

HOLLAND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Holland Elementary School
April 5, 2016 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
 Glenn Hankinson, Director of Finance & Business

Present:
 Lenny Brien
 Bob Wood

I Call Meeting to Order

L. Petell called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

II Approve Minutes of March 14, 2016

L. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes of March 14, 2016.
 L. Petell seconded. Motion carried.

III Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens

None

IV Financial Report

Holland Elementary School
Board Warrant
FY16
Board Meeting: April 5, 2016

Check#	Description	Check Date	FY15 Amount
4663-4684	Payroll	3/17/16	\$17,147.48
4685-4708	Payroll	3/31/16	\$20,554.72
4709	Accounts Payable	3/31/16	\$2,110.08
4710-4736	Accounts Payable	4/5/16	\$34,053.62
4737-4742	Accounts Payable	4/5/16	\$2,360.38
Total Orders:			\$76,226.28

Student Activities Fund

Beginning Balance		\$13,907.44
Deposits To Date	3/15-4/5	\$0
Checks To Date	3/15-4/5	(\$177.57)
Activities Balance:		\$13,729.87

Glenn asked The Board if there were any questions about the financial report for March 2016. He also distributed the Annual Independent Auditor's Report dated June 30, 2015, for The Boards review. He will go over the Audit Review at next month's meeting. Glenn asked The Board to review the Budget Transfer Request Form regarding the Contingency for Teacher Negotiations. After a brief explanation the Board agreed to take action.

Action:

A. Approve the Warrants:

- L. Campbell made a motion to approve the warrants.
- L. Petell seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approve the Financial Report for March, 2016:

- L. Petell made a motion to approve the Financial Report for March 2016.
- K. Champney seconded. Motion carried.

C. Approve the Budget Transfer of Contingency Funds For Teacher Negotiations:

- L. Campbell made a motion to approve the budget transfer of contingency funds for teacher negotiations. L. Petell seconded. Motion carried.

VI **Principal's Report**

By Kelli Dean

Celebrations:

We are welcoming the arrival of spring, which brings mud-season along with it! We had seven staff/student birthdays to celebrate in March.

Events & Activities:

March has been a busy month for our preschoolers. In conjunction with their study of the different types of pets that people have, they visited Pick and Shovel for a tour of the pet shop; they came back with a new classmate, Jumpy Gold. They are learning what care is involved in keeping your pet safe, healthy and happy. Outside their classroom is a bulletin board featuring pets belonging to our Holland staff. Sugarhouses and dairy farms were also on their list of places to visit; they tasted fresh maple syrup at the Marquis sugarhouse, and watched robots in action at the Dairy Air Farm.

Our sixth graders have also been busy. They hosted a bake sale during town meeting and organized a bottle drive later that week. They are also selling raffle tickets for a cord of wood donated by Ron Gilfillan; the drawing will be held in April. Money raised will go towards their end of year trip to the Lake Placid area of New York.

The ENCORE Program began a new round of programs after our winter break. This session finds students engaging in cooking programs, learning about sports around the world, experimenting with various growing projects, studying nature, and collaborating on a wood-burning project to donate to the community. The Holland Ambassadors program continues its weekly, much-anticipated activities with residents at Michaud Manor.

Early in the month leaders from Northwoods Stewardship Center spent half a day at our school for the culmination of a series of winter activities programs. They set up stations outside and student groups spent the afternoon participating in activities ranging from games and a snowball biathlon to coal and wood fire-burning.

Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment:

Modeling the importance of being a life-long learner, the faculty and staff at Holland Elementary School participate in regular professional development to learn about new programs, best practice in instruction, and the newest research that addresses students' emotional and behavioral needs. This month several teachers and support staff participated in local (SU sponsored professional development) or those offered in other places in the state. The following is a list of new learning in which people participated:

- *Kelli Dean and Sabrina Zervas attended a VTHEC workshop entitled "Getting to (and Surviving) Standards Based Grading" to support the move toward changes in our grading and feedback practices both at Holland and across NCSU
- *Brenda Maple, Dina DeSena and Kelly Zerwek traveled to Burlington to participate in a workshop on Autism.
- *Natalie attended a Vermont Reads Institute workshop that supports her role as Holland Elementary School's in-house literacy coach
- *During our most recent professional development day, Joanne Whitelaw attended the annual Vermont Kindergarten Conference. Joanne is also attending school to earn her early childhood teaching endorsement.
- *Dina attended a session of the NCSU Continuum of Instruction. This is a series of workshops offered by the supervisory union to supports intervention teachers.
- *Sabrina participated in a CMP3 meeting. CMP3 is the sixth grade math program that has recently been implemented.
- *Christine Almodovar attended the Grade Level Meeting for 5th grade with other NCSU 5th grade teachers.
- *Report cards were sent home and conferences were held over the course of several days this week

Facilities:

- *Our mystery monster noise seems to have been resolved by Fred's. They surmise that a build-up of minerals, etc. on certain valves is allowing water/air to get into the system which can create a racket of a noise.
- *The kitchen "septic" out front needs some work as the cover has been moved (possibly by a plow) and the dirt is sinking around it. Mario Paul Excavating came to look at it this week and said they can fix it rather easily by resetting the cover and backfilling around the tank; this should be done in the next few days.
- *Sonny's bus radio has been having some problems communicating with the school radio. Clark Communications worked on it; the antenna was replaced along with a disk, and it seems okay now.

VII Superintendent's Report**Brief Overview of:**

- the Full Supervisory Annual meeting agenda
- progress of the leadership meeting that Kelli has been involved with

VIII Unfinished Business

- A) Lincoln & Kim opened and read three lawn mowing and trimming bids. L. Petell made a motion to accept the lawn mowing bid from Fortin Property Management for the 2016 season. K. Champney seconded. Motion carried.
- B) The Board has decided to defer the bus contract renewal until after the budget revote. They also requested that the bus currently owned by the school receive a full inspection as well.
 - *Inquire about additional mileage to lease should bus leases renewal be required.

