

SHUTESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 19, 2017
Final Minutes

Present: Katie Fiander, Steve Sullivan, Lauren Thomas-Paquin, members; Fred Steinberg, Chair; Jackie Mendonsa, Principal; Bruce Turner, Director of Finance and Operations; Jennifer Haggerty, Superintendent; Public Guests

A. Meeting Called to Order by Fred at 7:01 P.M.

B. Public Comments and Announcements

Fred noted that Michael DiChiara had passed on an announcement about a meeting between the Fin Com and the Selectboard next Thursday regarding proposed changes to the regional assessment formula.

C. Review of Agenda and Perpetual Calendar

D. Warrants and Gifts: None.

E. Approval of Minutes from September 21, 2017.

FRED MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2017. KATIE SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

F. Unfinished Business / Updates: None.

G. New Business / Discussion Items: None.

H. Policy Review:

Second Reading, First Vote on:

JLCEA – Life Threatening Allergy Policy

Jennifer reported that the Policy Subcommittee gratefully incorporated the Freditor's excellent corrections and suggestions into this policy.

LAUREN MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY JLCEA – LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY POLICY. FRED SECONDED. UNANIMOUS.

Policies for Discussion:

DI-A – Food Service Collection Policy

EFCA – Non-Payment for School Meals

Jennifer explained that these policies would give SSC final authority to write off debt from the school lunch program, if these debts can be covered elsewhere in the budget.

I. Reports

1. Director of Finance and Operations Report

Bruce reported that he's been invited to work with the Shutesbury Capital Planning Committee. He's also been looking into participation in the MSBA program to fix the school roof. He needs to get some more info from the Town for the End-of-Year Report. We're spending according to schedule so far. We'll also start to get things budgeted quite soon.

2. Principal's Report

Jackie reported that the Union-wide Curriculum Day is tomorrow; they'll be learning about Universal Design for Learning and trauma response practices. Students are coming in with a lot more needs nowadays and we'll be learning how to better support them. We had a successful Walk-A-Thon to raise money for Puerto Rico, and feedback on Open House has been very positive, so we'll likely stick to the same format in the future.

We're working on various pieces of the draft SIP now. Statewide MCAS data doesn't seem to be helpful for planning purposes at this point, although local data is. There are new state standards we're making sure we're meeting (MA no longer participates in Common Core). One new SIP goal we have related to UDL is rolling out the new tech we have and making sure students are taught to make maximal use of it. Other new goals are related to behavior and school culture expectations; we remain focused on making SES a welcoming and supportive place where students can receive an excellent elementary education.

As for the sidewalk, workers will be fixing portions of it Nov. 2-3; during this time, students and families need to use doors near the kitchen, and workers won't work from 12 to 1 while students are out on recess. Jackie is concerned that only certain slabs are being replaced, but that's the plan for now. In staffing news, Annie Foley has been hired as an interventionist for one year, while our 5th Grade teacher will be out the rest of the year; a temporary position has been posted, and the hiring committee will meet with candidates soon.

3. Superintendent's Report

Jennifer reported that the workshop leader for Curriculum Day tomorrow was a practicing teacher, so we're excited to learn from her. Food will be provided by the Leverett lunch program (the event is at LES), and the day will end with a screening of the film *Resilience*. We continue to transition to computer-based testing, as required by the state, and there is no level change due to MCAS scores, which seems to be happening across the board. She will do a walkthrough focused on UDL principles at SES soon, which will provide feedback to Jackie on what might be improved with regard to UDL. Finally, Jennifer continues to work with other superintendents to advocate for rural schools across the state.

4. Amherst-Pelham Representative's Report:

Steve reported that Dr. Morris has been appointed to the Superintendent position permanently; the next step is to negotiate his contract. Amherst has also been working hard to handle an influx of Puerto Rican families and students. He was surprised to learn that he is apparently a permanent member of the Capital Planning Committee, and is glad to continue serving in that capacity.

5. Union #28 Report – including Budget and Personnel: No report.

6. CES Report: No report.

K. Future Business

- Shutesbury Policy Committee – Thursday, November 16, 6:30 p.m.

- Shutesbury School Committee – Thursday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.
- Budget and Personnel Committee – Tuesday, October 24, 6:00 p.m. Central Office
- Union #28 Joint Supervisory – Monday, November 13, 2017 7:00 p.m. Erving Elementary
- Future agenda items –

L. Adjournment at 7:29