

APPROVED

CABOT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 1, 2014
Cabot School Library

PRESENT: Jackie Folsom, Chris Tormey, Lisa Olson, Ry Hoffman, Sharon O'Connor

Administrators: Christina Kimball, Business Manager; Dave Schilling, Principal Intern; Nancy Thomas, Superintendent; Pat Johnson-Knoerl, Curriculum Director. **Student Representatives:** Gage Sironi, Megan Walker **Absent:** Heidi Cookson

Call to Order: Chris Tormey called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda:

Approve November 17, 2014 Minutes Chris moved to approve minutes with amendments. Lisa seconded. Minutes approved with changes.

Reports

a. **Student Report** – Gage Sironi, Megan Walker,

- Band and chorus preparing for “Lillian.” Opening show will be on Thursday December 11 at 6:30 with second show on Friday at 6:30.
- The 11th grade Composition Class has started reading “Macbeth.”

b. **Principal Report** – Dave Schilling

- Dave shared information from LIS visit. Received great feedback on what is working well and suggestions for changes to make for the final submission for the grant.
- Students’ recording with Amy Noyes about Dorothy Canfield Fisher book that they are reading was aired on VPR Vermont Edition this week.
- Citrus sale ends tomorrow, Tuesday, December 2nd. Possibly talking about extending fund raiser.
- Basketball season is underway.
- Climate Change presentation for students grades 7-12. School Energy Challenge, 6% reduction from making small changes.

c. **Superintendent Report** - Nancy Thomas

- LIS site visits. Visiting team was very impressed with students that were interviewed. They were pleased with how students are taking an active role in their education.
- Collective bargaining agreement with the Teachers’ Association has been settled.
- Act 166 has been delayed so that schools may choose to fully implement universal preschool in either FY 16 or in FY 17. Many details are not yet available.

Board Discussion

a. High School Foreign Trip

- Currently 4 students are slated to go on the Belize trip. Gail has suggested that the students postpone the trip for this year.
- Lee Penniman and Michael Crocker shared some alternative trip ideas with the board. (see handout)
- Lee also shared information from previous trips including cost and attendance.

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- Lee and Michael proposed that the class travel to Belize as planned in April 2015. During 2015-2016 school year research will be done to investigate alternative trips for the 2016-2017 school year.
 - Lisa Olson made a motion to accept the proposal for the class to travel to the Belize as planned in April 2015. Sharon seconded the motion. Discussion and questions followed. Four board members voted to accept the proposal and one board member voted against accepting the proposal. Proposal was accepted.
- b. Black River Design Proposal
- Board reviewed the proposal presented at the previous board meeting. (Questions and discussion followed)
 - Jackie made a motion to accept Black River Design Proposal. Ry seconded. Motion approved.
- c. Principal Search
- Currently 21 applicants. 10 are Vermonters.
 - Nancy is forming the Interviewing Committee. There are 4 school staff members who have volunteered along with Lisa and Ry from the board, Pat (Curriculum Director) and 3 or 4 parents. Gage and Megan (Student Representatives) will also be part of the hiring committee.
 - The first meeting will take place December 8th.
 - Week of December 16th: School visits, interviews and reference checks.
 - Set Board interview date: December 22, 2014
- c. Budget Draft #2
- Christina shared information regarding salaries that are partially covered through grant funds. (see handout)
 - Total for grant funds is currently a projection. Will receive actual totals for grant funds in May or June.
 - Draft #2 Highlights (see handout): Overall 6.8% budget increase from FY15 to FY 16. Down from 9% in the first draft.
 - Will not have tax rates until information is received from the state in December.
 - Lisa recommended that they go ahead with reducing PE to .9.
 - Budget will be revisited in two weeks.
- d. Teacher Collective bargaining Agreement
- Two year settlement made. Twinfield increase 3.3% for FY 15 and 3.5% FY 16. Cabot increase 3.4% for FY 15 and 3.6% FY 16.
 - Jackie moved to ratify teacher's collective bargaining agreement. Chris seconded the motion. Ratification approved unanimously.
- f. Policy Revision
- B3 Board Member Conflict of Interest
 - D6 Substitute Teachers
 - D7 Volunteers and Work Study Students
 - D8 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace
 - D11 Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees
 - E8 Tobacco Prohibition
- g. Policy First Reading: F3 Search and Seizure by School Personnel

Board Action

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- a. Act on Policies B3, D6, D7 D8, D11, E8
 - Chris made a motion to approve policy revisions. Jackie seconded the motion. Policy revisions were approved unanimously.
- b. Ratify Teachers Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - Jackie motioned to ratify teacher's collective bargaining agreement. Chris seconded the motion. Ratification approved unanimously.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amanda LeBlanc, Transcriber