

MINUTES
MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2010
MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Kim Roberge called the board meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present:

ATTENDANCE

Mont Vernon School Board: Trevor Girard, Janet Gramatges, Kim Roberge, John Quinlan, and Bruce Schmidt

Administrative Team: Sue Blair, Bruce Chakrin, Nicole Heimarck, Dr. Mary Jennings, Jim Miner, Betty Shankel, and Renea Sparks

Budget Committee: Bill Archibald, and Paul Liscord and Marilyn Savage

Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

- A. Principal's Report – Board members received a copy of the Principals Report in their board packets dated November 10, 2010.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Blair told board members as of November 8, 2010, they have 238 students at the Village School.

Sue told board members students/parents received a copy of the MVVS Parent and Student Handbook. Sue apologized to board members stating they had the handbooks printed and the publisher went back to the previous format. Sue said next year they will be printing their own Handbooks and they will be printed in the new format.

Sue told board members Mrs. Philabotte gave birth to a healthy baby boy on Monday. Sue said they hired a long-term substitute named Kristen Ross. Sue told board members she is certified in Elementary Education. Sue said they are delighted to have Ms. Ross as part of their team.

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Sue said the Ethics Forum (55 students) from Souhegan High School visited the students on October 25, 2010, and sent each student home with a painted pumpkin. The project known as Operation Pumpkin was also done last year but this year the high school students were prepared to work with and play with the students. Sue said the Ethics Forum plans on returning in January.

Sue told board members the Staff had an In-service Day on November 2, 2010. Sue said the day was well planned and the staff spent it discussing how to improve student learning through Committee work.

John Quinlan said one of his children's teachers had been missing for three days for Professional Development and he said he doesn't like the idea that Professional Development is going on during class time.

John said he would like the number of days/hours a teacher is out due to Professional Development in a school year. Also, how much of our substitute time is used for Professional Development.

Board members wanted to know if grant money covers the cost of substitute teachers during professional development.

Nicole Heimareck said some grant money has been used although she said she couldn't say all professional development is covered by grants. Nicole said out of district professional development comes out of the operating budget.

The Budget Committee said they would also like to get this information.

Sue said the PTA has held two coffee chats so far this year. The next chat is scheduled for this Tuesday and the topic is Math Instruction.

Sue said over the past month, in coordination with Linda
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Narducci, Deb Button, Katie McCann (Girl Scout Troup) Roger Poor and Paul the trail in back of the Village School has been enhanced so the teachers can become more knowledgeable about the trail and utilize it with their students. Sue said the staff has walked the trail a couple of times to date.

Sue told board members the Tiger Program from Plymouth State University will be visiting the Village School and providing skits, which focus on guidance issues and the focus of this visit will be on bullying.

Sue said Lego Club with Amy White begins this month, on Monday, November 15, 2010.

Sue highlighted some upcoming dates for the board –

- November 12, 2010 – Report Cards issued.
- November 18th-19th, 2010 – Parent teacher conferences
- December 15, 2010 – Band and Chorus Holiday Concert at 7 p.m.

Sue told board members she has had parents show an interest in starting a Math Club with the students so she is going to meet with the parents to have a conversation to see how often they are planning on meeting, etcetera. Sue said she would provide the board with an update at the next meeting.

Kim asked if there were any comments from the public however, there were none.

III. PUBLIC TIME

A motion was made by Janet Gramatges to approve Consent Agenda A. Minutes 1. October 14, 2010, B. Treasurer's Report and C. Manifest. John Quinlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. FY12 Budget 1st Draft - Board members received Draft 1 of the proposed FY12 Budget in their board FINAL Minutes of November 10, 2010, Mont Vernon School Board Meeting

V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

packets.

Sue Blair provided some Current FY11 Budget Data:

- Adequately supports the needs of students with a focus on appropriate instructional materials in all curriculum/instructional areas/needs.
- Adequately supports educational goals by addressing ongoing commitments to literacy and math without loss of focus on the importance of social studies, science and integrated arts.
- Includes a focus on integration of technology into the everyday learning and practices of teacher and student.
- Supports/maintains appropriate student/teacher ratio.
- Adequately supports the ELL needs of students.
- Provides a safe environment.

Sue presented the Current Enrollments and Projections as follows:

- Current enrollment as of October 1 is 238 at Mont Vernon Village School and 71 at the Amherst Middle School.
- The projected enrollment for the Village School is 239 and for Amherst Middle School is 79.

