

Alburgh School Board  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
July 7, 2014

**In Attendance:**

For Administration: Superintendent Bob Phillips and GISU Director of Student Services Beth Hemmingway

School Directors: Michael Savage- Chairman, John Goodrich, Alton Bruso, Rene Prairie, Allyson Sweeney- Recording

Teaching Candidates: Casey Dragoon, Amanda Wright

Public: Cheryl Wells, Sarah Mowll

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm. Adjustments to agenda included adjustments to special education staffing for the 2014-2015 school year as well as discussion around the building physical needs. Mr. Goodrich moved (2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Bruso) that we accept the Minutes as amended for June 16, June 20, and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 (Unan.).

**Public Input:**

Discussed teacher/student ratio for upcoming Kindergarten classroom. Right now, class size is estimated to be 16 students.

Mr. Goodrich (2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Bruso ) moved that we offer teaching contracts to Casey Dragoon (Kindergarten) and Amanda Wright (Grade 3) for the 2014-2015 school year (Unan.).

**Superintendent's Report:**

Personnel Update: Today was the first day for GISU's new Curriculum Coordinator, Elaine Pentaleri. She comes with over 30 years of educational experience and we're excited to have her on board.

Calendar Modification: Calendar for the 2014-2015 school year has 1 too many teacher days. Mr. Phillips has requested that we make June 16<sup>th</sup> the last day of school, convert October 17 from a full Professional Development Day to combined PD and teacher prep day, and to convert November 25 to Parent Conferences all day and late afternoon. Mr. Goodrich (2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Sweeney) that we accept the GISU calendar as it applies to Alburgh for the 2014-2015 school year (Unan.).

Professional Development: Teams of Administrators and Faculty participated in Building Effective Strategies for Teaching (BEST) Summer Institute from June 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup>. Alburgh was represented by Kathleen Cramer, Polly McFarlin, Eric Bushey and Jen Mitchell. This team invested time in revamping the student behavior system under the PBIS umbrella.

Beth Hemmingway along with special educators in this school, looked at the needs of current and upcoming students for the upcoming school year. Beth's proposal along with special education teachers and Ms. Cerro is to hire a full-time autism/specialist educator whose primary focus will be on students with autism or other significant disabilities in grades K-8. The upcoming EEE position will be a .8 position with a focus on Pre-K (3 & 4 year olds). Mr. Prairie (2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Bruso) moved to authorize Ms. Hemmingway to post a full-time position for a special educator with expertise in serving children with autism for the 2014-2015 school year (Unan.).

**Board Discussion:**

Mr. Phillips and the Board noted that the sixth bullet on *The Principal's Report* (July, 2014) represents significant changes to building utilization and deserves further consideration. The Teachers' Negotiated Agreement, the Board noted, provides for remuneration of teachers for classroom movement. – Aging windows were discussed and the Board agreed that six windows are due for replacement; Mr. Prairie will research and report. – The Board discussed installing “snow guards” to reduce snow- and icfall hazards. - Custodians advised Mr. Bruso that a new rug shampooer is needed and would benefit all interested parties. – Mr. Bruso presented the current accounts payable.

**Board Action:**

- Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Prairie 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to reschedule our next Board meeting from July 21 to July 29.” (Unan.)
- Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Prairie 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to approve for payment the current FY 2014 bills as presented by Mr. Bruso. (Unan.)
- Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Prairie 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to approve for payment the current FY 2015 bills as presented by Mr. Bruso. (Unan.)
- Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Bruso 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to authorize the purchase of a new rug shampooer at an expense not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000). (Unan.)
- Mr. Prairie moved (Mr. Goodrich 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to hire Mr. John Beaulac to grade the north parking lot if he can do so by August 17, 2014 at a cost not to exceed five-hundred dollars (\$500). (Unan.)
- Mr. Bruso moved (Mr. Prairie 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to accept, with regret, the resignation of paraprofessional Mr. Paul Hinman. (Approved, 3 yea; 1 abstention)

**Executive Session:**

At 6:40 pm, Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Bruso 2<sup>nd</sup>) “to enter **Executive Session** to discuss the evaluation of a public employee.” (Unan.) **Executive Session** concluded at 6:50 with no action taken.

**Agenda Building:**

At the July 29, 2014 meeting, Board Discussion shall include a review of building configuration (classroom use) and the need for new window purchases and installation.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

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Allyson Sweeney, Clerk

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Rene “Skip Prairie

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Alton Bruso

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John Goodrich

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Mike Savage, Chairman