

MINUTES
MONT VERNON SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 26, 2010
MONT VERNON VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Bruce Schmidt called the board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present:

ATTENDANCE

Mont Vernon School Board: Trevor Girard, Janet Gramatges, John Quinlan, Kim Roberge (arrived 6:15 p.m.), and Bruce Schmidt

Administrative Team: Sue Blair, Nancy Maguire, Dr. Mary Jennings, Betty Shankel, and Renea Sparks

Staff: Melanie Jones, and Sue Granfors

Minutes Recorder: Lyn Jennings

- A. Principal's Report – Board members received a copy of the Principals Report in their board packets dated August 26, 2010.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Blair thanked Dennis Melanson, Steve Kent and John Mattie for all their hard work on the facility this summer. Sue said the school looks fantastic! Sue also said a special thank you to Bruce and Dean for all their expertise.

Sue said every classroom had been painted, floors were redone and the MPR had a new floor put in as well.

Sue Blair told board members she anticipates the enrollment to be 230 students on September 1st at the Village School. Sue provided board members with the expected number of students by grade.

Sue told board members there was a late resignation in August by the Art teacher however, they found a replacement that they would present to the board for approval later in the meeting.

Sue also announced the passing of a former teacher, Mrs. Wilmalee Findlay, who passed away on August 24, 2010.

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Sue said if and when the arrangements became public, they would pass this information along to everyone.

Sue told board members the MVVS Parent-Student Handbook had been completely redone and she was just awaiting a couple of profile's by a few teachers but the handbook would be complete by school's opening. Sue said they are going to try to print the handbook in house since it would save money by doing it themselves.

Sue told board members she along with Melanie Jones and Charline Brown attended a three-day training program in Concord, NH about Teacher Mentoring.

Sue said they decided to implement the program school-wide and they will be discussing it on Tuesday, when the teachers come back to school. The teachers will be broken out into groups of 3-4 and they will be able to discuss difficulties in planning, or even a concept they are having difficulty-teaching, etcetera.

Bruce Schmidt said he thinks implementing the program school-wide is an excellent idea however, he just questioned the fact in the budget they have stipends budgeted for two teachers for the mentoring program and he didn't know how this would play into their contract. Sue Blair said this is just a job embedded concept, and doesn't think implementing the program school-wide would be an issue.

Sue told board members Pick Up Patrol is up and running. Sue said the kids have done a fabulous job creating this program. Sue said a few MVVS parents did a test run using the program and the feedback was very positive. Sue said they plan on introducing the program to all the staff and they hope to be up and running with Pick Up Patrol by the next board meeting!

Bruce Schmidt requested the website be updated with the school lunch menu prior to the start of the month so parents know in advance what is being offered and can plan accordingly. Bruce said in the past, parents learn the menu

a few days after the start of a given month and this may be resulting in some students not purchasing lunch since they don't know what is being offered.

Betty Shankel said she would talk to Danielle, the new Director of Food Services to make sure the lunch menu is available prior to the 1st of the month.

- B. SAU Budget Committee Appointment – Board members received a copy of a handout entitled SAU 39 Budget Advisory Committee in their board packets.

Dr. Jennings told board members this committee reviews the 2012 SAU 39 Budget.

Dr. Jennings said it will consist of six members for a period of a year.

Dr. Jennings said the Mont Vernon School District Budget Committee needs to appoint one person to serve as a member of this committee. Also, the Mont Vernon School Board needs to appoint one person, to serve for one year.

Bruce Schmidt suggested the SAU put an announcement in the Cabinet for volunteers to serve on this committee for Amherst, Mont Vernon and Souhegan.

Dr. Jennings told board members the committee needs to be appointed by the end of September.

Kim Roberge asked if there were any comments from the public and Eileen Naber suggested some modifications to the Minutes of June 28, 2010. Her suggestions were recorded and appreciated.

III. PUBLIC TIME

The A. Minutes 1. June, 2010, were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

The F. Nominations were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to approve the FINAL Minutes of August 26, 2010, Mont Vernon School Board Meeting

following Consent Agenda Items as modified: A. Minutes 2. July 2010 B. Treasurer's Reports 1. March 2010-July 2010, C. Manifest D. Unanticipated Revenue and E. Resignation. John Quinlan 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 approve Consent Agenda Item A Minutes 1. June 2010 as modified to indicate the funds were to come from the Mont Vernon School Property Maintenance Fund. John Quinlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

A motion was made by Bruce Schmidt to approve Consent Agenda Item F. Nominations. John Quinlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

- A. FY10 Goals/FY11 Goal Setting – Sue Blair presented slides regarding their FY10 Goal of achieving a 5% increase in the number of students achieving a target growth in grades 3-6 on the NWEA in Math and Reading.

V. PRESENTATIONS

Sue explained in Reading in 2008-2009 in 3rd Grade, 44.1% Achieved Target Growth and in 2009-2010 42.2% Achieved Target Growth. This represents a decrease of 1.9%, which is short of their goal of reaching a 5% increase.