A slide was shown detailing the Projected Class Size for FY12.

Sue presented a slide, which detailed the FY12 Education Programming.

- Continues support of SAU #39 5-year literacy goal.
- Supports Math Program Review.
- Commitment to early literacy intervention with adoption and implementation in all grade levels of Scott Foresman Reading Program.
- Supports SINI/DINI Plan (Year 1)
- Supports K-3 focus on structured approach for
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- teaching appropriate letter formation. (Handwriting)
- Continues support of technology integration.
- Supports Response to Intervention. (RTI)

Sue provided the Educational Programming Budget Impact as follows:

- Scott Foresman Core Reading Program Implementation
- Technology Integration/Classrooms – replacing the out of date network switch at a cost of \$7,000.
- Improve wide area network – the alternative internet access will provide a savings of \$3,000.
- Wireless infrastructure

Sue provided the board with some Additional Considerations.

- Special Education Costs – Overall increase of 2.53%
- Operation and Maintenance – Overall increase of 7.14%
- Benefit costs – Estimated healthcare increases of 10%, estimated dental insurance increases of 5%, and a teacher pension increase of 13.1%.

Sue provided board members with a chart detailing the Professional Staffing Comparison from 2011 to 2012. Sue said there were no changes proposed.

Sue provided a chart detailing the Support Staffing Comparisons for 2011 and 2012. Sue said this is the non-certified staff.

Sue is proposing to hire a FT Regular Education Para-Educator. Also a change when compared to 2011 is the number of Special Education Para-Educators. In 2011 they had 7 FT Special Education Para-Educators and in 2012

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they are proposing 5.75 FT Para-Educators.

Dr. Jennings provided board members with a handout in their board packets entitled SAU 39 Employees 2010-2011 FTE's by District.

Board members were given the opportunity to discuss the budget as presented.

Bruce Chakrin was at the board meeting to discuss the technology portion of the budget.

Board members received a handout entitled MV Computer Inventory, which was dated November 10, 2010. Also provided was a handout entitled Status Report, which was addressed to the Mont Vernon School District School Board regarding the Status of the MVVS Internet Connection Project.

Bruce Chakrin told board members the proposed FY12 Technology Budget is less than last year, about \$1,000 less.

Bruce said the biggest ticket item is line 355 – it is a big year in terms of server replacement, web server, library server, and the Angel server.

Bruce said by replacing all these at the same time, they are able to put a bunch of servers on one big machine. Bruce said in the long run, they would see a savings because it will cost them less money.

Bruce Chakrin said the 1gb Routable Network Switch is 5 years old; it is very old technology.

Bruce Schmidt asked what the total capacity is since it ranges from 24-96 and Bruce Chakrin said we are getting 96.

Bruce Schmidt said we should verify our requirement so we are not paying for something, which is not needed.

Bruce Chakrin said we would be close to capacity.

Kim Roberge asked how long the \$7,000 investment would last for and Bruce said for switches it is between 5-8 years.

Trevor Girard said this year he really wants to see what the school really needs, what is going to meet the need for the school. Trevor asked if this could be put off for a year.

Dr. Jennings said they are in the process of creating a technology committee in each of the districts. The Committee's task is to create a 3-year plan so the districts know what the needs are going forward. Dr. Jennings said by having a technology plan, the overall goal is to have a smooth budget from year to year.

Bruce Chakrin said they are in the process of putting together a budget committee in Mont Vernon.

Board members said prior to approving additional purchases for Smart Boards, they wanted proof they were being used in the classrooms.

Kim Roberge said she was in the school and counted a total of 7 Smart Boards. She said she saw some not being used in the classroom for teaching purposes.

Board members asked when the two Smart Boards that were not working would be up and running and Bruce Chakrin said they would be working within the next week to two.

Board members said they were disappointed they have Smart Boards that are not being used.

Betty Shankel told board members there is a summer issue in Mont Vernon. Schools normally order their own supplies during the summer, for example the Smart Boards and because the Village School doesn't have support here in the summer, this is not done.

Jim Miner agreed with Betty's comment. Jim said they need to resolve the summer issue and board members agreed; they need to discuss this issue at a future board meeting.

Kim Roberge asked if the administration could assure the board they had the right technical support at the Village School.

