

MINUTES
MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2010
MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Present:

ATTENDANCE

Mont Vernon School Board: Jayson Darula, Trevor Girard, Kim Roberge, Bruce Schmidt, and Leo White
Administrative Team: Sue Blair, Nicole Heimarck, Dr. Mary Jennings, Betty Shankel, Renea Sparks and Karen Taylor
Budget Committee: Joe Fleurette, and Laura Millar
Public: Bob Lunberg
Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

Chairman Leo White called the board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The A. Minutes 2. January 21, 2010, were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Jayson Darula to accept Consent Agenda Items A. Minutes 1. December 30, 2009 and B. Treasurer's Report. Bruce Schmidt 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 Jayson Darula to approve Consent Agenda Item A. Minutes 2. January 21, 2010, as amended. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

A. NECAP Results – Before presenting the NECAP Results, Nicole had a couple of announcements.

III. ANOUNCEMENTS

Nicole said on March 2, 2010, at the SAU Board Meeting, FINAL Minutes of February 3, 2010 Mont Vernon School Board Meeting

they will discuss the Math Program. Nicole said they will hold a Parent Community Forum to solicit feedback on their draft vision with regards to Mathematics education.

Nicole said flyers will be forthcoming and the forum will be held from 6-8 p.m. Nicole said childcare will be provided at no cost.

Nicole told board members about the Differentiated Consultant they had over the summer. Nicole said the consultant is back for three days to provide additional training to the individual 25 Differentiated Instruction Coaches across SAU39.

Nicole Heimarck provided board members with a handout entitled New England Comprehensive Assessment Program, NECAP 2005-2009, SAU 39 Performance Review.

Nicole told board members the NECAP results had just come out a week ago.

Nicole said she delivered this information to the SAU39 Board last week.

Nicole highlighted what was different in NECAP this year:

- No writing results for grades 5 and 8
- New reporting interface with filter abilities
- Student writing samples on the grade 11 writing assessment

Nicole highlighted the results of the MVVS 4-year Comparison for Reading.

Nicole said Mont Vernon had the greatest level of growth this year as compared to the other SAU 39 schools.

Nicole said Mont Vernon had the highest scores they have

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seen in the 5 years of NECAP.

In 2009, the Mont Vernon Village School has 87% of their students achieving either Proficient or Proficient with Distinction in Reading.

Nicole said this year they have the ability to see the ranking of schools. This year, Mont Vernon has the 6th highest score in Reading in the state.

In 2009, the Mont Vernon Village School has 81% of their students achieving either Proficient or Proficient with Distinction in Math. In 2008, 71% of the students achieved Proficient or Proficient with Distinction.

Nicole told board members the Village School ranks 7th highest in Math in the state.

Nicole provided board members with AMS and Souhegan results for 2009 as well.

Also presented was an Area District Comparison in Grades 3-8 in Reading and Math.

Nicole provided board members with a Timeline for the 2009 Results Rollout.

Nicole explained during the month of February through March 22nd, they will be involved in building level analysis of the NECAP data facilitated and supported by the Director of Curriculum.

Nicole spoke about a workshop that will be held on March 22, 2010, Leading a Data-Informed Culture, where each district shall send a data team no smaller than three individuals to participate in the training.

Nicole told board members the tentative release date for AYP reports is March 31, 2010.

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Nicole said in April 2010, they would be doing district level board presentations of NECAP analysis and corresponding AYP reports.

Leo White thanked Nicole for her presentation.

- A. FY 11 Budget – Draft 3 – Board members received a copy of Draft # 3 of the proposed FY 11 Budget dated February 3, 2010, in their board packets.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS /
DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Leo White asked if the Budget Committee had any recommendations or comments.

Joe Fluette questioned the staffing levels. Joe asked if it was required they have a full time Nurse and Guidance professional.

Dr. Jennings said there is no requirement to staff these positions as full time and at one point they did not.

