

Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board
Tuesday, August 18, 2009, 6:30 pm
Minutes of Meeting

Shelburne Town Hall

GRS Board Members Present: Jo Carpenter, Angela Brown, Anne Hill, Steven Michaud, Carol Miller, Ron Ouellette, Paul Partenope, Julie St. Germaine (left at 8:24pm), and Mike Waddell

Absent: Debra Ackerman and Greg Corrigan

Administration: Karen Cloutier, Principal, Ed Fenn (left at 8:24pm); Dave Goyette, Maintenance Director (left at 8:02pm); Chad Miller, Technology Director (left at 6:53pm); Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny, Co-Director of Special Services (left at 6:53pm); Keith Parent, Principal, GMHS (left 9:07pm); and Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator

Public: Ben Mayerson (Minute Taker)

Press: None

I. Call To Order

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative School Board was called to order at 6:32 pm

II. Public Comments

None

III. Written Communication

a. NHDOE SPED Determination 6/26/09

The GRS had the highest school score of any district in the SAU.

b. NHDOE School Approval Designations 6/22/09

The GMHS is approved through 2014 and the Edward Fenn to 6/30/2010.

c. DES ARRA Bus Award 6/24/09

A brief review of the letter's content was discussed. The amount of the EPA required fluid will be very little, minimally impacting the bottom line.

d. GHS Graduate Survey

The survey was briefly discussed.

e. NHCTE Letter-Rob Hamel-6/21/09

The letter was briefly reviewed.

IV. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes June 16, 2009 and June 29, 2009 **Public and Non-Public Sessions**

The Chair declared all items in Section IV as adopted.

V. Student Council Representative Report

Krista Arguin, the new student representative, was not present.

VI. District Administrators Reports

a. SPED Director's Report

Rebecca Hebert-Sweeney was available to answer questions.

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b. Maintenance Director Report

Dave Goyette was available to answer questions.

A member expressed joy that the houses are gone. There was a brief discussion about how well the completed project came out.

c. EFS Principal's Report

Karen Cloutier was available to answer questions.

There was a question as to how parents can get a copy of the handbook, if they don't have Internet access. Karen replied that a letter sent to all households offers a hard copy upon request.

There was a question as to who will be installing the sidewalk. Karen replied that the State grant required that the job be put out to bid. The Town of Gorham is allowed to bid on the job.

Enrollment is at 212, however she estimates five or six students will be leaving. Karen estimates that the total enrollment will be at or slightly above last year's total.

d. GMHS Principal's Report

Keith Parent was available to answer questions.

There was a question to clarify who is paying for the balance of Mindflight program. Pauline Plourde answered that the board authorized payment from the budget.

Board members were reminded to stop in to the SAU office to sign vouchers.

e. Technology Director's Report

Chad Miller was available to answer questions.

The Email transition is now complete. New staff has had their Email accounts created. The technology coordinator position currently held by Renee will be advertised shortly as she will be relocating out of the State closer to family.

VII. Business Administrator's Report

a. Mercier Group June 2008 Financial Statement

Pauline Plourde briefly reviewed the auditor's report.

b. **Bus Bid Recommendation** - Contingent upon approval by Governor and Executive Council see Superintendent's Report.

A motion was made by Mike Waddell to accept the bus bid recommendation (#3 from W. C. Cressey and Son) for 3 buses and a retrofit of the existing buses with Webasto engines. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

c. RFQ Approval Yeaton Engineering-Heating System Controls

A motion was made by Carol Miller to accept the RFQ bid made by Yeaton Associates of Littleton for engineering services to analyze the facilities' current heating control systems, design alterations, and assist with the implementation of

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the recommendations, and to authorize the SAU office to negotiate an agreement. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

- d. End of Year Financials June 30, 2009
Pauline Plourde submitted the DOE 25 – Annual Financial Report and the MS-25 for signing by the members, which they did.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

- a. Business Administrator Board Meeting Designee
Superintendent Bousquet is away on personal business, and designated Pauline Plourde to act on his behalf.
- b. Policies
 - i. CM-School District Annual report
It was relayed from Paul Bousquet that this information be reviewed and approved at next month's meeting.
 - ii. EEA-Bus Routes
A motion was made by Anne Hill to accept the bus routes. It was seconded by Steven Michaud; all in favor.
 - iii. KF-Building Fees
A motion was made by Mike Waddell to accept the proposed building fees. It was seconded by Paul Parteno; all in favor.
 - iv. EEAE-Video Notification for Parents
This was an informational piece.
 - v. LK-Appoint Legislative Representative
There was discussion as to whether there should be a term limit for the representative. The board agreed by consensus that the representative should be appointed in April along with the members of the Policy Committee.
- c. ARRA Bus Award
See VII b.
- d. Request to return early from Maternity Leave
A motion was made by Carol Miller to approve Kelley Gagnon's request for early return from maternity leave on Thursday, September, 24th, 2009. It was seconded by Mike Waddell; eight in favor. Ron Ouellette abstained.
- e. Invitation to Opening of School
Paul Bousquet's invitation to the board to attend the first day of school for staff was relayed.
- f. Next steps regarding Milan invitation to join Cooperative
 - i. RSA see attached

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Pauline Plourde reported that the SAU attorney referred to RSA 195:18 as the proper process to take which would include a warrant article to be placed on each district interested in forming a planning committee. She suggests that the GRS and Milan boards meet informally and discuss what an enlarged Cooperative would look like. There was an explanation about how the relationship would be, if Milan joined the Cooperative.

