

**HOLLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Holland Elementary School**  
**November 3, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.**  
**At Holland School**  
**Minutes**

Board Members: Lincoln Petell-Chair  
 Louise Campbell-Vice Chair  
 Kim Champney-Clerk

Administrative Staff:  
 Kelli Dean-Principal  
 John Castle-Superintendent

**I Call the Meeting to Order,**

L. Petell called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

**Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda**

- Remove action “b” from new business, already acted on at October meeting.

**II Approve the minutes of October 6 and October 12, 2015**

L. Campbell made a motion to approve minutes of October 6<sup>th</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup>.  
 L. Petell seconded. Motion carries.

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

None

**IV Financial Report**

**Board Warrant FY16**

<b>Check#</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Check Date</b>	<b>FY16 Amount</b>
4271-4290	Payroll	10/15/15	\$18,023.13
4291-4309	Payroll	10/29/15	\$18,078.56
4310-4311	Accounts Payable	10/28/15	\$3,597.41
4312-4334	Accounts Payable	11/3/15	\$54,081.42
<b>Total Orders</b>			<b>\$93,780.52</b>

**Student Activities Fund**

Beginning Balance		\$17,577.19
Adjustments To Prior Month		\$0
Deposits to Date	10/7/15-11/2/15	\$190.00
Checks To Date	10/7/15-11/2/15	(\$588.69)
Activities Balance		<b>\$17,178.50</b>

Action:

A. Approve the Warrants

L. Campbell made a motion to approve board warrants. K. Champney seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approve the Financial Report of November 2015

L. Campbell made a motion to approve the financial report for November 2015. K. Champney seconded. Motion carried.

Information:

A. Audit Notification

Kelli read the letter from Pace & Hawley, LLC. Stating they will begin their audit for the school year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. They expect to issue their report by March 31, 2016.

V **Principal's Report: written by Kelli Dean**

**Celebrations:**

The response to the information presented at the Community Forum was received positively by the fifty or so people that attended. The general feeling at the meeting was that the community would like to continue to see the school stay open.

**Events & Activities:**

Our Harvest Dinner and Open House were successful by several measures. Almost all of our families attended and expressed great interest in what the children were learning and enthusiasm for how the year had begun. Mr. Brennan, our music teacher, led the students in performing for a crowd of about 100 family and community members; the wonderful dinner was prepared by the students and our Farm to School team. The evening was a celebration of learning and a coming together of friends, family, and community.

Representatives from the VFW spoke to the children about conducting a food drive to help refill the food shelf at the United Church of Newport and to support local veterans.

The VFW also donated dictionaries to the third grade classroom.

North Country Hospital's Outreach Program donated new books to the students in the younger grade community and Operation Outreach also donated grade level books to each classroom.

**Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment:**

Natalie Kinsey Warnock visited Holland Elementary School three days in October as part of the upper grade's unit on Rules to Live By. Natalie teaches a program she calls Story Keepers in which students learn how to research their family history. For the purposes of this unit, she tweaked her teaching to focus the students' research of Holland residents that lived in the earlier part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She brought to the students her own experiences with writing the stories that were passed down in her family and how to learn about the past through such artifacts as town records, old photographs, and personal items such as homemade quilts. The students were very engaged in this hands-on learning.

Teachers participated in a day of in-service at the school at the end of the month. They engaged in collaborative work around writing instruction and reflected on the units of study they are currently teaching, using their time to adjust and finalize the lessons in the units.

**Facilities:**

I purchased new blinds for all the windows and the phone system has been upgraded to include a new cordless phone hooked into the current system. The administrative assistant's phone was replaced with one from another room that works better.

**Finances:**

The Community Eligibility Provision has been put into effect and letters have been sent to families indicating that all students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. Families will also receive a reimbursement for meals paid for since the beginning of the 2015 school year.

Kelli also mentioned that Turning Points are moving in to the Morgan school and Deanna has agreed to provide meals for those students as well as our Holland students. Details will be discussed later. Also the freezer compressor went last week but it is still under warranty. We will be responsible for the labor fees.

## VI Superintendent's Report

- John explained that he and Lincoln will be giving an interview on Monday to Erica Heilman of Rumble Strip Vermont. She airs podcasts of interviews she does with Vermonters. She wants to talk about Act 46 and how it could affect Vermonters. We can find her and other podcasts @ rumblestripvermont.com.
- John went over the Special Educators Centralization option charts they have put together. They had all the options listed that could potentially be voted on. Centralization costs will be assessed either by actual cost to schools, enrollment per school, or number of equalized pupils. They may also vote to use a three-year phase-in for schools. District board members will be voting on which option the supervisory will use in coming months. Overall it seems to have been a cumbersome task that no one seems pleased about, but if the supervisory doesn't comply with centralizing Special Education there will be hefty penalties implied by the State.

## VII New Business

### Information/Discussion:

A. Playground update: Bart Jacobs did some repairs to the playground that were required by inspectors. Each year Holland receives funding and if the inspectors find things that need to be fixed or changed we are required to do them or risk losing any funding.

- Repairs to the sandbox
- Tire swings removed and replaced with regular swings
- Removal of tires not within woodchip boundary
- Additional woodchips around swings

B. Community Forum follow-up: Everyone was pleased with the turn out for the forum. Information given seemed to be clear to those who attended. Kelli has started a newsletter to send out to the community as requested. The school will try and send out three this year through the mail. Other suggestions from the board were that it could be sent out through the town email system to those on the list if funding became an issue.

### B. Special Education Centralization

(See above in Superintendents report)

D. FY17 Budget: Kelli and Glenn sat down to begin going over the coming year's budget. So far, there doesn't seem to be any substantial changes this year.

### Action:

#### A. Ratification of Successor Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement

(Executive session requested)

#### B. Approve Action Plan: Satisfied action at last meeting

## VIII Unfinished/Other Business

None

## IX Agenda Items

**Date for Next Board Meeting – December 1st**

- FY17 Budget

## X Executive Session

K. Champney made a motion to enter into executive session for information about negotiations. L. Campbell seconded. Motion carries.

Entered executive session at 7:36pm.

Exited executive session at 7:58pm.

**XI Adjourn**

L. Petell adjourned at 8:05pm.

<b><u>Meetings:</u></b>	<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
NCSU Policy Committee	Thursday	November 19	5:30 p.m.	NCSU A213
NCSU Executive Committee	Thursday	November 19	6:30 p.m.	NCSU A209
Holland Board	Tuesday	December 1	6:00 p.m.	Holland School