

SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, August 24, 2017
Final Minutes

Present: Katie Fiander, Dan Hayes, Lauren Thomas-Paquin, members; Fred Steinberg, Chair; Jennifer Haggerty, Superintendent; Public Guests

A. Meeting Called to Order by Fred at 7:00 P.M.

B. Public Comments and Announcements

Lauren noted an article she'd like to share about a book (*Quiet* by Susan Cain) on approaching introverted students; the article makes very interesting points about how to handle them so that their needs are met.

SSC members praised the new curtain in the auditorium as well as a spate of new books in the library.

C. Director of Finance and Operations Report

Jennifer reported that Stephen Cass helped Bruce Tanner, our new Director of Finance and Operations, understand the ins and out of the budget. She and Bruce met with Susannah Lee, the state representative for Erving, New Salem, and Wendell; Lee was very interested in hearing about the issues facing the rural schools in her district and pledged her support for any grant applications U#28 might put forward.

There will be an out-of-district placement this year that will cost in excess of \$55,000; we did return about \$45,000 to the Town last fiscal year through Circuit Breaker funds we didn't end up using, so we should remind the Town that we returned these monies when we request this year's OOD funds. Special transportation is also needed for three students, an additional cost.

D. Review of Agenda and Perpetual Calendar

A review of the family handbook takes place in August. In September, SSC begins to review capital planning needs. Jennifer said MSBA has put out a Request for Proposals for the roof. Dan stressed the need for the Town Capital Planning Committee to be involved. There's also an All-Board Meeting in September. The Superintendent also starts to set new goals now, and Jennifer noted that we've switched the SIP date a bit.

E. Warrants and Gifts: None.

F. Approval of Minutes from June 15, 2017.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2017. LAUREN SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

G. Unfinished Business / Updates: None.

H. New Business / Discussion Items:

1. Homeschool Application: Dan said he would like the family to be aware of the services and programs offered by SES.

DAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE HOMESCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR LILIAN AND KATIE BECKEMEYER. LAUREN SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

I. Policy Review: None.

J. Reports

1. Principal's Report

Jennifer reported on behalf of Jackie, who is recovering from a root canal. (SSC sends their sympathies.) The first day of school is next Wednesday, August 30, and the Welcome Back night was a big success, including a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new track. There are updates within and without the building: a new stage curtain, new safety trees, the new track, hand dryers in four student bathrooms, and new technology carts. There are a number of new staff members as well, across several grades and areas. Enrollment stands at 123 currently.

2. Superintendent's Report

Jennifer reported that we have a new Curriculum Coordinator, Annie Foley-Ruiz.

3. Amherst-Pelham Representative's Report:

Fred VanDerbeck commented on a meeting held Tuesday; budget shifts (including a 10% increase in health insurance), contract approvals, and a financial dispute with the Chinese Immersion School were on the agenda. He thinks there will be more outreach from the new Chair.

4. Union #28 Report – including Budget and Personnel:

Dan reported that summer was quiet. The next meeting is September 18.

5. CES Report:

Dan reported that he'll be at the CES tomorrow morning to approve hires and separations. CES is looking at purchasing land next to it to provide more parking. There's some internal restructuring going on as well based on area of responsibility. Dan volunteered to help appoint or approve representatives to MASC.

K. Future Business

- Shutesbury Policy Committee – Thursday, September 21 6:30 p.m.
- Shutesbury School Committee – Thursday, September 21 7:00 p.m.
- Budget and Personnel Committee – TBD
- Union #28 Joint Supervisory – Monday, September 18, 2017 6:00 p.m. Supt. Office
- Future agenda items

L. Adjournment at 7:38