

Middletown Springs Board of School Directors (Regular) Meeting

Date: October 10, 2012

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Middletown Springs Elementary School

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Present: Clarence Haynes, Steven Letendre, Kendra Larson, Meredith Morgan and Karen Mach (Board Members). Also Present: Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Rick Beal (Principal), Louis Milazzo (Business Manager). Public Present: None

1. Call to Order (**Action**)

Mr. Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

2. Presentation (if applicable): None

3. Consent Agenda: (**Action**)

a. Approval of Minutes – Unofficial Minutes from:

1. September 26, 2012 (Regular)

Minutes of September 26, 2012 were reviewed. Kendra Larson moved to accept the minutes of September 26, 2012, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried.

b. Superintendent's Report (Written):

Supt. Paustian reported on the upcoming in-service training for teachers in math and science. She commented that the administrative team met recently and developed a process whereby each principal in the SU is going to explore curriculum from surrounding states to bring to the group to discuss potentially using one for the SU. The state curricula from Ohio, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine will be reviewed by the group. She also informed the board that there is a special meeting that all board members from the SU should attend on October 22 at 6:00 pm at the Poultney High School. The SU legal council will be available by phone to finalize the salary schedule to complete the consolidated negotiated contract with the teachers in the US.

c. Principal's Report (Written):

Principal Beal reviewed his written report with the Board of Directors. He reported that they were just finishing up a week with NECAP testing that was a great success. Students were offered healthy snacks in preparation that were provided by the Friends for Education. He also informed the Board that he submitted a cost-share grant with the State of Vermont Historic Preservation for \$20,000 to help pay for replacing the slate roof, which is in need of repair. Principal Beal also reported on the status of upgrading the water supply system; a contract was recently signed between the school and Enman Engineering to redesign the water system at the school. He announced that many Middletown Elementary School students participated in the "International Walk to School Week" and that there will be a Harvest Potluck Dinner on Friday, October 26 for the school and the community. Finally, Principal Beal began to outline the accomplishments on the current Action Plan. The Board requested that more metrics on progress be shared at the next meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the 2014 Action Plan that is currently being prepared.

d. Business Manager's Report

i. Financial Statements

Mr. Milazzo presented the board with a Variance Analysis to date. Although it is early in the FY 2013 budget, there are some unanticipated expenditures particularly in special education funding that could result in a budget deficit for the year. The board agreed to continue to monitor the budget in an effort to make adjustments as needed to avoid a deficit for the current fiscal year. Mr. Milazzo reported that he has begun working with Principal Beal on the FY 2014 budget, which he will present to the Board in November.

Steven Letendre moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

4. Approve Warrants: **(Action)**

- a. Warrant #141 in the amount of \$50,344.15 dated 9/28/12

Kendra Larson moved to approve Warrant #141 in the amount of \$50,344.15 dated 9/28/12, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

5. General Public Comments **(Listen & Defer Action to Future Meeting):** None

6. Old Business: **(Itemize Subjects for Deliberation & Possible Action)**

a. Middletown Springs Town Website—discuss how school & town can interact
The board agreed that they would ask Jan to send the Middletown Springs Board of Director meeting warnings and finalized minutes to be posted on the new town web site. In addition, there will be a direct link from the town web site to the elementary school web site.

- b. Review Henderson Fund process in preparation for November (due date for applications)

Supt. Paustian announced that application for the Henderson Fund are due to her office on or before Oct. 31, 2012. All applications will be reviewed by the Superintendent and the Chairs of the School Board and Select Board.

- c. Curriculum Discussion

There was a brief discussion about the need to move quickly and efficiently to adopt a curriculum for the elementary school. There was some discussion about moving forward even if the SU fails to move forward in a timely manner to adopt a SU-wide curriculum.

7. New Business: **(Receive Information & Possible Action):** None

- a. FY 14 Budget Review

Deferred to the November board meeting.

- b. Approve Action Plan

Deferred to the November board meeting.

- c. Adjacent Property for Sale

Kendra Larson brought to the Board's attention that a property adjacent to the school has come up for sale. The board agreed that it was not something that should be pursued by the School Board at this time.

- d. Tinmouth Considering Departure from RSWSU

The Board had a brief discussion about Tinmouth's efforts to investigate leaving the RSWSU to join a different SU. The Board is considering all options as part of the ACT 153 investigations and will continue to monitor events in Tinmouth. It is unclear at this point what the benefits of moving to a different SU would be to the community.

8. Policies **(For Adoption):** None

9. Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted **(Discussion & Possible Action)**.
None

10. Action on Personnel Contract **(Action)**

- i. New Hires: None
- ii. Resignations: None
- iii. Termination: None
- iv. Other: None

11. Other Lawful Business **(Information Gathering Only):** None

12. Set Next Board Meeting (Regular) & Agenda Building: (*Anticipated November 8, 2012, 6:00 p.m.*) **(Action)**.

Next Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2012 at 6:00PM at MSES.

13. Adjournment **(Action)**

Kendra Larson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 PM, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Letendre
Board Clerk