

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

GARVIN LIBRARY

January 3, 2018

Present:

Board Members: Brent Abare, Paul Hazel, Judy Murray, Julie Oliver, Wade Parker, Kelsey Root-Winchester, Josh Souliere, Bruce Stevens

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Scott Blood, Lori Blood

Members of the Public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Bruce Stevens, Chair
- II. Journalism Class
 - A. High School Journalism teacher Tracy Puffer and two students shared the evolution of the Broadcast Journalism class where video announcements are prepared and delivered each day, noting the progress that the students have made
 - B. Their goals include doing live broadcasts of school events, such as Athletic/Academic events, Preschool Art Show, Concerts, Graduation, School Board meetings, and Town Select Board meetings
 - C. Hope to do a Journalism 1 and a Journalism 2 class with a studio space and a classroom space
 - D. Tentative plans for a Partnership with LSC
 - E. Opportunities for 21st Century Skills and Transferrable Skills
- III. Final Budget
 - A. Emilie Knisley and Lori Blood presented proposed budget figures, and draft figures on the tax rate and common level of appraisal comparison, and answered questions
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Kelsey Root-Winchester to approve the Board minutes of December 20, 2017. Motion voted on and approved with six in favor, one opposed (Brent Abare), and one abstention (Paul Hazel)
 - B. Orders will be approved by committee
 - C. Administrative Reports
 1. Supt. Emilie Knisley
 - a. AGS proposal delivered to AOE
 - b. Working on next year's calendar
 - c. Are having an insurance company come and do an assessment of the playground
 - d. Reaching out to other schools to see if they have done renovations of playgrounds and what recommendations they might have
 2. Principal Scott Blood
 - a. Trauma team will be meeting and discussing ways to work with students who have gone through trauma

- b. Pushing to improve Tier 1 instruction instead of trying to meet all the needs in small groups or individually
 - c. Shifting to a best practice model as we hire new staff
 - d. Supporting the behavior needs of students
 - e. Just starting hiring process for Assistant Principal
 - f. Working with staff on their mission statement and goals
 - 3. Business Manager Lori Blood
 - A. Audit will be approved tonight. It was received from the Auditors with no findings
- V. Public Participation--None
- VI. Report of Committees
 - A. Building and Grounds (Emilie Knisley)
 - 1. Playground improvements and Playground Equipment upgrades were discussed, as well as the Marquee display at end of driveway
- VII. Action Items
 - A. Motion by Brent Abare, seconded by Josh Souliereto approve the audit, with thanks to Lori Blood and others for doing such a good job. Motion voted on and approved with one abstention (Paul Hazel)
 - B. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Josh Souliere that the school board warn a budget to expend \$8,786,500, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year. It is estimated that this proposed budget will result in education spending of \$16,038.02 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is .9% less than spending for the current year. Motion voted on and approved unanimously, and Board members signed the warning
 - C. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Kelsey Root-Winchester to set the announced tuition rates for FY 19 at \$12,200 for elementary students and \$15,300 for secondary students, which is the same as 2018. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
- VIII. Correspondence--None
- IX. Executive Session--None
- X. Old Business
 - A. Will plan to invite students and staff involved in Cape Cod Sea Camps, Forensics, and the Belize trip to come to a future Board meeting to present to the Board
- XI. Review "To Do List"
 - A. Pre-Board scheduled to meet Friday, January 12, 2018 at 2:00 PM
 - B. Buildings and Grounds Committee scheduled to meet prior to the January 17, 2018 Board meeting
- XII. Setting the Next Agenda--Done

Meeting adjourned at 8:27

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.