

Townshend School Board Minutes
@Townshend Elementary School
5-14-12-Draft
7:00 pm

Present: Kim Liebow, Beth Cutts, April Chase, Brian Schmidt, Al Claussen, Members of the Board, Kris Jerz, Member of the Public, Deborah Leggott, Principal, Steven John, Superintendent, Judy Hawkins, Recorder

Call to Order: April called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Additions and Deletions: Deborah asked to add to the agenda under New Business: e. new hire-music teacher. Kris Jerz asked to speak to the board regarding graduation.

Members of the Public: Kris Jerz asked someone from the school board to speak at graduation. Kim Liebow will speak at graduation and hand out the diplomas.

Consent Calendar:

- a. Principal's report
- b. Superintendent's report
- c. Minutes for April 9, 2012

Approved by unanimous consent

Treasurer and financial reports: April reported that we currently have \$200,000 in our checkbook. We have \$150,000 borrowed on our line of credit. June 1st last tax payment is received and the line of credit will be paid off.

Bills and Purchase Orders: April made a motion to pay the bills and purchase orders as follows: Payroll PO#53 \$16,065.39, Payroll PO#54 \$10,381.32, Payroll PO#55 \$14,217.17, Payroll PO#56 \$6,534.66 and Vendor Warrant PO#57 \$103,673.23. No discussion. Motion carried to pay bills and purchase orders as read.

Reports of Administration and Committees:

- a. Policy-Steven reported in his superintendent's report of the policies that need reviewing and the ones that don't. The first 3 policies will be looked at for June meeting. Steven will have central office staff scan them into the computer for the board to review before the June meeting.
- b. Technology-No update. Meeting coming up in two weeks. Report in June
- c. Negotiations-to be discussed in Executive Session.
- d. R.E.D.-John Everett, consultant for R.E.D. committee, provided the committee with timeline and draft articles. April distributed a copy of the draft articles for the board's review. Jamaica and Windham will not be interested in the R.E.D. if

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a new school isn't in the plan. They do not want to join schools or school boards, etc. A lengthy discussion ensued. Steven encouraged friends and community members look on the R.E.D. website.

Unfinished Business and General Orders:

- a. EEE Program: Deborah distributed a document for the board's review. At the last meeting a mission statement was developed. Deborah reported that our own 4 year old program will go to 5 days a week from 3 days a week. We currently have 19 children enrolled for next year in Pre-K and K plus 3 intensive needs children.
- b. FY 12-13 Grade Configuration: This was discussed at the last meeting. Deborah sent out a letter to the parents.
- c. TES Report Card-Nothing to report
- d. Discuss policy updates- See under Policy (Reports of Administration and Committees).

New Business:

- a. Capital Improvements: Deborah distributed a list of the capital improvements that she would like to have done. 1. Three smart boards, this would allow for a smart board in all classrooms. 2. Larry Gould's estimate for French drains-they are put under ground and disperse the ground water. The board fully supports Deborah's proposal for capital improvements above.
- b. Year round school calendar: Steven gave an overview of what this would look like but said he had no first hand experience with this kind of school year. The school year would be 8-10 weeks module of instruction and have 2 weeks in between. Brian researched this model and said most of the successful programs used this 8-10 week module, as Steven discussed. April will bring this up for discussion at the board retreat.
- c. WCSU start time: Preliminary results show that the bus company can actually save some money by starting school at a later time. Steven reported that some of the runs would have mixed children on the bus, i.e. high school, elementary school children. Brattleboro Union High School study found that there was less tardiness, less absenteeism, etc. A lengthy discussion ensued.
- d. Communication & Discipline: April mentioned this had been brought up as a discussion point. Brian spoke to this subject. He feels their isn't always a good line of communication. He would like to see clear expectations. He would like to know what his child is doing at the beginning of the school year, the middle and the end. Deborah reported that there are Common Core Values that the teachers teach to and they really tell you what is to be expected at every grade level.

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e. New Hire-music teacher: Deborah reported that Michael McKinney has been hired as the general music teacher.

Correspondence:

April received the Water Flow Report from Grace Cottage. She reported that everything seems to be going fine and Deborah was given the report to file.

Upcoming Meetings:

- a. WCSU Full Board meeting 7:00pm May 23, 2012 at Dover Elementary School
Beth, Al and April will be attending.
- b. Voluntary RED study committee 7:00 pm June 6, 2012 at L&G

Executive Session if needed

- a. Negotiations
- b. Personnel

Executive session entered by April Chase at 8:54 pm regarding student matters. April made a motion to leave Executive Session at 9:01 pm.

April made a motion to allow 3 children to complete the school year at Townshend Elementary School despite relocating to a new town. Motion carried.

Executive session entered by April Chase at 9:03pm regarding personnel. April made a motion to leave Executive Session at 9:24 pm.

April made a motion to offer the contract as recommended by the Superintendent. Motion carried.

Executive session entered by April Chase at 9:26 to discuss negotiation results. April made a motion to leave Executive Session at 9:32 pm.

No resolution.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm.

TOWNSHEND SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
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Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hawkins
Recorder

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