

SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 18, 2020
Final Minutes

Present: Dan Hayes, Steve Sullivan, Jen Malcolm-Brown, Katie Fiander, members; Lauren Thomas-Paquin, Chair; Jackie Mendonsa, Principal; Bruce Turner, Director of Finance & Operations; Jennifer Culkeen, Superintendent; Public Guests

A. Meeting Called to Order by Lauren at 6:28 P.M.

B. Public Hearings: None.

C. Review of Agenda and Perpetual Calendar: None.

D. Warrants and Gifts:

#321 4/06/20 \$68,552.52
#322 4/20/20 \$67,988.29
#323 5/04/20 \$69,351.22
#324 5/18/20 \$69,351.22
#325 6/01/20 \$70,874.17
#326 6/15/20 \$70,874.17
#327 6/29/20 \$70,874.17
#3018 3/24/20 \$29,659.30
#3020 4/07/20 \$10,649.36
#3021 4/25/20 \$06,521.68
#3022 5/07/20 \$25,330.66
#3023 5/21/20 \$05,003.55
#3024 6/03/20 \$13,604.82

E. Approval of Minutes from April 16, 2020:

SSC offered one amendment to the minutes.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2020 AS AMENDED. JEN SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

F. Unfinished Business / Updates: None.

G. New Business / Discussion Items:

1. Private School at Morse Hill:

Lauren reported that we're looking into what we need to do on our end about this proposal because we haven't run into this situation before.

2. Roof Condition-Repair – Discussion:

Lauren reported that the state has extended the age a roof needs to be before it is eligible for state/grant-funded repair, making our roof ineligible (it needs to be 30 years old now). Bruce added the state has effectively kicked the can down the road. After examining the state of the roof, he's begun thinking about how it needs to be addressed, through a complete redesign if need be. He'll talk with the Town about this. Jackie added that the rotting along the edge of the roof is just getting worse and worse because all the water is now directed off the edge and onto the sidewalk.

Jennifer suggested SSC make a formal written request for help to the Town.

DAN MOVED TO SEND A LETTER TO THE TOWN CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE, WITH COPIES TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND SELECT BOARD, ASKING FOR IMMEDIATE HELP REPAIRING THE ROOF. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

H. Reports:

1. Superintendent's Report: Jennifer reported that she and Bruce met with the Town Administrator in Erving to let him know that JSC supports the decentralization of Central Office, so we're moving ahead with plans to relocate to offices in each of the U#28 schools. She's also continuing to receive updates on reopening plans for the fall and has a meeting on that tomorrow; it's looking like a primarily state-designed plan this time.

Lauren asked whether there was an attempt to talk with teachers about what did and didn't go well. Yes: Jennifer said we're crafting a survey for staff as well as family.

2. Director of Finance and Operations:

Bruce reported that he's been hard at work with Jackie on final budget management; it looks like we'll be able to give some money back to the town at the end of this FY. We've been working on plans for purchasing needed technology as well as PPE for the fall. The CARES Act provided substantial funds to the communities around here, and they're sharing some of that towards PPE purchases. We haven't spent ours yet. We might also get some funds (\$10K or so) towards buying fuel for the next year. Jennifer added that we're trying to be prudent with the stimulus money we're getting this year because the financial repercussions of the pandemic will last a few years, but the stimulus won't.

- End-of-Year Transfers – Vote:

Bruce noted we supported staffing for our Food Service and After School Programs, and we need to transfer funds to cover those now.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,175 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FOOD SERVICE LINE, AND A TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,920 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM LINE. JEN SECONDED. UNANIMOUS. (ONE ABSTENTION.)

3. Principal's Report: Jackie reported that she got a pic of a moose on the playground! She gave a shout-out to all our staff during this difficult time; they are all SUPER and worked extremely hard to make things

work, and she can't say enough to thank them. Teachers didn't give out regular report cards, but instead narratives about each student's progress. We're making progress on one-to-one technology support for students (so all students have the technology they need to connect online). We had a 6th Grade Graduation parade that was wonderful! We've also hired a School Psychologist we're very happy to have. Teachers have been very busy preparing for the fall, trying to figure out all contingencies for different reopening models.

4. Amherst-Pelham Representative's Report: Steve reported that the region is trying to figure out what direction to go in for the fall and has already purchased some PPEs. They're also pushing late start for ARHS and ARMS for this fall. This will definitely impact our students due to bus routes; it's a big issue for us.

5. Union #28 Report, including Budget & Personnel: Jennifer reported that JSC met two weeks ago and talked about ways Central Office could assist all of our member Towns. Lauren informed SSC that Central Office is going to operate on a decentralized model starting this fall instead of finding a new location, which will save a significant amount of money, and the Central Office staff have also waived their COLA increases this year to support us, which we greatly appreciate.

6. CES Report: Dan reported that as a nonprofit, CES is eligible for the Payment Protection Program and is looking into that. We also completed the Executive Director evaluation and wrote a letter supported by all the Superintendents in Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties about the need to pursue social justice and equity. He's been asked by MASC to work on a Nominating Committee for new officers. Jennifer thanked CES for their support for Superintendents during this challenging time.

I. Policy Review:

Final Vote on:

JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services

DGA – Authorized Signatures

CH – Policy Implementation

CHD – Administration in Policy Absence

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY JFABD – HOMELESS STUDENTS: ENROLLMENT RIGHTS AND SERVICES. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY DGA – AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY CH – POLICY IMPLEMENTATION. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY CHD – ADMINISTRATION IN POLICY ABSENCE. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

J. Future Business:

- Shutesbury Policy Committee – Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
- Shutesbury School Committee – Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
- Union #28 Joint Supervisory Policy Committee – TBD
- Union #28 Joint Supervisory – TBD
- Budget and Personnel Committee – None
- Future agenda items –

K. Adjournment at 7:04 P.M.