

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

GARVIN LIBRARY

December 6, 2017

Present:

Board Members: Brent Abare, Sara Dennis, 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
 - A. Those present were welcomed
- II. Review of Board Code of Ethics and Conduct
 - A. The Chair stressed the need for voicing opinions respectfully and treating other board members with respect
- III. Curriculum Presentation: English Language Arts, Math, World Language
 - A. Motion by Brent Abare, seconded by Sara Dennis to postpone the presentation on curriculum until a subsequent meeting. After discussion, motion and second were withdrawn.
 - B. Dr. John Barone presented Curriculum Updates
 1. Goal has been to have Board Approved K-12 Curricular Frameworks in all content areas by the end of December 2017
 2. Health & Guidance Curriculum is anticipated to be ready for Board Approval by February 2018
 3. Moving toward a proficiency based education throughout State of VT
 - A. To Knows: The K-12 Curricular Frameworks
 - B. To Do's: The Course Level & Graduation Requirements
 4. Addressing ACT 77 and ESSA
 - A. Personalized Learning Plan, including work based learning
 - B. Students to be college and career ready when they graduate
 5. Will be doing a community based presentation to inform parents and community members of changes
- IV. Act 46 Update: AGS Plan Guidance
 - A. Supt. Knisley shared content of e-mail from AOE Attorney Donna Russo-Savage on the process and timeline for submitting proposal for Alternative Governance Structure
 1. By end of December 2017, school needs to submit proposal to AOE proposing what steps the school wants to take next
 2. June 1, 2018, Secretary Holcomb will issue the proposed statewide plan that may or may not incorporate the Section 9 proposals
 3. November 30, 2018—State Board of Education issues final statewide plan that may or may not incorporate the Sec. 9 proposals
- V. B. Supt. Knisley then explained the AGS Proposal Outline

1. Summarized work completed since Act 46 became law, exploring options with various neighboring schools and districts
2. Discussion and questions included:
 - a. Where tax savings would come from, or would there be any?
 - b. Results of survey
 - c. Timeline for proposal
 - d. On-going conversations with Newbury
 - e. Make the case as strongly as we can for what we think is good—US
 - f. Time-line for what may happen after November 2018
 - g. How heavily will they weigh our test scores?
 - h. Amount of time students would need to spend on buses
 - i. Is the law constitutional?
3. After discussion, the Board gave the following guidance to Supt. Knisley, as she writes the AGS proposal:
 - a. **Keep our Blue Mountain USD, but have contractual agreements with Danville and Caledonia Central. Newbury is welcome to join us if able.**

- VI. School Finance 101 and Budget Draft #1
 - A. Watched video from VSBA entitled “Vermont Education Funding System”
 - B. Business Manager Lori Blood reviewed the Working Draft for the budget preparation
 1. Questions and comments
 2. Will have more refined figures for Board meeting December 20, 2017
- VII. Consent Agenda
 - A. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Sara Dennis to approve Board minutes of November 1, 2017. Motion voted on and approved with one abstention (Paul Hazel).
 1. Board minutes of November 26, 2017 and November 29, 2017 will be deferred until subsequent meeting
 - B. Orders will be approved by committee
 - C. Administrative Reports
 1. Principal Scott Blood
 - a. Clarified report of SBAC scores
 2. Business Manager Lori Blood
 - a. Preliminary report from auditors has been received, and final draft documents will be shared as soon as they are available.
- VIII. Report of Committees: Buildings and Grounds
 - A. Buildings and Grounds committee
 - 1.. Members visited building adjacent to school, which is currently vacant
 2. They will have a consultant from the State visit to see what would need to be done to bring it up to code for students
 3. Considering placing picnic tables near the greenhouse and fencing at the top of the hill at edge of playground
- IX. Action Items
 - A. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Josh Souliere to adopt Curriculum Documents: ELA, World Language, Math. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

B. Motion by Julie Oliver, seconded by Kelsey Root-Winchester to authorize the Chair to sign the MOA with the BMEA regarding School Psychological Services. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

C. Motion by Paul Hazel, seconded by Josh Souliere to accept the resignations of teachers Joe Comeno, Trudy Fadden, and Steve Peck, with regret, effective June 30, 2018. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

X. Correspondence—None

XI. Executive Session

A. Motion by Josh Souliere, seconded by Judy Murray to move into Executive Session at 9:55 PM, pursuant to VSA Sec. 313 (a) (3), Employment of an Employee. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

B. Motion by Brent Abare, seconded by Sara Dennis to exit Executive Session at 10:01 PM

XII. Action—None

XIII. Old Business—None

XIV. Review “To Do List”—Done

XV. Setting the Next Agenda—Done

A. Board members are invited to attend the Newbury Board meeting tomorrow evening, December 7, 2017 at 5:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM

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.