232.12.

Bruce Schmidt again asked if this amount was to start the litigation process and whether they would receive an additional bill. The administration agreed at the SAU board meeting they would look into this and get back to the boards with an answer.

**A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to approve the Mont Vernon Contribution of \$232.12 to support the Article 28-a Lawsuit Against the State. Trevor Girard seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)**

- B. Trustees of the Daland Library – Leo White told board members in the past, each year, Trustees of the Daland Library have donated \$70 to the school. Leo said the Trustees noticed they had not made their donation to the school last year and they wanted to make this year's donation as well.

**A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to accept the \$140 donation from the Trustees of the Daland Library for last year's 2008-2009 donation as well as this years 2009-2010 donation with appreciation. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed**

**unanimously. (5-0-0)**

**A motion was made by Trevor Girard to go into Non Public Session per RSA 91A:3 I & II. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. By roll call vote Darula-yes; Girard-yes; Roberge-yes; Schmidt-yes; and White-yes. The board entered into Non-Public Session at 8:15 p.m.**

## **VII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

The board discussed a situation relative to building maintenance.

**A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to come out of Non-Public Session. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. By roll call vote Darula-yes; Girard-yes; Roberge-yes; Schmidt-yes; and White-yes. The board came out of Non-Public Session at 8:20 p.m.**

Kim Roberge asked Sue Blair how things were going. Sue responded and said she was not overwhelmed, just figuring out what has and has not been done and trying to determine what are the school and community traditions.

## **VIII. REVIEW OF MEETING/ADJOURN**

Sue said she has been asking for collaboration from the staff on the scheduling.

Sue said meeting with the staff has been very positive and the SINI/DINI work has been invaluable.

Kim asked if Sue sees anything that requires immediate change.

Sue responded that while nothing requires immediate change, she does have a few items that will demand her immediate focus.

Bruce asked if all the Scott Foresman books have come in.

Nicole said everything was here due to Nancy McGuire who took over this task in the absence of a principal.

**A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to adjourn the meeting. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0) The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**