Informational Meeting/Discussion on Budget Revote

Glenn prepared an exceptional packet of graphs and charts to go over for the budget revote discussion. The Board asked if we could please go over each chart and allow for questions. Discussion ensued. Confusion over how the state calculates the school tax for Holland was readdressed. Here are a few charts and explanations that were given:

Property Dollar Equivalent Yield: This is an amount set by the legislature. It is the former Base Education amount and a \$1 tax rate. The tax rate is now set at \$1 by statute and only the Dollar Yield can vary.

Offsetting Revenues: These are all the revenues you find in the budget with the exception of the Education Spending Grant.

Common Level of Appraisal: This is a percentage set by the Vermont Department of Taxes, Property Valuation Office. Based on the analysis of actual sales in the district demonstrates whether the listed value of a property is lower or higher than the Fair Market value of the property. If properties sell for more than the listed amount, the CLA is less than 100%, and increases the Homestead tax rate. This calculation is necessary as the Homestead tax is a state-wide tax and the relative value of properties from district to district must be brought to a common level.

Education Spending Grant: Dollar amount received from the Education Fund to support the school district. Some of these funds are raised locally but are classified as State revenue.

**Using FY2017 Budgets the estimated total homestead tax rate calculation:*

Estimating the Total Homestead Tax Rate for Holland

FY 2017	Holland ES Proposed	NCUJHS as voted	NCUHS as voted
Total Budget (subtract)	\$962,987	\$5,117,624	\$14,326,391
Offsetting Revenues (produces)	\$376,253	\$1,394,934	\$2,396,436
Education Spending (divided by)	\$586,734	\$3,722,690	\$11,929,955
Equalized Pupils (produces)	42.34	258.97	853.93
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil (divided by)	\$13,858	\$14,375	\$13,971
Property Dollar Equivalent Yield (produces)	\$9,701	\$9,701	\$9,701
Homestead Tax Rate (divided by)	\$1.43	\$1.48	\$1.44
% of Equalized Pupils (produces)	38.46%	21.55%	39.99%
Homestead Tax Rate (divided by)	\$.52	\$.32	\$.58
Common Level of Appraisal (produces)	87.54%	87.54%	87.54%
Adjusted Homestead Tax Rate	\$.63	\$.36	\$.66

Total Estimated Holland Homestead Tax Rate			1.65
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Equalized Pupil: Equalized pupils are calculated to account for the generally greater cost of educating students from poverty, students with limited English proficiency, and secondary students. To accomplish the equalization, different types of students are “weighted” differently in an equalizing formula.

Explanation:

- The calculation begins with each district’s two year, ADM (average daily membership). This is the average number of students enrolled in the school during the twenty day count each year in the early fall. This is not attendance, it is enrollment.
- Pre-K students are weighted at 46% of an elementary student as they are only required to attend ten hours per week.
- Students in poverty are weighted at an additional 25% of an elementary student. Every four students in poverty increases enrollment by one additional student.
- Students with limited English proficiency are weighted at an additional 20%. Every five students increases enrollment by one additional student.
- This new number, two year ADM, plus the weighted numbers, is then equalized (multiplied by the equalizing factor) to bring the total number of equalized pupils in the state back to the total two year ADM. In this process schools with higher poverty and more secondary students end up with more equalized pupils than a school with the same two year ADM but lower poverty and fewer secondary students. A district may have more equalized pupils than they have enrolled students.

Calculation of Equalized Pupils

School District	Two Year Average Daily Membership	Pre-K (.46)	Poverty Students (.25)	Secondary Students (1.13)	Limited English Proficiency (.20)	Long Term Weighted Average	Calculated Equalized Pupils	Actual Equalized Pupils <i>3.5% hold harmless</i>
Holland	41.5	(2.16)	2.83	0	0	42.17	39.35	42.34
Two Year Average Students		4.7	11.32	0	0		Phantom or ghost students	2.99
Equalizing Factor State Total	\$88,233.35	(\$4,115.56)	\$5,087.55	\$5,087.55	\$487.02	\$94,779.91	0.93306	
Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil Using the Held Harmless Equalized Pupils							42.34	\$13,858
Homestead Tax Rate using the Held Harmless Equalized Pupils and the Dollar Yield							\$9,701	1.43
Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil using the calculated number							39.35	\$14,912
Homestead Tax Rate using the Calculated Equalized Pupils and the Dollar Yield							\$9,701	1.54
Without the Phantom or Ghost students the Homestead tax rate would increase by								.11
NCUJHS	19.50	0	1.59	2.54	0	23.63	22.05	23.73

Two Year Average Students		0	6.36	19.54	0		Phantom or Ghost Students	1.68
NCUHS	36.20	0	2.95	4.71	0	43.86	40.92	42.34
Two Year Average Students		0	11.80	36.23	0		Phantom or Ghost Students	1.42

Glenn did an outstanding job presenting all these complicated State formulas for the Board, staff, and community members present.

**There were several charts and graphs available at the meeting these are just two that have been discussed more in length.

IX New Business

Action:

A) L. Campbell made a motion to approve the use of the IDEA-B grant.

L. Petell seconded. Motion carried.

B) K. Champney made a motion to approve the principal's contract of \$59,950 for FY17.

L. Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

X Other Business

1. Support Staff terms and conditions policy was not included in the Board packet, moved to next meeting.

Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting

- Audit Review with Glenn
- Next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 3rd
- Support Staff Terms and Conditions Policy Review
- Bus Lease Renewal

XI Executive Session

Not needed

XII Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm