

TSB Minutes
@ Townshend Elementary School
11-23-09-Draft
7:00 p.m.

Present: Craig Hunt, Kathy Hege, David Dezendorf, Kristina Wright, Jessie Bishop, Members of the Board, Steven John, Superintendent, Deborah Leggott, Principal, Frank Rucker, CFO, Barbara Bedortha, Abigail Dillon, Kathy DuGreniere, Megan Richardson, Joyce Berry, Kris Jerz, Carlie Sanderson, Kurt Tietz, Deidre Beattie, Beth Cutts, France Morrow, Melissa White, Kim Liebow, April Chase, Tammie Claussen, Elizabeth Linder, Steve Walton, Tony Dezendorf, Members of the Public, Judy Hawkins, Recorder

Call to Order: Kathy called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes for November 9, 2009: Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2009. No discussion. Motion carried.

Additions and Deletions: Additions under Correspondence: Grace Cottage Septic monthly report

Members of the Public:

a. WCSU CFO Frank Rucker-SU budget presentation:

High points presented: Superintendent's budget down, reduction of 1 position. Agency Fund: Down from prior year. Three schools asked to add technological support, Jamaica, Wardsboro and Windham. Proposals down, less than last year by \$47,000. Program changes: ½ time Administrative Assistant position was eliminated. A lengthy discussion ensued. Kathy told the public that tonight is the first time they have seen the WCSU budget or the numbers put into the Townshend budget.

- i. Board questions regarding professional audit, legal/negotiations, health care increases: Health insurance 2 1/2 increase not to exceed 4%. \$1,500 negotiations increased.
- ii. Administration recommendations for FY11 budget cuts: Steven and Deborah met and came up with the following proposals: Two options were presented. Option 1 was a reduction in educational programming resulting in a savings of \$51,493.00; Option 2 Reduction in Force: Reduce one classroom teacher for a savings of \$76,000 (including salary, benefits and FICA). Steven recommends choosing Option 2 to meet the \$60,000 cut. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Kathy DuGreniere came to ask the board about the Plumb Road winter bus stop. She feels this is a danger for her child to walk along Route 30 and would respectfully request the board re-consider. Kathy Hege asked for a motion. No motion was made. A lengthy discussion ensued. Kathy H. said the administration sets the bus routes in the summer before school starts. When Kathy's son was younger they decided to allow this, now that he is older the

board has denied the request. The previous decision by the board stands that the Plumb Road winter bus stop not be added.

Bills and Purchase Orders: David made a motion to approve the bills and purchase orders as follows: Payroll PO #34 \$16,759.43, Payroll PO #35 \$11,384.45, Vendor Warrant PO #36 \$16,085.59. Discussion: Re: PO #36- David asked if the total amount of fees for psychological services (\$900) was reasonable and customary. It was determined it was. Motion carried.

- a. Otter Creek request for reconsideration of payment for water system Op manual: A bill was received for \$500.00 from Otter Creek Engineering for the development of an operation manual of the UV system. Kathy received a letter from Tyler Billingsley stating the agreement with the O&M. He hopes the school will re-consider the O&M fee for \$500.00. Kathy recommends that Otter Creek come and get the manual. A new person has been hired from Trojan and came to Townshend and reviewed the water system. She seems to think the problem is with our water. David made a motion to hold payment pending Otter Creek/State of Vermont resolving this issue to their satisfaction. Motion carried.

Principal's Report: Deborah presented her report via e-mail. Each teacher gave a synopsis of what is happening in their classrooms. Informational: H1N1 Immunization: On November 10th, about fifty children and several adults received the H1N1 shots. No discussion.

Superintendent's Report: Steven presented his report via e-mail. No discussion. Steven wanted to make sure the board got a copy of the letter from the Commissioner, which he distributed. Steven also distributed some articles he wanted the board to be aware of i.e. expect less funds from the state, etc.

Old Business:

- a. Policy grid update: Deborah and Heidi are working on it. David gave some information to help them with this process. Deborah will get a list to Kathy of ones she hasn't found.
- b. Chimney repair work update: Deborah has not received an estimate as of yet. She will check with Tim Jeffers concerning this matter and report her findings to the board.
- c. Air handler update: Warren Beattie, the electrician, is possibly thinking of working with the cycling of the peaks of the air handler. He has talked about putting in a thermostat. Deborah will call Warren and ask about the thermostat and inform the board of her findings.

New Business:

None

Committee Updates:

- a. Executive/Super Board: None

- b. Policy: None
- c. Technology: None

Correspondence: Grace Cottage septic monthly report: 450 gallons/per day for month of October. Deborah will file this report.

Upcoming Meetings:

- a. WCSU Super Board-December 9th, 2009 @ L&G, 7:00 p.m. to approve or change the budget. Three people from Townshend board need to be present. Kathy might not be able to attend. David and Craig will attend. Kristina made a motion that Jessie cover for Kathy in the event she is not available to attend the December 9th meeting. Motion carried.

Executive Session (if needed): None

Adjourn: David made a motion to adjourn at 10:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Hawkins
Recorder