

**Middletown Springs Board of School Directors (Regular) Meeting**

**Date: January 10, 2013**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Place: Middletown Springs Elementary School**

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**OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Clarence Haynes, Steven Letendre, Meredith Morgan (Board Members). Also Present: Joan Paustian (RSWSU Superintendent), Rick Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary). Public Present: None. Karen Mach (Board Member) arrived at 6:18PM.

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

Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

2. Presentation (if applicable):

None

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

1. Approval of Minutes – Unofficial Minutes from:

a. December 11, 2012 (regular)

The Board reviewed the December minutes. Under the Principal's Report, add "The Action Plan was discussed and some recommendations were made by the Board." Clarence Haynes moved to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2012 meeting with the above change, Steven Letendre seconded; motion carried.

b. Superintendent's Report (Written):

The Supt. has the draft warning for the vote. The warning can be approved at the next RSWSU Board meeting on January 28 at 6:30PM at MSES. She reported that she had not received any further communication from Sean Leach regarding support staff negotiations. The Supt. reported that Tim Carr was awarded \$500 from the Henderson Fund. Dr. Paustian stated that she is still in discussions with Long Trail School regarding 504 charges. She informed the Board that if they had any requests or input on a Power Point presentation of the budget, she would convey them to Louis Milazzo (Business Mgr.). Clarence Haynes inquired about the recent VSBA meeting. Senator Mullen introduced Bill #S-14 which would require agency fee payment by employees who are covered by collective bargaining agreements but do not belong to a union.

c. Principal's Report (Written):

Mr. Beal reported that MSES teachers attended Science training at Wells with Jean Ward. The lessons were well received. They also continue to train with Dr. Rajia on Math. There will be Diversity training on January 29 in the afternoon for all staff members so this will be an early release day for students. Teachers are evaluating online keyboarding programs for their students. Tech Integration Specialist Keith Neimlich has provided valuable advice. The school had a wonderful Winter Concert with a good turnout on Dec. 12—kudos to Mr. Klami and all of the students. With the recent tragedy in Newtown, CT, Mr. Beal has been researching additional security procedures to keep everyone safe. A meeting has been scheduled with the Vermont State Police to obtain their input. The Board discussed striking a balance—we want our school to be safe but we do not want a fortress. The Board asked that Mr. Beal move forward with obtaining information on security options and costs. MSES has been selected to be part of the Smarter Balanced Assessments Pilot Program in Math. This will give our students an opportunity to

familiarize themselves with the new test before it is officially administered in 2014. MSES has been awarded a matching grant for \$20,000 to repair the slate roof on the old building. The water system project continues to progress. Mr. Beal asked the Board to sign loan request documents from the State of Vermont for \$4,700 (full amount to be forgiven) for planning the water system project. This will be handled under "Old Business." Mr. Beal distributed draft copies of the School Report Card to board members. Mr. Haynes had some questions on the report. Discussion ensued about how to include a comparison of the school to the S.U. Supt. Paustian will obtain the data and provide it to Mr. Beal who will add it to the document.

d. Business Manager's Report

None

i. Financial Statements

None

Steven Letendre moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

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

a. Warrant #146 in the amount of \$38,632.46 dated 12/5/12

b. Warrant #147 in the amount of \$50,245.16 dated 12/19/12

Steven Letendre moved to approve Warrant #146 in the amount of \$38,632.46 dated 12/5/12 and Warrant #147 in the amount of \$50,245.16 dated 12/19/12, 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. Approve Action Plan

Mr. Beal incorporated the suggestions the Board made last month into this draft of the Action Plan. Supt. Paustian noted that there are measurable targets for each area.

Mr. Haynes moved to approve the Action Plan as presented, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

b. Sidewalk Project

Meredith Morgan and Clarence Haynes talked about their discussions with Select Board members Chris Larson and Shirley Moyer. It was decided that the school could pay the sidewalk costs and then be reimbursed by the town when the grant money is received. Mrs. Morgan reported that the final right-of-way permit was received so the job can go out to bid in February or March.

c. Water System Planning Loan

Steven Letendre moved to sign the loan request for \$4,700 for planning of the water system project (the entire amount to be forgiven), Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

7. New Business: **(Receive Information & Possible Action):**

a. Review Draft Warning for Town Meeting (final version to be signed 1/28/13 at the RSWSU Board Meeting).

The Board reviewed the warning. There was discussion about whether the School Treasurer position needs to be for three years or one year. This needs to be clarified before the warning is published. Clarification will be sought. Supt. Paustian asked if the Board had any requests for Mr. Milazzo prior to Town Meeting. Mr. Haynes would like to hold an informational budget meeting at the school as we have done in prior years. He would like Mr. Milazzo to provide budget information for that meeting in the same format as last year. The informational meeting will take

place on Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6:30-8:00PM at the school. Meeting Information will be published in Friday Notices and the February issue of The Magnet.

8. Policies **(For Review)**:

a. Policy #C-6: Board Commitment to Non-Discrimination  
Policy #C-6 “Board Commitment to Non-Discrimination” was distributed for review. The specific wording was discussed—any comments or suggestions can be forwarded to the Policy Committee.

9. Action on Personnel Contract **(Action)** (if applicable)

a. New Hire: Food Service Director/Cook (anticipated recommendation)  
Mr. Beal recommended the hiring of Marianna Charalabopoulous for the food service position. She is very highly qualified; holding a degree from the Culinary Institute and a B.A. in music. Mr. Haynes moved to offer the position to Ms. Charalabopoulous, Mrs. Morgan seconded; motion carried.

10. Set Next Board Meeting (Regular) & Agenda Building: (Anticipated regular meeting – February 14, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – Anticipated Special meeting – January 28, 2013 to sign Warning for Town Meeting) **(Action)**.

The next regular meeting will take place on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 6:00PM at the school. A special meeting will take place on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 6:30PM to sign the warning.

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

12. Other Lawful Business **(Information Gathering Only)**  
None

13. Adjournment **(Action)**  
Steven Letendre moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38PM, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Susan Rosso* (Recording Secretary)