In Grade 4, 47.8% of the students Achieved their Target Growth in 2008-2009 and in 2009-2010 53.4% achieved their Target Growth. This represents a 5.6% increase in the number of students achieving their target growth in Reading, which means the goal was met.

In Grade 5, 65.7% of the students Achieved their Target in 2008-2009 and in 2009-2010 74.1% achieved their Target Growth. This represents a 8.4% increase in the number of students achieving their target growth in Reading, which means the goal was met.

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In Grade 6, 63.2% of the students Achieved their Target in 2008-2009 and in 2009-2010 65.2% achieved their Target Growth. This represents a 2% increase in the number of students achieving their target growth in Reading, which means the goal was not met.

Sue Blair told board members she could not provide reasons as to why goals were not met in individual grades however, hopefully at the next board meeting she would be able to.

Trevor Girard said he is very concerned for the top performers too. Trevor said it doesn't seem like much is done to keep them interested in instruction, and he suggested individualized instruction. Trevor said he is very disappointed that there isn't any money spent on the top performers with regards to aid.

John Quinlan said he was a little concerned about the sample size. John said the class sizes are really small and one student could significantly change the results.

Janet Gramatges suggested they set individual goals by student since the class sizes are so small.

If students are brought into the discussion and aware of the goal they need to achieve, they may get interested in trying to achieve it.

Sue told board members for Kindergarten and 1st Grade the goal was for 90% of the students in Kindergarten and 1st Grade to achieve growth in one or more Dibels subtests. Sue said the number of students who were identified as "at risk" from fall 09 to spring 10 decreased by 66%.

In Kindergarten, 91% of the Students Achieved Growth from the Fall of 2009 to the Spring of 2010. In 1st Grade 100% of the Students Achieved Growth from the Fall of 2009 to the Spring of 2010, therefore, the goal was achieved.

Board members questioned the data being presented in Mathematics. It was agreed Sue would review the data and present it at the board meeting in October.

- B. Mont Vernon Village School Handbook – Board members were given a copy of the revised Student Handbook.

Sue said she completely revised the format and added a Welcome Letter, and Program Profiles.

- C. Hiring Report – Board members received a copy of the Hiring Report entitled 2010-2011 Mont Vernon New Hires/Terms in their board packets.
- D. Staff Protocol for August 31, 2010 – Board members received a handout in their board packets entitled Back to School Staff Meeting, August 31, 2010.

Sue said the goal this year is Data Informed Decision Making.

Sue Blair told board members as part of their staff meeting on August 31, 2010, staff would be asked to review assessment data from the previous school year.

Sue said based on their observations and new learnings, the staff will be asked to provide the principal with their suggestions for grade level goals for the 2010-11 school year.

Sue provided board members with the Data Driven Dialogue Protocol the staff would be using to facilitate the discussion.

Sue said they would be asking the teachers to really look at their data.

Sue said on the agenda for the next board meeting she would present the goal the staff came up with.

- A. DOE25/MS25 Reports – Board members received copies of the DOE25/ and MS25 Reports in their board packets.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

Betty Shankel told board members these reports are required to be submitted to the State Department of Education and the NH Department of Revenue no later than September 1, 2010. Betty said these reports are the Unaudited versions.

Betty told board members they ended the year with an Unreserved Fund Balance of \$357,544.10. Betty said this balance includes \$61,000, which will be taken away as of July 1st to go to the Expendable Trust Fund for Maintenance.

Betty said the Tuition to the Middle School was less than anticipated, they under spent in Student Transportation and Special Education under spent.

Betty also said in Revenue, MED/CAD Aid was higher than anticipated.

Betty also told board members Food Service made money so no transfer was needed!

A motion was mad by John Quinlan to approve the DOE25/MS25 as presented. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0-0)

- B. Policy KED – Revised Grievance Procedure for Alleged Discrimination – 1st Reading – Board members received a copy of this policy in their board packets.

Renea Sparks told board members the policy has been approved by the people who investigate these types of complaints.

The policy will be brought back to the board at the next meeting for their approval.

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Kim Roberge told board members the Four Board Chairs met and highlighted the following topics discussed:

X. REVIEW OF MEETING/ADJOURN

A Technology Committee will be formed in each of the districts. Bruce Schmidt volunteered to serve on this committee.

The Mont Vernon Board may want to appoint another representative to serve of the SAU Policy Committee.

Kim Roberge took John Quinlan's place to review the Manifests for Mont Vernon. It is now Bruce Schmidt and Kim Roberge reviewing the Manifests.

The Mont Vernon Board will publish an insert bi-monthly in the Amherst Citizen with regards to information on the Mont Vernon School Board / MVVS.

Board members and administration agreed a survey would be sent to the parents in their Welcome Packets. Also, faculty/staff would receive a copy of the survey to complete.

A motion was made by John Quinlan to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Schmidt seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. (5-0-0)