Bruce Chakrin told board members no one person can teach technology or do it all – teachers, students, staff, etcetera. Bruce said we are way beyond that now, not one person can support everyone and everything.

Bruce said we still have to have people come in even if we have multiple people in the schools.

Sue Blair said with the evolution of technology, they now do their own report cards in house.

Trevor Girard said he had constituents approach him questioning the need to support the mandate for the use of the Angel Software in order to maintain the digital portfolio.

Bruce Schmidt questioned the cost of \$6,600 for the air conditioning for the server room.

Jim Miner said there is two times the equipment in the room than they previously had and it will support the current need for the amount of equipment as well as additional equipment in the future. It will cover the future requirement for what equipment will be in the server room.

Trevor Girard questioned the need for the water/well testing. Jim Miner said it is a requirement by the state.

Trevor Girard asked about the contingency figures built into the Maintenance Budget.

Jim Miner said he could not say if in the past, they have

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spent the entire contingency built into the budget but he agreed to take a look at it and see if he can cut it back. Jim said he would look at each line and come back to the board with a recommendation.

Trevor asked about the cost of the Fine Motor Program - \$1,584, was it a yearly cost. Sue Blair said this is a yearly cost, because they are consumables, workbooks.

Trevor thanked Sue for focusing on this program; he said we have abandoned some of the fundamentals.

Bill Archibald commended Sue for bringing in a writing program.

The board asked Sue Blair to speak to her request for hiring a full time Regular Education Para-educator.

Sue said there was some discussion at the last board meeting amongst parents for the need for instructional assistants to provide support for students who just need help.

Sue said she would like to hire a Regular Education Para-educator so they can help children in the earlier grades, up to grade 3.

Kim said she understands the thought process behind Sue's request however, she is not sure this is the right time.

Bruce Schmidt said he is in support of Sue's request however; he is frustrated they couldn't have supported this request last month.

Janet questioned whether the board was going to consider the public's request to implement Spanish to full time.

It was agreed the board was not going to consider implementing Spanish full time.

The board will discuss Revenues / State Aid at the next
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board meeting.

- A. CFG Funding- Dr. Jennings told board members this topic was mentioned at the last SAU 39 meeting. Dr. Jennings said she is asking each board to contribute toward continuing the work of the Community Recovery Group for the next six months. Dr. Jennings told board members based on the SAU formula Mont Vernon would be asked to contribute about \$350.

VI. DISCUSSION

Bruce asked if there is a planned date for the group to dissolve.

Kim Roberge said as of now, there is no planned date to dissolve.

Dr. Jennings said she thinks there is an end in site for the consultant, thus the request for the additional contribution from each district.

The additional monies needed would be transferred out of one of the Special Education Consulting lines.

- B. School Directive on Peanut Allergies – Due to the length of the meeting it was agreed this topic would be put on the agenda once budget season is over.

- C. Policies – JICK – Bullying – 1st Reading
 JH – Truancy – 1st Reading
 JFAB – Admission of Tuition and Non-Resident Students – 1st Reading

Board members completed the first reading on Policies JICK, JH and JFAB. There were no comments on any of the policies as to how they were presented.

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to approve continuing with the SAU Hourly based calendar. Trevor Girard seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion

VII. ACTION ITEMS

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passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

A motion was made by Trevor Girard to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91 – A:3 II (a) (c) for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue. John Quinlan seconded the motion. By roll call vote, Schmidt – yes, Quinlan – yes, Roberge – yes, Girard – yes, and Gramatges – yes. The board entered into Non-Public session at 9:01 pm. (5-0-0)

**VIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION
RSA 91-A:3 II (a) (c)**

Also in attendance for Non-Public were Mary Jennings and Sue Blair.

Sue Blair exited the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

The board discussed two personnel issues.

A motion was made by Janet Gramatges to accept the resignations of Anne Richard and Deb Button. John Quinlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

A motion was made by John Quinlan to come out of Non-Public session. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. By roll call vote, Schmidt – yes, Quinlan – yes, Roberge – yes, Girard – yes, and Gramatges – yes. The board voted unanimously to exit Non-Public Session at 9:23 p.m. (5-0-0)

A motion was made by John Quinlan to adjourn the meeting. Trevor Girard seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m. (5-0-0)

**IX. REVIEW OF
MEETING/ADJOURN**