

MINUTES
SAU 39 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 28, 2010
Souhegan High School Annex, Room A222

Attendance

Present

SCSB: - Steve Coughlan, Dan Foley, Chris Janson, Jeanne Ludt and Mary Lou Mullens

ASB – Peter Maresco, Nancy Head (arrived 6:15)

MVSB – Kim Roberge (left at 7:20)

Given eight of the seventeen members were in attendance, there was no quorum. The meeting proceeded without voting being possible.

Dan Foley called the board meeting to order at 6:10.

Announcements

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mary Jennings announced that we are included in the “Race to the Top” and we will find out in March if we are awarded. Updated boards on Community Recovery Team and their efforts. Spoke about faculty feature stories and where they can be found (website), sometimes Amherst Citizen.

Public Comments

Dan Foley invited comments from the public but none were forthcoming.

Consent Agenda

Skipped Consent Agenda – No Quorum yet.

Presentations

Quarterly Update: Betty Shankel presented Second Quarter financials.

2010-2011 School Calendar: (see attached) Mary Jennings presented a calendar that was developed by faculty representatives and administration. Discussion ensued. Jeanne Ludt mentioned considering reducing Feb & April vacation to only one vacation. She questioned how do we go about researching option to find out if viable option. Straw poll possibly, put on future agenda?

NECAP Results Nicole Heimark presented the initial NECAP results that were released to the public yesterday. She said individual Board Presentations will be done in April. Jeanne Ludt questioned when results will be released to local papers? Steve Coughlan questioned why State of NH doesn't give AYP earlier.

Peter Maresco questions are test scores reflective of curriculum. Updated as to Math Forum to be held at SHS Café on March 2.

Discussion

“Critical Friends Group Protocols and Consistencies/Inconsistencies Among District”

The Board was introduced to the concept of protocols that are used in the SAU-wide Critical Friends groups. These protocols help CFG leaders conduct in-depth discussions. The board had been given a case study “Como esta Curricula SAU39?” Using this case study about the implementation of Spanish across the three school districts, small groups of administrators and Board members discussed the study using the protocol “Peeling the Onion.” Colleen Meaney led the group in this process.

At the end of the meeting the larger group summarized further questions as:

- Is there evidence of cultural misalignment among districts?
- Is this another example of why we should become one district?
- Do Board members have the courage to place and support valued items in the budget?
- Do Board members place too much value on their Ways and Means Committee’s recommendations?
- Why was it taken until now to look at this problem of inconsistency?
- Do SB2 or non-SB2 voting patterns have an impact on curriculum matters in the budget?

Discussion also centered on next steps. It was recommended by several members that we have a separate workshop on the topic instead of having it as an agenda item at a Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.