

NEWPORT TOWN SCHOOL  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Thursday May 5, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. @ NTS

Members Present: Sarah Hardin, Chris Hammond, Conrad Bellavance, Lauren Dillon

Others Present: Wendy Meunier, John Castle, Glen Hankinson, Jill Raymond, Terry Dillon, Tiffany Marquis

Public comments/communication:

Tiffany Marquis present to discuss green cleaning products/least toxic cleaning products. Wendy and Glen will be looking into the SU's current Envision Program to see if NTS is in compliance.

Terry Dillon gave a letter of intent for joining the school board should an opening arise.

Jill Raymond voiced her intent for joining the school board should an opening arise.

Information:

Glen reported on financial aspect of potentially converting to The Abbey Group for food services. NTS would need to send out a RFP for approval and then post state wide for other bids prior to moving forward. The Abbey Group anticipates a need for a \$9,300/year subsidy from NTS. NTS subsidizes \$20,000/year for our current food services.

Public communication/Information was performed prior to the start of the meeting, as there was not a quorum present until Conrad arrived at 5:47 p.m.

- I. Sarah called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm. Tax Anticipation Loan discussion was added to the agenda.
- II. Lauren motioned to approve the April 7, 2016 meeting minutes. Chris seconds it. No discussion. The motion passes.
- III. Public Comments: See above
- IV. Financial Report:
  - A. Sarah made a motion to approve the Warrants; Lauren seconds; motion passes.
  - B. Lauren made a motion to approve the Financial Report of April; Conrad seconds; motion passes.
- V. Principal's Report:

NTS received the VT Lottery Grant and will be receiving 20 new I-pads.  
Students are participating in SBAC and science testing.  
Wendy will write the Select board and ask for reimbursement for drinking water.
- VI. Superintendent's Report:

The SU is participating in learning walks or instructional rounds. They were at NTS today and were happy with the level of student engagement seen throughout the school.
- VII. Unfinished/New Business:

- A. Tax Anticipation Loan for FY 2017, Lauren motioned to approve; Conrad seconds; the motion passes.
- B. Support Staff Policy: Reviewed the SU vs NTS Policy. Policy includes secretary, cook, custodian, and paraprofessionals. Conrad made a motion to accept the recommendations from the SU to apply to NTS policy for future vote. Lauren seconds it.
- C. Solar Panels: Conrad spoke with Rich Nichols (who the town used) and is in the process of getting him to give an estimate.
- D. Driveway: Conrad spoke to Real Desrochers (involved in the original driveway project) about fixing the end of the driveway. Conrad will talk with Denise re: quote and if we have to put it out for a bid. Wendy brought up that this is not in the budget.
- E. The Abbey Group: Board agreed to go ahead with RFP.
- F. The board will have a regularly scheduled Board meeting July 7 at 5:30.
- G. August retreat/board meeting: Harry Frank will be here at 4:00 on August 4, 2016. He will be scheduled for a 2 hour retreat with the board. The regular Board meeting will be warned for 6:00 p.m. start for the month of August 2016.
- H. Pre-school status: 11 kids are signed up currently. State application has been filed. State will come 5/16/16 to look at our space and make recommendations, etc. We have 2 years to comply. We will need to fence in the playground for compliance and Wendy is looking into grants, community member, etc to get that completed.
- I. Conrad made a motion approving Wendy to offer the custodian position (pending background and reference checks) to a qualified person per NTS pay grid. Lauren seconds; the motion passes.

IX. Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting:

ENCORE Program, Transportation consolidation, solar panels, Colleen re: food services and Action Item of support staff policy.

- X. Executive Session: Motion to enter executive session at 8:04 pm by Conrad to discuss personnel/board member related matters. Exited executive session at 8:26 pm by Sarah.
- XI. Motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm by Sarah/approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Hardin