

Milan School Board Meeting

**Tuesday, November 6, 2007
Milan Village School Library
6:30p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order** – Patricia Shute called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.
- II. Approval of October 2, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes** – Kevin Evans made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Sandy Pouliot, all in favor.
- III. Public Comments** - None
- IV. Written Communications**
- **Berlin School Board Minutes** – Board questioned the Carsey Institute in the Berlin School Board minutes. Paul explained this is a survey that will track students in Grades 7 and 11 and follow them for 10 years. About 30 families will be interviewed in order to follow the child after High School. This will enable the school districts to garner further information from our students once they go off to college and beyond.
 - **Milan School District Call List 2007-2008** – The Board reviewed and assigned families who they will contact in the event of school closures and/or delays.
 - **Milan Tuition Responsibility Statement** – The Board questioned Brooke Mason who they believe resides in Dummer and therefore, their responsibility. Signature was withheld until the issue is resolved.
 - **Shaw's Gift Cards** – Paul explained how the GRS Cooperative has been giving \$20 gift cards to staff. It was presented for information only. Kevin Evans made a motion to purchase \$20 gift cards for distribution to staff; seconded by Sandy Pouliot, all in favor.
- V. SPED Director's Report**
- **Information to Educators provided by S. Gordon** – Steve, Becky and teachers from each of the SAU 20 schools will be attending a three-day training to analyze student performance, grades, and individual test scores to match with grade level expectations. The State asked Superintendents to allow students test data to be released to the State for review. The Performance Tracker will allow for thorough analysis by demographics and particular questions.
- Steve reported that a day placement has since reverted to a residential placement. A recent student who moved to the area and was slated to attend Cascade Academy and Berlin School District looks like the student is going to drop out. The child will soon be 17. We may be responsible for three days of tuition to Berlin.
- VI. Principal's Report**
- **Full Day Kindergarten** – Dave would like to propose a full day Kindergarten and explained the benefits of providing it for students. Both Dave and Gerri St. Gelais (Kindergarten teacher) have discussed the benefit of this offering and the goal to have all students where they need to be by second grade. This new format would allow two hours of academic teaching. Dave iterated his two goals are to get the students ready for first grade without burning them out. The added cost of going to full time Kindergarten is estimated at over \$24,000 or \$.20/thousand on the tax rate. The benefit is the ability to identify risks early on when a positive impact for the students can be ascertained.

It is anticipated that Tonya Leveille could run the pre-school program at a reduced cost as she is a para professional. Tonya does hold a State license for running a pre-school program.

Discussion ensued regarding the Librarian and Physical Education. Dave has ideas to implement increased physical activity without taxing the communities. He thought it would be easier to bring forward one new idea at a time.

NWEA Maps Data was reviewed and students are showing growth at over 100% of growth target RTI Scale in Grades 3-6 in mathematics and reading. The Board suggested that this information be made public.

Dave pointed out that the Swis data has had a positive impact on the school's culture with very few referrals to date.

Sandy Pouliot made a motion to accept the vinyl mural State map to display in the Library; seconded by Kevin Evans, all in favor. The map was donated by Claudette Eames, owner of Classic Coverings.

Dave asked permission to give the school's 30+ year old laminator to the Christian School as a new one was recently purchased. Sandy Pouliot made a motion to allow the laminator be donated to the Christian School; seconded by Kevin Evans, all in favor.

VII. Superintendent's Report

- **Milan School Board Mission Statement** – Kevin reported that Julie was unable to attend the meeting but relayed the process to accomplish the crafting of the mission statement. The first step is to gather information to look to see if there's a national and state mission, gather examples from Ted Comstock and possibly ask the PTO and teachers for their input. Next, brainstorm on key terms, draft a mission, review draft and come to a final resolution. Once the Board develops a mission statement, Dave will work with his teachers to develop the school one. Julie will be working on a draft and email to the Board for their review. Patricia believes PBIS should be part of the mission statement which will tie in with the Berlin School District who is also a PBIS school.
- **Set date for 2008-2009 Budget Public Hearing** – Paul explained the process: budget will be reviewed by the Board in December, final review in January; February 5 will be the Public Hearing held jointly with the town; town at 6:30 pm, school to follow at or around 7:00 pm.
- **Reading Specialist Services to Grades 7 and 8?** Paul was informed by John Moulis that the Reading Specialist was hired for grades 4-8.
- **Adoption of Policy and Policy Revisions** – Kevin Evans made a motion to accept the 2nd reading and adopt the following policies: BEDG-R, BEDG, EBC, EBCA, EIB, GBCD, GCR, IHBA, IJOC; seconded by Sandy Pouliot, all in favor.
- **Other** – Paul stated that he will be conducting staff evaluations and will ask building staff to evaluate/ report on their building leaders and ask if a positive change can be seen. He also informed the Board that the staff is very pleased with Dave Backler.

VIII. Business Administrator's Report

- **Area Tuition Rates** – Area tuition rates will be discussed at the SAU meeting on Thursday, November 15th in Gorham.
- **2007 Tax Rate** – A copy of the 2007 Tax Rate Calculation was presented to the Board. The school rate increased by \$1.99 which was below what was stated in the Town Report by \$.62 partly due to ending the year with a fund balance of \$91,669.
- **Initial Budget Figures for 2008-2009** – A draft copy should be ready for distribution in a couple of weeks. Areas that need to be solidified are out-of-district placements, regular education tuition students, full-day Kindergarten, 1-day a week of Remediation – Title monies are dropping and which would only cover 4-days of Title 1, full-time nurse, transportation contract, etc.
- **Building Update** – The roof project was very successful and there are currently a few minor punch list items to complete. The sprinkler system has been recharged. Items that are still outstanding are the well/water issue, the intercom system and furnishing for the school. Dave has other items in mind.
- **Monthly Financial Statement** – The financial report continues to indicate a projected fund balance; the change of residential placement of a child is shown in the calculations for this month.
- **Other** – No other issue.

IX. Non Public Session – Kevin Evans made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A3II(b) at 8:29 pm; roll call vote taken: Kevin Evans, yes; Sandy Pouliot, yes; and Patricia Shute, yes; all in favor.

- **Staffing and Salaries 2008-2009** – The Board was informed on the salary package proposal for staff for the coming year. Delivery of services was also discussed. No motions were made. Kevin Evans made a motion to go out of non-public session 9:05; seconded by Sandy Pouliot, all in favor.
- X. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting** – Regular agenda items as well as the first look at the budget for 2008-2009.
- XI. **Next Meeting Date-December 4, 2007**
- XII. **Other** - Kevin questioned the landscaping around the fence and the heat in grades 5 & 6. Dave informed the Board that Honeywell has been contacted to see if heat in these rooms can be regulated.
- XIII. **Adjournment** – Sandy Pouliot made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 pm; seconded by Kevin Evans, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Pauline Plourde