

APPROVED

**CABOT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 8, 2014, Cabot School Library**

PRESENT: Chris Tormey, Ry Hoffman, Lisa Olson, Jackie Folsom, Sharon O'Connor;
Administration: Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Gail Curtis, Principal; Dave Schilling, Design Tech Teacher and principal intern; **Student Representatives:** Gage Sironi, Megan Walker, Heidi Cookson,

Call to Order: Chris Tormey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Public Comment:

Jackie Folsom passed out Big Husky Little Husky packets by Hugh Burke about the mentoring program, and asked if this will continue. The teachers are working increasing the connections between the secondary and elementary grades.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve August 25, 2014 Minutes – Lisa noted that the condom distribution policy is stated in the minutes to be on this agenda, but is not. Nancy noted that more information is needed before the policy can be defined. Jackie moved to accept the minutes, Lisa seconded – approved with four yes and one abstention as Sharon had been absent.

Reports

- a. **Superintendent Report** - Nancy Thomas
 - Nancy reported that the opening of school went well.
 - Nancy informed the board of another water issue, a broken pipe underground caused water to be shut off and cancel school on September 2. It has been repaired and the administration is notifying VSBIT for possible insurance reimbursement to assist with the costs.
 - Nancy briefly reviewed the draft Act 166 regulations regarding Universal Preschool and how it affects the school. This extends preschool options to all 3 and 4 year olds. She will bring more information to later school board meetings.
- b. **Principal Report** – Gail Curtis
 - Gail thanked the board for the barbecue.
 - Gail reviewed Crisis team procedures and the feedback from “first responders”. Orange cones were requested for future drills.
 - Gail gave an update on trip fundraising/events and ideas were discussed.
 - Gail announced Wednesday’s open house event from 5:00 till 7:00. Pre-k thru 12th grade. Robo calls on this showed some problems that need reviewing.
- d. **Student Report** – Gage Sironi, Megan Walker, Heidi Cookson
 - Students discussed school nutrition regulations concerning the types of food they can sell in the People of the Beans Cafe.
 - The Siskin trip was a positively structured and constructive trip for all students.

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Presentation: League of Innovative Schools submission

- Brian Boyes and Dave Schilling presented examples from the League of Innovative Schools Design website that the LIS team has developed. The support from LIS will support the proficiency and multiple pathways work that is required by the State.
- There was discussion on expansion of this work with Elementary.

Board Discussion

a. Hiring Update

- The hiring team did interviews for the Part-time Music Teacher position and has made a recommendation.

b. Early Retirement Option

- Nancy explained procedures to the board. For the first time, the board can limit the number of slots to be made available.
- Teachers' option to be discussed at a later date when more information is available.
- Nancy will provide salary scales and estimated salaries.

c. Retreat Planning

- Nancy will e-mail out a draft plan.
- Nancy will bring school construction procedures for the school facility discussion, June term questions, and dual enrollment, pre-school and community talk.
- Jackie asked for high school class schedules, Dave distributed that to the board.
- Jackie asked for understanding of J-Term and funding.

Board Action

- a. Adopt Policy E14 Fund Balance Policy, Chris moved to adopt the policy, Jackie seconded – unanimously approved.
- b. Appoint Truant Officer - Nancy Thomas recommended Dave Schilling and Gail Curtis. Chris moved to appoint Dave and Gail as truant officers, Ry seconded – unanimously approved.
- c. Act on Hiring Recommendation – Chris moved to accept Nancy's recommendation to hire Leah-Marie Desroches as he part-time music teacher, Ry seconded - unanimously approved.
- d. Act on Early Retirement Option – The Board tabled the action until the first meeting in October.
Support Staff – Chris moved not to offer this option to support staff, Sharon seconded – Unanimously approved.

Executive Session

Board went into executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations at 8:15 and returned at 8:37. No action was taken.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Liz Dickinson, Transcriber