

NEWPORT CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING

December 1, 2014

Board Members Present: Corinna Lancaster, Chair, Phil Laramie, Vice Chair, Jessica Ward, Victoria Lantagne

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

Guests:

Recorder: Jessica Ward

- I. **Call the Meeting to Order**-Ms. Lancaster called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. She apologized for the late start. There was an awards assembly.

Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda - Maryellen Prairie phoned Judy to let her know that she was not going to be able to attend the meeting. She told Judy that she had asked that the Sherman fund and bus transportation policy be on the agenda. Judy told her that she would asked the School Board to table these two items until the next regular school board meeting. Judy added a request from Lindy Sargent about bussing.

- II. **Motion to approve** the minutes of November 4 (Attachment A)
Ward/Laramie **APPROVED**

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

The board received thank you letters from the Special Olympics for using a bus and from Melissa Scherer and family.

IV. **Financial Reports**-The Principal and Bookkeeper recommend:

Motion to approve the Warrants

Ward/Laramie **APPROVED**

Review and Sign orders from the meeting on November 21st in the amount of \$91,387.61 and 17,658.06 for the general fund and \$12,521.61 for food service and tonights in the amount of \$989,313.42 for the general fund and \$5771.88 for food service.

Mrs. Lantagne questioned the Homestead Education taxes and why we had two from the same day. Mrs. Lancaster pointed out one was for the High School and one was for the Junior High. Mrs. Lantagne would like to have back up for both not just one. Mrs. Lancaster would like Sam to provide back up. All bills will be signed by the Principal.

Motion to approve the November 2014, Financial Statement

Ward/ Lantagne **Approved**

Motion to approve Section 125 Plan Updates (Memorandum and Resolution)

Ward/Laramie **Approved**

Mrs. Lancaster explained that the Health Care reimbursement plan has been updated, to meet the requirements

of the Affordable Care Act.

V. Committee Report

NCSU Special Budget meeting December 15th, NCSU Policy and Full Board meeting December 18th. December 3rd is Teacher Negotiations.

VI. Principal's Report-(Attachment C)

Information: After the playground inspection we had some digging done, wood chips added and bolts replaced. Mary Oliver accepted the mentoring position and will be mentoring Jenna Dillon. Kristin Morey accepted the position of mentoring Aimee Alexander. Agriculture Education Specialists will be coming to the school to train students to scrape their trays for composting. Then the Farm to school program will pick up the buckets. They have provided a wagon to help with taking the buckets out of the cafeteria. The 6th graders have taken on the composting.

Discussion: We have received a high spending letter from Special Education. We are approximately 26% over the state average for spending in Special Education. The state will allow us to be over by 20 % so that means we will need to cut special education spending by approximately \$60,000. We need to have a plan to the State Department by April 1st, 2014.

We discussed the pros and cons of outsourcing our bussing needs vs owning our own busses. Mrs. Lancaster said it looks like we may need 3 busses. We used to have 3 busses now we are at 2. Mr. Laramie said outsourcing would take care of the problem of not being able to find bus drivers. Judy wasn't pleased with outsourcing in the past. Mr. Castle said there are pros and cons for both but one of the things to think about was the flexibility of having our own bus. Mrs. Lancaster said maybe just outsourcing one bus for our main route. Mr. Castle will look into outsourcing and get back to us with numbers. He suggested with the timing we should budget in our current transportation.

Lindy Sargent asked that the school board fund cross skiing that the after school program used to fund but no longer has funds to do so. We used to provide bussing also. Mr. Castle mentioned liability. Maybe parents will need to carpool. Mrs. Lancaster said we do not have the funds at this time and we are unable to provide a bus and unable to spare a driver.

We began discussing the budget. We discussed reallocating resources to try and meet school quality standards. Additions and eliminations were discussed to best meet the needs of students and the school while being fiscally responsible to tax payers. Options to provide quality services for less costs will be investigated.

Action: **Motion to approve** Judy's recommendation to have the Supervisory Union make the decision to close school. Amended to do it for a year.

Laramie/Ward **Approved**

Motion to Approve the Newport Pd's use of the gym for a self defense class and future use.

Laramie/Ward **Approved**

Lancaster **Abstained**

VII. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr Castle discussed the consolidation of governance and how it's best to run our schools. He believes it's good to have a balance between the local boards and the Supervisory Union boards. The SU is still going ahead with their recommendation of dissolving center based Pre K

programs to school based programs. We have decided to continue with our plan to go ahead with a school based program.

VIII. **Unfinished /New/Other Business** Mrs. Lantagne informed the board that the 5th grade went to Jay for their 1st ski day. Mrs. Lancaster mentioned the school wide celebration before the long weekend. Judy said it was awesome. Most staff, students and parents enjoyed the school celebration. We will schedule a special budget meeting before our Jan 5th meeting, To be determined later.

IX. **Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting**

January 5, 2015

X. **Executive Session**

Motion to enter Executive Session inviting Administration to discuss personnel at 8:20 p.m.

Ward/Laramie **APPROVED**

XI. **Motion to Slide out of Executive Session at 8:58**

XII. **Motion to** Allow Cory Sicotte to use all of his sick days for family sick leave. This does not create a precedent.

Laramie/Ward **Approved**

Motion to adjourn with action taken at 9:00 p.m.

Ward/Laramie **APPROVED**

Respectfully submitted by,
Jessica Ward

Meetings:

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCES Board Meeting	Monday	January 5	6:00 p.m.	Library
Finance Committee meets at 5:30 p.m.				