

Brighton Elementary School Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Members:

Katie Mientka
Melanie Yasharian
Jeanne Gervais
Cass Lyons
David Pepin

Administrators:

Denise Russell, Principal
Glenn Hankinson, NCSU Financial Office
* John Castle

* Denotes Absence

I. The meeting was called to order by Katie Mientka at 6:30pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Jeanne Gervais moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2016. Melanie Yasharian seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens

- Four community members were present; the Board would like to thank them for their participation.

IV. Financial Report

A. Warrants were reviewed and signed.

B. Financial report of September, 2016 was reviewed. Melanie Yasharian moved to accept the report. Jeanne Gervais seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

V. Principal's Report

Denise Russell presented the Principal's Report, including a discussion on the BES MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Goals and Action Plan 2016-2018. Ms. Russell explained how the goals were identified and what ongoing actions staff is taking to implement the plan.

A. Jeanne Gervais moved to approve the BES MTSS Goals and Action Plan 2016-2018. Cass Lyons seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent John Castle was unable to attend. Glenn Hankinson discussed:

A. Act 46 and "alternative models" of governance.

B. Geographical isolation in relation to the Small Schools Grant.

C. Possible grant monies available for informal studies on consolidation/alternative models.

VII. Unfinished/New Business

A. AOE Vermont Education Quality Standards, Variance and Waiver Requests

Brighton Elementary School is out of compliance with Vermont Education Quality Standards in two areas: the AOE (Agency of Education) requires a full-time registered nurse on staff, as well as a certified library media specialist. The AOE can grant a waiver for these requirements.

Action: Melanie Yasharian moved to accept the variance and waiver requests for the full-time nurse and certified library media specialist requirements. Cass Lyons seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. Roof Replacement Comparative Cost Assessment

Glenn Hankinson and Denise Russell presented a cost comparison for roof repair/replacement options. Additional information regarding the cost of financing will be provided by Mr. Hankinson. The Board will study the proposals and make a recommendation to voters at Town Meeting 2017.

C. Enrollment Projections

Denise Russell presented enrollment projections for the 2017 school year. Numbers indicate strong elementary school class sizes with continued low enrollment for grades 5-8. Ms. Russell noted that, given the larger preK-4 grade classes, an additional teacher may be required. A community member noted that the school should look first at internal resources to fill that role. Board member Jeanne Gervais noted that it is also important to be sensitive to grade/teaching assignments so teachers are not continually reassigned. The school board directed Ms. Russell to bring forth a budget plan that makes use of existing teacher resources to adapt to projected enrollment growth in grades preK-4 while minimizing reassignments.

VIII. Other Business

The Board declined to designate a VEHI and VSBIT proxy.

IX. Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

X. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Jeanne Gervais at 7:55pm.. Seconded by Melanie Yasharian. All in favor. Motion carried.

Submitted by Katie Mientka