Berlin, Errol, and Dummer have been invited by Milan to join in discussions.

It was reported that Berlin has (separately) expressed an interest in participating.

Milan has about 125 students (pre K – 12).

A question was posed as to if it was Milan's intention to send their high school students to the GMHS. The member asked why Milan wants to do this; is it financial issue or to *not* send students to Berlin.

One member asked if the savings projected in forming a Cooperative have been realized. Pauline Plourde says she believes there has been savings, not just financial.

There was continued general discussion.

A motion was made by Mike Waddell to invite Milan to a preliminary meeting and to ask the Superintendent to prepare some numbers pertaining to increasing the Cooperative. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

Wednesday, September, 9th was agreed to, by consensus as the date of a meeting with the Milan Board. Wednesday, September 23rd, will be the backup date. The meeting will be held at 6:30pm at the GMHS.

g. Building Update Including Financials

i. Window Treatments Cafeteria

A motion was made by Steven Michaud to approve the bid (\$3,082.00) made by Details of Littleton for window treatments in the new GMHS cafeteria. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

h. Ribbon Cutting Open House New Cafeteria etc.-August 27

Members were reminded about the ceremony and cookout as a way to provide tours to the community and thank them for their support of our schools renovation project.

i. Nominations EFS/GMHS

Keith Parent said that he is considering offering a French level 4. He feels this candidate is qualified to teach this level. The district would have to compensate an additional 12% to Ms. Sheldon to teach French 4. Keith said that it could be offered as a virtual class.

A motion was made by Carol Miller to approve the nomination of Marcy Sheldon for GMHS French teacher. It was seconded by Mike Waddell; all in favor.

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A motion was made by Mike Waddell to accept the nomination of Chris Partenope for JV girl's soccer coach. It was seconded by Anne Hill; eight in favor. Paul Partenope abstained.

A motion was made by Carol Miller to accept the nominations of the Curriculum Head(s), Assistant Principal, and Professional Development Committee members. It was seconded by Steven Michaud; all in favor.

- j. School Board Goals 2009-1010
 - i. Collaboration w/other Boards
 - ii. Energy Efficiency

- iii. Teacher Contract Negotiations

A motion was made by Mike Waddell to approve the board goals. It was seconded by Angela Brown; all in favor.

IX. Board Committee Reports

- a. Transportation

Angela Brown reviewed the committee's revised report. The growth in the cost of buses, support equipment, and labor was discussed.

A motion was made by Angela Brown to accept the recommendation that an updated potential ridership list be maintained, on an ongoing basis. It was seconded by Paul Partenope; all in favor.

A motion was made by Paul Partenope to accept the recommendation instituting a scheduled quarterly or seasonal rider count on all routes to provide an up-to-date usage rates. It was seconded by Steven Michaud; all in favor.

A motion was made by Steven Michaud to accept the recommendation that further investigation into the use of North Country Transit or other alternative transportation to Berlin for Vocational classes, school to career, and other classes held in Berlin; and investigating instituting a fee for parking at school. It was seconded by Ron Ouellette; all in favor.

A motion was made by Paul Partenope to accept the recommendation that the Board request specific financial data to explain such increases in cost before the next budget cycle; and that the Board request a comparison of transportation finances and statistics with other similarly sized (population and/or geography) districts in order to determine if our costs are reasonable for our district. It was seconded by Carol Miller; all in favor.

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A motion was made by Paul Partenope to accept the recommendation that if the Board decided that the committee continues to exist, at least one member from Shelburne and one member from Gorham be added to the committee; and that the Board agrees on a very specific charge with a time-line if the committee continues over the course of the coming year. It was seconded by Ron Ouellette; all in favor.

b. **Policy**

Paul Partenope reports that the committee did meet. A number of policies were discussed. Proposed policy changes will be taken up at the next board meeting.

c. **Negotiations**

There have been three meetings, and further discussion occurred in Non – Public.

X. Public Comments

None

XI. Non Public Session

A motion was made by Carol Miller to go into Non Public session under RSA 91-A:311 C at 9:07 pm. It was seconded by Ron Ouellette. The roll was called: Carpenter - Y, Brown - Y, Hill - Y, Michaud - Y, Miller – Y, Ouellette - Y, Partenope - Y, and Waddell – Y

a. Arbitration-Grievance Update

b. Teacher Negotiations

The board came out of non-public session at 9:30 pm.

XII. Next Regular Meeting Tuesday, September 22, 2009-GMHS Library-6:30pm

XIII. Other

XIV. Adjournment

A motion was made by Anne Hill to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Paul Partenope; all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

bwm