

MILAN

Minutes of School Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 6:30 pm
Milan Village School, 11 Bridge Street, Milan, NH 03588-9702
Phone 603 449-3306 Fax 603.466.3870 Web <http://schools.ncia.net/milanvs2>

Milan Members Present:

Andrew Mullins, School Board Chairman; Jacqueline Quintal, School Board Member; Patricia Shute, School Board Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Backler, MVS Principal; Patrick Low, Superintendent, SAU-20; Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator, SAU-20; Malcolm Shute, Minute Taker.

No. Subject (No. & Subject Taken from Agenda)

I. Call to Order

The School Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

II. Approval of January 8, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Patricia Shute to accept the minutes of January 24, 2006, as amended.

Seconded by Jacqueline Quintal

Vote: All in favor, motion passed.

- Minutes for December 6, 2005 tabled until next meeting.

III. Public Comments

None.

IV. Communications/Written

A letter was received from Mary Mayo at the DOE in Concord, NH, which approved the amended AREA with Berlin.

V. Communications-Visiting Staff or Special Presenters

None.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- The annual report is being worked on.
- Mike Fortier was contacted and he said one video camera is operational and another one needs to be sent to the 12V company in Gorham for repair.
- From available information, a digital recorder cost approximately \$1,500. The Superintendent will find out how long a digital recording can be made.
- Playback time for a digital recording will also be determined.
- As noted above, the amended AREA between Milan and Berlin has been approved by DOE and will be presented to the voters in March.
- The Superintendent and the Business Administrator visited with the SAU-20 attorney in regard to the Performance Bond. Dialog with the underwriter's attorney doesn't seem to be moving adequately; therefore the claim has been filed with the Berlin court for a ruling.
- An ad has been posted to hire a replacement for the Director of Special Education, Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny. The position is for a co-director for Milan, Dummer and Errol.

- The Superintendent met with John Moulis, the Superintendent of SAU-3 in Berlin, to apprise him of the high probability of moving to the Littleton SAU for the 2006-2007 school year.
- The Superintendent team for SAU-20 is meeting tomorrow and Patrick Low told Jacqueline Quintal, who will attend the meeting, that she should let them know about his meeting with John Moulis.
- The fund balance for the month is currently projected at \$98,000.

VII. Principal's Report

The Principal's printed report, which was distributed earlier, was reviewed with the following comments:

- A proposed schedule for 5th and 6th grades was distributed. Karen Patry will be on a full-time basis.
- Academics and curriculum continue as priorities. Math and science are focus areas. Preparing the MVS students for their move to the Berlin Middle School is a priority.
- A smaller version of Berlin's Encore program has been initiated to heighten students interests in their specials. Students will choose from a list of projects weekly as to which specials they would like to work on every afternoon for a two week period. The program will begin next Monday. The students will be making their own drums and using them with the help of the music teacher next week. Parents will be notified about this new program. Jacqueline Quintal mentioned that the Encore program had been run previously at MVS.
- A new SPED paraprofessional will continue to be available on a daily basis.
- A request has been received from the students to raise money by selling candles for a field trip in the spring. This will be coordinated with Patchwork Creations, a local NH business. The fund raising is expected to begin in the spring and will not be done in MVS.

Motion by Jacqueline Quintal to accept the proposal from the 5th and 6th grades to have a fundraiser through Patchwork Creations with beginning and ending dates to be added in before announcements are sent home.

Seconded by Patricia Shute

Vote: All in favor, motion passed.

- A proposal has been received from Denise Doucette to have students get involved in a "Jump for Life" fundraiser for the heart association fund in March.

Motion by Patricia Shute to accept the proposal to have a jump rope, low-key fundraiser for the American Heart Association, as proposed by Denise Doucette.

Seconded by Jacqueline Quintal

Vote: All in favor, motion passed.

VIII. Transportation

See Section VI.

IX. Budget 2006/2007

- The school board's projected fund balance to turn back to the Town of Milan this year is \$50,000.
- The statewide property tax was \$3.33 then \$2.90 and now it is \$2.505.
- The Adequacy Grant from the state is issued in November each year; however, a final determination is usually not made until June/July, so as yet, the amount Milan may receive is a projection.
- The project budget increase for the year is \$44,224 which includes, in part, increasing legal charges by \$20,000, shed building cost at \$12,000 and increasing fuel and oil cost to \$3.00/gallon.
- Salaries for next year's budget have decreased by one teacher because the anticipated need for two 5th grade teachers for this year was actually handled by one teacher.

- The current health insurance company for SAU-20 increased its premiums by 24% for next year. Harvard Pilgrim provided a quote, which will reduce the MVS contribution by \$20,323 for next year. Employees would save \$5,000 per year. This quote is 25% less than the current premium cost. Harvard Pilgrim representatives will meet with MVS staff at 2:45 pm on Monday, January 30th.
- Salaries for teachers have a 3% raise included in the budget. Paraprofessionals have a 7% raise included which amounts to a 75 cents per hour increase. This was guaranteed previously. A pay scale for paraprofessionals will be provided to the school board like the one provided for the teachers.
- There is no scale for custodians. Most other school districts pay \$11.00 pr hour. Denis earns \$11.90 per hour. Elaine will be given 15 cents per hour raise for working second shift bringing her hourly rate to \$10.25.
- Preschool salaries are paid from Federal funds; if they become unavailable, the money will have to come from private contributions (tuition).
- Teacher's salaries will be included in the town warrant as it has been for the past two years.

X. Other

- Jacqueline Quintal will continue to drop in periodically to the combination art & library class with principal's knowledge.
- The request for a study regarding how special classes are to be graded was tabled.
- The Principal noted that the blinking yellow light on Route 16 near the MVS is supposed to stay on until 3:30 pm, which it does. Also, Patricia Shute noted that on a few occasions, the crossing guard was apparently not on duty at 8:10 am. She is supposed to stay until 8:30 am. The Principal will check into this.

XI. Non-Public Session

Non-public session entered at 8:30 pm.

XII. Next Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 2006 at 6:30 pm at MVS library.

XIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.