

**TROY SCHOOL
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Troy School
September 7, 2017 at 6:00 P.M.**

I Call the Meeting to Order - Gaston called the meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag – The pledge was recited

Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda - Gaston added:

- **Financial Report** – add ‘Recapture Overview’ (Information)
- **Unfinished/New Business** – add ‘Act 46 District-to-District Conversation with Newport Town Elementary School’
- **Unfinished/New Business** – add ‘Request for Discretionary Day (Kim McCarthy)’
- **Other Business** – add ‘Distribute 2017 - 2018 Board Goals’
- **Meetings** - add ‘District-to-district conversation with Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School on September 19, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.’

II Approve the minutes of August 3, 2017 – motion to table minutes approval to allow time for the Board to identify format and content of meeting minutes. **BATHALON/APPROVED**

III Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens - No comments made.

IV Program Presentation

A. Schoolwide Expectations – faculty/staff making presentation were Jessica Hinton, School Counselor; Kara Campbell, School Therapist; and Matt Farney, Behavioral interventionist. Together, with the Principal, they form the Troy School Intervention Team. Key discussion points included types of trauma in children and trauma informed practices (Kara), the responsive classroom and belief that social development is as important as academic development (Jessica), and the restorative approach to solving student behavior issues (Matt). For the 2018 school year, respect (HOWLs Rubric, Habits of Work and Learning) is the focus.

V Financial Report

Action:

A. Approve the Warrants **BATHALON/APPROVED**

B. Approve the Financial Report of August 2017 - Cliff requests discussion on preK electricity budget be added to next month’s agenda. **BATHALON/APPROVED**

Information/Discussion:

C. AGENDA ADD - Recapture Overview: the state ‘recapture’ amount, from the education fund, will reduce revenues by \$34,726 in SFY 2018 and by \$18,699 in SFY 2019.

VI Principal’s Report – discussion focused on:

- Bus driver vacancy (Lucy Dobler will fill the position vacated by Kim Bowman leaving Lucy’s position vacant, AD posted ; the candidate for Lucy’s position may have been identified; in keeping with past practice, the Board reaffirmed that required testing and training fees, including hourly pay, will be paid for by the Board).
- Kindergarten class requires a full time paraeducator for two students needing one-on-one support (AD posted).
- Vacant Athletics Coordinator/Director responsibilities covered by Chris (AD posted).
- John Elliott, Shawn Provencher, and Roland Blais were praised for their efforts in completing summer projects.

BATHALON/APPROVED

VII Superintendent's Report – discussion focused on:

- NCSU Full-Board Fall Forum, September 21, with staff from The Public Assets Institute facilitating forum discussions.

Bathalon/**APPROVED**

VIII Unfinished/New Business

A. Act 46 – John reviewed the timeline for submission of NCSU alternative structure proposal to the VT Agency of Education (submission goal is DEC). The proposal will first be approved by the NCSU Executive Committee (OCT meeting) followed by review and approval by member school districts (NOV meetings). The review and discussion of the alternate structure proposal could serve as a topic for community fall forum hosted by local School Boards.

B. AGENDA ADD - Request for Discretionary Day (Kim McCarthy) on or about September 30, 2017.

FORSTER/**APPROVED**

C. AGENDA ADD - Act 46 District-to-District Conversation with Newport Town Elementary School (7:30 P.M.): Mr. Castle welcomed the NTES Board and Principal, reviewed legislative goals of ACT 46, and summarized guiding questions. Discussion highlights in response to each guiding question included:

1. How do our schools currently work together? What is working well and how might we improve upon our current arrangements?

- schools differ in that NTES is preK – 6th grade while TS is preK – 8th grade
- no shared staff for SFY 2018 with no immediate need
- informal discussions between staffs occur (e.g., students transferring from one school to another)
- two (2) Newport Town students attend TS (preK and 8th grade)
- NTES students are invited to participate in NCSU Rock Fest (held at TS)
- NTES recently hired TS staff whose position was not required

2. Are there opportunities for new or additional collaboration between our schools? (programs, staffing, combining resources, etc...)

