

**NEWPORT CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING**

November 4, 2014

Board Members Present: Corinna Lancaster, Chair, Phil Laramie, Vice Chair, Jessica Ward, Mary Ellen Prairie

Administration Present: John castle, Superintendent, Judith Boucher, Principal, Melinda Mascolino, Assist. Principal

Guests: Kristen Morey, Sharon Pare, Mary Bishop

Recorder: Theresa Perrault

I. Call the Meeting to Order-Ms. Lancaster called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda-Judy added Titles Funding

II. Motion to approve the minutes of October 8, 2014 and October 28, 2014 (Attachment A)
Ward/Prairie **APPROVED**

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

Kristen Morey did a wonderful presentation on Intervention/Reading Recovery. She thanked the board for allowing herself and Nicole Gratton the opportunity to receive training in Reading Recovery. Her opening comment being, "Students are a reflection of the learning opportunities we give them". Reading Recovery is designed to work with the lowest achieving students. Experience and research tells us that these students would not become avid readers without intense instruction. Reading Recovery has been helping students in the United States for the last 25 years. Kristen offered information about how Reading Recovery worked and the success they have had with the students.

Mary Bishop asked the board if they had given anymore consideration to her request for early retirement. Ms. Lancaster said that the final decision not to offer early retirements still stands. Ms. Bishop said for the future she wishes they would reconsider this approached for her colleagues.

IV. Financial Reports-The Principal and Bookkeeper recommend:

Motion to approve the October, 2014 Financial Statement.
Ward/Prairie **APPROVED**

Review and Sign orders- in the amount of \$15,446.61 for the general fund and \$282.93 for food service.

V. Committee Reports

Negotiation Committee –exchanged proposals, waiting for next meeting date.

VI. Principal's Report-(Attachment C)

Motion to approve the Principal's Report to the Superintendent (Hand Out)

Information:

Third Grade Restructuring: The grade teachers started the year out departmentalized and found this to be difficult at the 3rd grade level for the students. They were not getting enough instruction times with the students. After getting feedback from the parents during parent/teacher conferences they have made the decision to go back to a self contained classroom.

Update on Melissa Scherer and long term sub: Ms. Scherer is very thankful for the board's generosity to extend her leave until January 12th. Nancy Gardyne will be the long term sub for her.

Change in Recycling: Ms. Mascolino informed the board that she had been trying for months to get Casella's to come pick up their recycling container. She was under the impression there had been no contract signed by herself or Ms. Boucher. School administrators, the administrative assistant and the book keeper were not aware that a contract had been signed. The sales rep for Casella's eventually came to school providing a signed contract dated in May of 2014 for 5 years signed by Laurie Craig. Casella's has been kind enough to release the school from the binding contract and has since removed their container. Austin's Rubbish will now be doing our recycling at a much lower cost.

Discussion:

Titles Funding: Ms. Boucher informed the board Samantha said we are between \$60,000.00-70,000.00 short on titles. Titles money is used to pay Intervention Teachers salaries. Not knowing how much funding NCES will receive next year and the fact it will go down from this year she asked the board to be thinking about adding the intervention teacher's to the budget for the next school year.

5th Grade Ski Program

Sharon Pare informed the board it was once again time to decide about 5th grade students skiing at Jay Peak this winter. Sixty percent of the 5th grade students returned the survey sent home for parents. All but one said yes to the ski program. Ms. Boucher stated that she could not allow paraeducators to chaperone unless they are assigned a one on one student that is attending the ski trip.

Motion to approve the 5th grade students to join the Jay Peak Ski Program for the 2014-15 school year as long as it has not changed from last year.

Laramie/Ward **APPROVED**

Prairie **OPPOSED**

Action:

Mentors-VT AOE Mentoring Programs Attachment C-Appendix A):

Ms. Boucher asked the board for the use of \$2,000.00 to pay for the mentoring of our new level 1 teachers.

Motion to approve \$2,000.00 for the use of hiring mentors for new level 1 teachers.

Ward/Prairie **APPROVED**

Schedule Board Meeting to discuss Early Childhood Education:

November 24, 2014, 5:00 p.m., Library

VII.Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Castle said negotiations have started. They have exchange proposals and waiting for the next meeting to take place.

VIII.Unfinished /New/Other Business (Program Presentation, when scheduled)

Ms. Lancaster said it has come to her attention that mileage is not being past in a timely fashion last year was passed in at this year's start of school so it was not on the proper fiscal year. All reimbursements needs to be for the fiscal year must be turned in by June 15th. Anything turned in after that will be refused. Mr. Castle said this is a management responsibility and does not require a motion.

Mr. Laramie informed the school board he will not be seeking reelection on the school board in March. Ms. Boucher expressed how unfortunate that is for NCES and she appreciated his support.

Ms. Lancaster said her seat is also up for reelection in March.

Mr. Laramie received a call from Tony Roberge about the snowplowing and what is expected of him. He will be calling the school to speak with Ms. Boucher to get some clarification.

Ms. Lancaster said she wanted to get the committee started for the Principal's search. We need to start thinking about the teachers that may want to come and speak to the board and who will make up the committee for the search. Ms. Boucher stated that the Superintendent, Mr. Castle suggested they wait until closer to January.

Sherman Fund: Ms. Lancaster said she has signed the first round of checks. She passed out a copy of the information she received on the Sherman fund. She said in the future she would like to have the residence address verified before sending out the checks. Mr. Castle said in the future that could be done. After discussion Mr. Castle said he could go back to the attorney with any questions and/or concerns they have.

Motion not to approve the use of the building to Rick Dunlavey for Taekwondo.
Prairie/Ward **APPROVED**

Ms. Boucher will call Mr. Dunlavey to give the board's decision on the use of the building.

IX. Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting

November 24, 2014. 5:00 p.m., Library, to discuss and plan for an Early Childhood Program.

December 1, 2014, 6:00 p.m., Library, Finance Committee meets at 5:00 p.m.

X.Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session inviting Administration to discuss personnel at 8:15 p.m.
Ward/Prairie **APPROVED**

XI.Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn with not action taken at 9:00 p.m.
Ward/Prairie **APPROVED**

Respectfully submitted by,

Theresa Perrault
Recording Secretary

Meetings:

Groups

	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCES Board Meeting	Monday	November 24	5:00 p.m.	Library
NCES Board Meeting	Monday	December 1	6:00 p.m.	Library