

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

GARVIN LIBRARY

March 28, 2018

Present:

Board Members: Brent Abare, Angeline Alley, Sara Dennis, Paul Hazel, Judy Murray, Julie Oliver, Wade Parker, Kelsey Root-Winchester, Bruce Stevens, Chair

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Scott Blood, Donna Waelter, Lori Blood

Members of the Public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Bruce Stevens, Chair
- II. Belize Trip Presentation
 - A. Students and chaperones, who had gone on the trip to Belize in January, shared photos and videos and talked of their experiences
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Paul Hazel to approve the Board minutes of February 28, 2018. Motion voted on and carried with two abstentions (Angeline Alley and Julie Oliver)
 - B. Bruce Stevens welcomed Angeline Alley back to the Board, and congratulated Sara Dennis and Judy Murray on their re-election
 - C. Administrative Reports
 1. Principal Scott Blood
 - A. Report on hiring status of open positions
 - B. Next year's high school schedule will include 5-minute passing time between classes
 - C. Will pilot a new course selection process this Thursday and Friday
 1. Hoping it will get parents more involved
 - D. Will be making a proposal to the Board to increase the number of credits required for graduation from 23 credits to 26 credits
 2. Business Manager Lori Blood
 - A. Distributed summary of expenses by cost centers for entire year
 3. Special Education Director Donna Waelter
 - A. Will be major change in next few years in how special education is funded
 1. Will be transitioning to census based funding
 - B. Child count came back in December
 4. Supt. Emilie Knisley
 - A. YATST planned and carried out a remembrance walk on March 14, 2018
 1. Sec. of Education Rebecca Holcomb came and participated
 - B. Data on winter local assessment included in Board packet
 - C. Received about \$10,000 from Agency of Ed. For Title IV funds

1. Used money to buy equipment and supplies for robotics program
 - D. Received \$15,000 from Agency of Education in targeted funds to be used on continuous improvement plan
 1. Very specific on how funds can be used
 2. Hope to have three weeks of curriculum camp over the summer for teachers to come in and do curriculum work
 - E. ESSA replacing NCLB.
 1. Each state had to write accountability plan
 - a. State of VT will look at how students grow over time in Grades 3-9
 - b. New physical fitness measure will be added
 - c. Are students graduating college and career ready?
- IV. Public Participation—at beginning of meeting during Belize presentation
- V. Report of Committees
- A. Buildings and Grounds (Wade Parker)
 1. Met with people from Cross VT Trails, who are willing to help maintain these trails
 2. Sign at end of driveway
 - a. May be zoning laws to which we need to adhere
 3. Three initial proposals for new playground equipment, safety issues, and grading
 4. Looked at possibilities regarding building for sale adjacent to driveway
- VI. Action Items
- A. Motion by Brent Abare, seconded by Angeline Alley to adopt Policy 4105. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - B. Motion by Kelsey Root-Winchester, seconded by Sara Dennis to approve Procedure 4105 as clarified. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - C. Motion by Kelsey Root-Winchester, seconded by Sara Dennis to adopt Policy 4100 (Student Attendance). Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - D. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Brent Abare to approve Procedure 4100. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - E. Sub Rate of Pay Discussion
 1. Motion by Brent Abare, seconded by Paul Hazel to approve an hourly rate of \$13.25, as recommended by the Superintendent, with an incentive of \$.25 increase per hour after 10 days. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - F. Little Rivers Partnership
 1. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Angeline Alley to authorize the Superintendent to sign an agreement to approve the partnership with Little Rivers. Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 1. This will start April 23, 2018
- VII. Correspondence

- A. Letter of resignation was received from Janet Heimbach, effective March 9, 2018. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Judy Murray to accept her resignation with regret Motion voted on and approved unanimously
 - B. Chairman Stevens has signed letter to Sec. of Education Holcomb, dated and sent March 19, 2018, regarding Emilie Knisley's resignation as Superintendent
 - 1. BMU needs to hear from the new Secretary of Education as to whether permission is granted to hire a new Superintendent
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. Emilie Knisley, Bruce Stevens, Brent Abare, Paul Hazel, and Judy Murray met with Sec. Rebecca Holcomb on March 15, 2018.
 - 1. They made their case regarding BMU's AGS proposal
 - 2. The Board members will be kept informed as developments happen in light of Sec. Holcomb's resignation
 - B. The Board members signed a letter addressed to Governor Scott, Legislative Leaders, and the State Board of Education requesting consideration to postpone Act 46 for a minimum of three months from the time a new Secretary of Education has been appointed
- IX. Review "To Do List"--Done
- X. Setting the Next Agenda
 - A. Board reorganization
- XI. Executive Session
 - A. Motion by Angeline Alley, seconded by Judy Murray to enter Executive Session at 9:16 PM, pursuant to Title I, Sec 313 (a) (1) Administrative Contracts. Motion voted on and approved unanimously. Accompanying the Board were Emilie Knisley and Scott Blood
 - B. Motion by Judy Murray, seconded by Paul Hazel to exit Executive Session at 9:45 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.
- XII. Action—None taken

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

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