

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NCUJHS Library**

November 24, 2015 at 6:15 P.M.

PRESENT

Board Members:

Vice Chair Scott Boskind, Derby
Corey Therrien, Newport City
Maggie Griffith, Newport City
Jackie Young, Derby
Kristin Mason, Morgan
Richard Nelson, Derby

Administrators and Staff:

John A. Castle, NCSU Superintendent
Glenn Hankinson, NCSU Director of Finance
Nicole Corbett, NCUJHS Principal
Colleen Storrings, NCUJHS Assistant Principal
Liz Butterfield, NCSU Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

I. The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair, Scott Boskind, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and called for Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda. There were none.

II. **Motion** to approve the minutes of October 20, 2015 (*Attachment A*)
MASON/YOUNG APPROVED, THERRIEN ABSTAINED

III. Public Comments, Communication with Parents/Staff/Citizens: None

IV. Financial Report

Action:

A. **Motion** to approve the Warrants THERRIEN/GRIFFITH **APPROVED**

B. **Motion** to approve the Financial Report of October (*Attachment B*) \$511,000.00 current positive fund balance, on track for where we should be at this time. THERRIEN/MASON **APPROVED**

Information/Discussion:

A. **Special Education Centralization:** John shared that the Executive Committee is recommending aggregating costs by equalized pupil, implemented over a three year period. John feels that this is the best model for everyone over the long-haul.

B. **Budget Discussion** (*Handout*) Principal Nicole Corbett distributed an explanation of the budget planning thus far, and expanded on the information presented. A budget has not been completed yet, as we are waiting for more information from the State of Vermont. Glenn and John addressed the Cost Containment Threshold, which may or may not be modified, delayed, or repealed by the legislature. In the meantime, we have to treat it as if it is real. The Junior High is allowed a 1.58% increase in education spending per equalized pupil. Equalized Pupil numbers should be available from the State by the 15th of December, in time for the next board meeting.

V. Committee Reports

A. Building Committee Update: Scott Boskind reported that the committee has not met since October. He said the leak near the air-handling unit above the tech lab has been fixed. Floor repairs start tomorrow.

VI. Principal's Report (*Attachment C*)

Mrs. Corbett reported that, "October was a good month." She said the younger teachers have stepped up to help with technology implementation. Most teachers are embracing the technology. They like the ability to view quick assessments, and to tailor instruction. The new wiring is much better: there are now multiple classrooms where everyone is on at the same time, with no bottlenecks. "Go Guardian" is used to help monitor words being

searched and time spent gaming on the Chromebooks. The students are learning to be good digital citizens. Most kids are reading on their devices.

Lunch money follow-up: Letters were sent home, and then a certified letter was sent ten days later to those who had not responded. Parents are being offered installment plans to pay off their balance, and there has been a positive response.

Jackie Young commended the Junior High, saying that she is at the school three days per week, and the students seem happy in the school.

In response to an inquiry by Maggie, Nicole and Colleen said they will clarify the confusion over in-school infractions vs. bus infractions.

There was a discussion about the appropriateness of displaying Confederate Flag as part of a project.

VII. Superintendent's Report: John reported that Leanne Desjardins has been chairing a Continuum of Services cadre. We are seeing an increase in the number of students demonstrating very challenging behaviors. How do we build capacity? John said that one of the issues is that it is fluid situation, kids and/or their families often move. We are seeing that the elementary schools currently have higher numbers than our middle school populations. How are they best served? What is the best deployment? Not only have the numbers increased, but so has the intensity. John will be arranging a meeting with the Department of Human Services, as their response model has also changed...

VIII. Unfinished/New Business

Action:

A. Motion to Ratify the Successor Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement: THERRIEN/YOUNG APPROVED

John informed the Board that Support Staffs negotiations are at impasse, and will go to mediation on January 5th.

IX. Agenda Items/Date for Next Board Meeting

Motion to change the date of the December NCUJHS Board meeting to December 16th.

GRIFFITH/THERRIEN Approved

X. Executive Session: *Not needed*

X. Motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. THERRIEN/MASON APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Butterfield
Recording Secretary

<u>Meetings:</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<i>NCUJHS Board</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>December 16</i>	<i>6:15 p.m.</i>	<i>NCUJHS Library</i>
NCUHS Curriculum Committee	Tuesday	December 1	5:30 p.m.	NCCC Room 316
NCUHS Business & Ops. Comm.	Tuesday	December 8	5:00 p.m.	NCCC Room 316
NCUHS Board	Tuesday	December 15	6:30 p.m.	NCCC Room 380
NCUHS HR Committee	As needed			
NCSU Policy Committee	Thursday	December 17	5:30 p.m.	NCSU A213
NCSU Executive Committee	Thursday	December 17	6:30 p.m.	NCSU A209