Dr. Jennings said there is an advantage to staffing the Nurse at a full time position as they never know when a student is going to get sick.

Joe Fluette asked if they needed this level of expertise at the school. (Nurse)

Betty Shankel said they need to think about the liability at the school and they just can't predict when something is going to happen.

Joe said he is concerned they may be overstaffing some positions – Nurse and Guidance. Joe questioned whether they had a higher skill set than required.

Trevor Girard questioned the large increase in Tuition to Middle School, (line 30, 10.1100.561.20). Trevor said he was concerned they were over budgeted in this line item.

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Trevor questioned if the 76 students budgeted was for the actual number of students.

Betty said the actual number was 74, as they know it and they have always built in an additional 2 students into the budget.

Betty said they could change to what they know, 74 students, and this would be a potential savings of \$28,000.

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to reduce line 30, 10.1100.561.20, Tuition to Middle School by two students. Kim Roberge seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Trevor questioned New Equipment – Technology, (line 58, 10.1100.734.10). Trevor said overall, he is in favor of a technological classroom, but does not believe the Smartboards, Digital Cameras, etcetera are needed. Also, he thinks Brain Pop is a nice item, however, not needed and would be a \$2,000 savings. Trevor said he thinks they should cut back on things that are not needs.

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to reduce line 58, New Equipment – Technology, to \$0. Kim Roberge seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

Board members discussed the need for Smartboards and replacement computers.

Sue Blair said when teachers want to use the Smartboards they schedule time through Tom Campbell. Sue said they are constantly being used and they are at capacity for use at the building.

Sue said in her opinion, the slowness of the computers is

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more of an issue.

Jayson Darula said he sees merit in the need for the Smartboards in the classrooms.

Bruce Schmidt said he thinks 4 additional Smartboards is too much and 0 is too little. Bruce said the Smartboards are a good added teaching tool.

Dr. Jennings said technology is an accelerator to learning.

Kim Roberge said she agreed with Bruce, 4 Smartboards are too many, but zero is too little.

Sue Blair said she looks at having Smartboards as a necessity for the students. Sue said Smartboards are throughout the Middle School and believes they are preparation for the future and technology is a big part of preparing for the future.

Sue said they are starting to explore what Grants are out there with the help of the SAU/Betty Shankel.

Sue pleaded with the board to not completely cut out the Smartboards from the budget.

Trevor Girard amended his original motion to read as follows:

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to reduce line 58, New Equipment - Technology by \$4,720. Kim Roberge seconded the motion. Four board members voted in favor of the motion, one board member was opposed, Jayson Darula. The motion passed. (4-1-0)

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to reduce line 54, Computer Software by \$2,000. Kim Roberge seconded the motion.

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Bruce Schmidt asked if any teachers had used Brain Pop. He also asked how it would be worked into the curriculum.

Jayson Darula asked Sue Blair how vital Brain Pop was for the students. Sue said it is a very tough question, for children who need visuals, it is vital, for every individual child, the essence is different.

Bruce Schmidt said he would like to see the school utilize “free websites.” Bruce asked what the benefit of Brain Pop was and he thought that the program hadn’t really been researched enough to see what is really gained.

The board voted on the motion:

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to reduce line 54, Computer Software by \$2,000. Kim Roberge seconded the motion. Four board members voted in favor of the motion, one board member was opposed, Jayson Darula. The motion passed. (4-1-0)

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to reduce line 189, (Salaries, CFG Coaches) by \$1,556. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Bruce Schmidt questioned the proposed FY11 amount of \$21,975 for General Supplies (line 33, 10.1100.610.10). Bruce said in FY09, they budgeted \$19,500 and spent only \$17,819, and in FY10, the Final Voted Budget in FY10 was \$20,150, which he believes should be enough for FY11 as well.

