

Milan School Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 2, 2008

Milan Village School Library

Minutes of Meeting

Present: Board: Kevin Evans, Patricia Shute, Sandy Pouliot

Administration: Superintendent - Paul Bousquet, Business Administrator - Pauline Plourde, Co-Director of Special Services - Steve Gordon, MVS Principal- David Backler

Public: Brenda Letellier, Jill Stephenson, Karen Couture

I. Call to Order

Shute called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

II. Approval of August 5, 2008 Minutes

Motion made by Pouliot to accept minutes of August 5, 2008 as presented. Motion seconded by Evans. No discussion. Vote 3:0. Motion approved.

III. Interview of Treasurer Candidates in Nonpublic Session

Motion made by Evans to enter Nonpublic Session per RSA 91-A:311b. Motion seconded by Pouliot. Evans – yes; Pouliot – yes; Shute – yes. Motion approved.

Board entered nonpublic session at 6:37 PM.

Three applicants were interviewed for the Milan School Treasurer's position.

Board returned to public session at 7:20 p.m.

Motion made by Evans to appoint Jill Stephenson as Milan School District Treasurer. Motion seconded by Pouliot. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

Shute thanked the three applicants for their interest in the position of treasurer and announced that the Board has selected Jill Stephenson as the new treasurer.

IV. Public Comments: none

V. Written Communications included in packet for board to review
News Release – Beginning of School Year
Berlin School Board Minutes

VI. SPED Director's Report

Steve Gordon discussed his monthly report that was distributed with the board members' packets. He added that he is currently working on finalizing the federal funds grants.

He added that it was a busy summer with a 2 day workshop this summer in Milan on the Autism Spectrum. He added that the presenter will be coming back for additional days in Gorham and Milan to consult with staff and the psychologist.

He discussed that there were students who had difficulty at the high school this past year. Four were given the opportunity to do summer school and all four participated – two at the Vo-tech, one on-line, and one at JAG.

Gordon asked the board if they had any questions. Bousquet commented a senior attending Berlin may be sent to North Country Charter School.

Shute asked if there are any students that the board may need a ‘heads up’ on. Gordon stated he was not aware of any that may cause problems.

VII. Principal’s Report

- Backler presented the Board a copy of the Technology Plan that had been sent to the state DOE for review.

- The Board reviewed a mark-up of the new proposed MVS sign. It is similar to the current sign and will have a place for announcements. He added that money from the PTO has been put aside for the purchase.

- A check was received from Project Learning Tree in the amount of \$1019.03, which is for the reimbursement for 3 participants who attended the training.

Motion made by Pouliot to accept the reimbursement check from Project Learning Tree in the amount of \$1,019.03. Motion seconded by Evans. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- Check from Wal-Mart for the time Ginny Gagnon volunteers at library.

Motion made by Evans to accept a check from Wal-Mart in the amount of \$250. Motion seconded by Pouliot. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- An overview on a Science program using the Globe Network was presented.

- It was announced that MAP testing starts next week and will work it into RTI, to bring students up to grade level.

- The first day of school was very calm - a family environment with an academic focus is apparent.

- Building update:

Finished the other side of the roof – replaced the valley in the roof
Removed the old chimney, installed the new metalbestos chimney
Redesigning roof vents for the attic space

Motion made by Evans to have Paul Bousquet accept the bid for the board, in the best interest of the school, for the vent and will email the board members of the price. Pouliot seconded. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

Motion made by Pouliot to have Paul Bousquet review the bid for the additional roof work for the board, in the best interest of the school, and will email the board members of the price. Motion seconded by Evans. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

Plourde explained there will be another change in the boiler room that may cost over \$1000.

Motion made by Pouliot to give Paul Bousquet the authority to approve the additional work for the piping into the chimney. Motion seconded by Evans. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- Intercom system is back ordered but should be installed over Columbus Day weekend.
- Status of the Homework/Play Club discussed. Shute read the policy for the use of the school building. Backler explained that the charge will be \$6 / day.
- The total number of students on opening day was 109. He distributed numbers by grade to the Board.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

- 2008-2009 Goals

Shute presented her 2 goals:

1. Energy savings use for heating and powering the building and looking at alternative energy sources or schedules. Shute reported that Berlin School Board had a comment in their minutes on 4-day weeks during the winter.

2. Regionalization. She stated that it was time for valley to sit down and discuss regionalization of educational services.

Pouliot emphasized the need that all endeavors are for the students' good and to improve community publicity.

Evans expressed need to coordinate with selectmen better, to have their support, that also shows in the community and budget meetings. Involve more people to understand what is wanted from the community. Also, requested information on energy consumption on a Saturday and Sunday compared to Monday through Friday. Evans volunteered to work with Bousquet. Bousquet reported that he has been working with Thayer re: a pellet boiler for the building. Backler added that there is currently a contract with Honeywell to control the thermostats better.

Shute stated the Milan School Board's goals:

1. Alternative energy sources/options
2. Regionalization of educational services
3. Improved communication with town officers and constituents and
4. All programs need to best serve the interest of the students

Motion made by Evans to endorse the Homework/Play Club. Motion seconded by Pouliot. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- Policy Review

Bousquet explained the policies and stated that some are more appropriate for the high school

Motion made by Pouliot to accept the second reading and to adopt the policies EB, EHB, IFA, IHAK, IJ, IJO, IKB, IKE, IL, ILBA, JFABD, JG, JH, JI, JICD, JICK, JLC, JLD, JLDBA, JLF, JLI as amended. Motion seconded by Evans. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- Nomination for paraprofessional

Bousquet presented Mike Fortier for nomination for paraprofessional for student support services for 6 hours day, 130 days, at \$13.13/hour. The position will be 60% grant funded with 40% to come out of the general fund.

Motion made by Evans to accept Mike Fortier for the paraprofessional position. Motion seconded by Pouliot. No discussion. Vote: 3-0. Motion approved.

- Other

Bousquet reiterated Backler's comments on how well the first day went.

Bousquet commented on the board's goals and that he is looking at the heating system. He added that the regionalization piece will need to be negotiated with Berlin. Shute commented that next year Milan can re-look at the AREA agreement.

Evans confirmed the meeting on 10/6/08 in Dummer with the Dummer and Berlin Boards. Some possible questions for discussion with Berlin were – building committee update, possibility of 4-day weeks, school start date for FY 2009-2010, PBIS follow up.

IX. Business Administrator's Report

Plourde reported returning \$356,345 to the town to reduce taxes, which is a \$2.90 per thousand reduction on the tax rate. Board requested that the information needs to be made public and that the SAU issue a press release.

Plourde explained the financial report presented to the board.

X. Other

- Discussion regarding the procedure for registering students
- Next meeting will be on 10/6/08 in Dummer.
- Brief discussion regarding the decrease in enrollment and the feasibility of bringing students back to Milan for grades 7 & 8.

XI. Nonpublic session – none

XII. Adjournment

Motion made by Evans to adjourn. Motion seconded by Pouliot. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Hockmeyer
Recorder for the Board