- sharing of staff is based on need (both school districts support sharing staff between schools)
- possible sharing of TS, Director of Maintenance, to oversee physical structure needs and grant applications
- TS athletic capacity may allow for joint extracurricular athletics teams
- Town sponsored recreation leagues, although not school sponsored, allow for facility use by neighboring towns
- given that the TS music teacher is shared with the Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School, could NTES students be bused to TS for music classes? Could a music teacher be shared between the three schools (TS, NTES, and Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School)?
- allowing students to participate in neighboring school district's after school program (perhaps with different offerings) could provide more choice and/or opportunities
- NTES students enjoyed participating in the TS Color-A-Thon (PTA-sponsored event)
- given that both schools participate in the Jay Peak ski program (usually held on the same day) perhaps students from both schools could be grouped by skiing/riding ability to better utilize ski/ride coaching
- allowing neighboring school districts to participate in summer programs may provide added choice for students and parents
- perhaps the schools could collaborate in presenting a joint musical or play
- sharing of bus driver is not feasible given the distances between schools and similar school start times
- the schools could collaborate for 'Literacy Week', reading challenges, math fairs, or spelling bees

- staff could form local informal groups centered on program implementation (e.g., problem based learning or Bridges in Mathematics) to share insights
- a guest speaker (e.g., wildlife biologist) may provide an opportunity for a neighboring school to bus students to attend the presentation

3. Is there any reason to consider combining governance between two or more Districts?

- clarify this would be one board (joint) to oversee the operation of both school buildings
- difficult to gauge success given that both schools have different needs
- no, it was clear that voters at Town Meeting wanted to keep local control of its school
- past discussion to form a junior high school (Jay, Lowell, Newport Town, Troy, and Westfield) was unsuccessful

4. How might we work as a supervisory union to meet the goals of Act 46?

- NCSU could host sharing document(s) using Google Docs, e.g., coordinate concert schedules
- assist districts with busing/transportation needs, e.g., assist with SPED and out of district transportation needs/requirements
- NCSU Superintendent attends most member school district regular Board meetings (a practice that is greatly appreciated and beneficial to local boards)
- retaining the autonomy of school districts is important yet, as neighbors, happenstance dictates needs and opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources
- distances between schools offset gains that centralized ordering could have in smaller school districts – given the need for centralized storage, distribution oversight and delivery, and stock control

IX Other Business

A. AGENDA ADD - Distribute 2017 - 2018 Board Goals

X Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting (October 5, 2017):

- Status of NCSU Alternative Structure Proposal (John)
- Community Fall Forum (Gaston and Chris)
- Consumption of alcohol on school property, i.e., school ballfield located behind American Legion Post No. 28 (John)
- PreK electricity costs - account number 01-100-2611-5622-00-209-11, page 10 of 12 (Chris and Glenn)

XI Executive Session - NA

XII Adjourn 8:25PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby Armstrong
Gaston Bathalon

Present

Board:

Gaston Bathalon, Chair

Carol Currier

Mike Desautels (arrived after the meeting was called to order)

Cliff Forster (arrived after the meeting was called to order)

Richard Wells

Administration:

John Castle, Superintendent, NCSU

Glenn Hankinson, Director of Business and Finance, NCSU

Chris Young, Principal, Troy School

Abby Armstrong, Administrative Assistant, Troy School

Community/Staff:

Jessica Hinton

Kara Campbell

Matt Farney

Lucy Dobler

John Elliott

Andrea Machado

Dawn Greenwood

Newport Town Elementary School:

Sarah Hardin, Chair

Lauren Dillon, Member

Chris Hammond, Member

Jill Raymond, Member

Dari Joi Glover, Member

Wendy Wood, Principal