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to reduce line 33, General Supplies to the FY10 Final Voted Budget of \$20,150. Kim Roberge seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

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A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to reduce line item 255, School Board Expenses to \$400. Trevor Girard seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Kim Roberge suggested the district purchase all textbooks for the Scott Foresman program this year. Kim said she thinks it is feasible to do it this year and doesn't understand why they don't.

A motion was made by Kim Roberge to reduce line item 45 to \$1,381, the annual consumable cost and to purchase the Scott Foresman materials in this fiscal year. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Kim Roberge asked for additional information with regards to Responsive Classroom.

Dr. Jennings said Responsive Classroom is a program that teaches students how to be respectful from Kindergarten through 6th grade.

Studies have shown when students are taught through Responsive Classroom, the referrals to the office decline dramatically. Students learn self-control with classmates and teachers.

Responsive Classroom at MVVS is philosophically in line with what they have at AMS and the Souhegan High School.

Nicole Heimarck said Responsive Classroom is an expansion of the program that already exists, a program that has already been at the Village School.

Joe Fleurette said the Budget Committee thought the notebook replacements should be cut out and they should concentrate on replacing desktops.

Board members reviewed the Warrant Articles.

Trevor Girard questioned the wording of Article 3. Trevor said the wording should be clear so meeting attendees know the cost is only for one year and if approved the cost will be incurred each year after.

Board members discussed the wording and changed it to read as follows:

To see if the Mont Vernon School District will vote to raise and appropriate \$46,852 to fund the first year of expanded health benefits and this expense to be included in subsequent operating budgets for the MVVS Paraprofessional staff.

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to include Article 3 on the warrant with the changes to the article as proposed. 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 Bruce Schmidt to include Article 4 as written. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Board members discussed the amount they should appropriate to the School Property Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund in Article 5.

Trevor Girard thought they should increase the amount to \$62,000 from \$30,000.

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to increase the

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amount the district would raise and appropriate in Article 5 to \$62,000. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. Two board members voted in favor of the motion, Jayson Darula and Trevor Girard. Three board members voted against the motion, Leo White, Bruce Schmidt, and Kim Roberge. The motion failed. (2-3-0)

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to accept Article 5 as written. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

Bruce Schmidt asked why they were creating Article 6 with funding it with a \$1.00. Bruce suggested they fund it with one student.

Dr. Jennings told board members based on the data she provided the board, the number of students has fluctuated up to 8 students over the past year.

A. Vote: Budget for Public Hearing –

V. ACTION ITEM

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to raise the amount in Article 6 to \$14,000. Jayson Darula seconded the motion. Two board members voted in favor of the motion, Bruce Schmidt and Jayson Darula. Three board members voted against the motion, Leo White, Trevor Girard and Kim Roberge. The motion failed. (2-3-0)

A motion was made by Jayson Darula to raise the amount in Article 6 to \$30,000. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. One board member voted for the motion, Jayson Darula. Four board members voted against the motion, Leo White, Trevor Girard, Kim Roberge and Bruce Schmidt. The motion failed. (1-4-0)

A motion was made by Jayson Darula to present Article 6 as written for Public Hearing. Bruce Schmidt

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seconded the motion. Three board members voted in favor of the motion, Kim Roberge, Bruce Schmidt and Jayson Darula. Two board members voted against the motion, Trevor Girard and Leo White. The motion passed. (3-2-0)

A motion was made by Kim Roberge to present Articles 7, 8, and 9 as written at Public Hearing. Trevor Girard 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 Bruce Schmidt to present Article 2 as amended by earlier discussions at Public Hearing. Kim Roberge seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

A. Preparation for Public Hearing – February 11th –

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board members prepared for the Public Hearing by determining who would be responsible for each section of the budget as well as the Warrant Articles.

Kim Roberge questioned how the basketball courts were being cleared of snow.

The history was given as to why we should not be using heavy equipment on the basketball courts based on previous years mistakes.

A motion was made by Jayson Darula to adjourn the meeting. Trevor Girard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0) The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

VII. REVIEW OF MEETING/ADJOURN