

Alburgh School Board

September 3, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Principal Janet Cerro, GISU Superintendent Robert Phillips; Student Support Services, Beth Hemmingway; for faculty, Ms. Giroux; for the Board, Michael Savage- Chairman, Alton Bruso, Rene "Skip" Prairie, John Goodrich and Allyson Sweeney (recording.)

Mr. Savage called the meeting called to order 5:04pm. Minutes for the August 18, 2014 were amended and approved on a motion by Mr. Bruso (Mr. Goodrich 2nd.)

Adjustments to the agenda include discussion about Central Office and Activities at Central Office, bussing contracts and also well as duties of the crossing guard.

Superintendents Report:

Multi-tiered support system that Alburgh created and utilized was a good model to the other schools in the district who haven't put one similar into place.

There is a new walk-thru tool to be utilized by the principal when entering teacher's classrooms.

Smarter Balance Assessment-All administrators were humbled when they attempted the SBAC and encourage all to see what this assessment entails. This is the assessment our students are completing. Mr. Phillips encouraged the Board to take the sample test so we can best understand and experience what this assessment is asking students to do. This sample can be found at <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>.

Through the Adequate Yearly Progress, roughly 96-97% of Vermont schools did not meet the standards therefor not one school in the state was labeled a "high performance school." This is looking at a separate set of standards than what the Common Core looks at.

Supervisory Union Professional Development covered a variety of topics including literacy, math, Handle with Care and looked at many other topics. Please refer to the *Superintendent's Report* for a full list of what was covered.

New Teacher Mentoring Program was discussed at the annual administrative retreat held at the Grand Isle Lake House. Janet is putting this program to use here with our new teachers. There are 21 new teachers in the GISU for the 2014-2015 school year.

High School Enrollment: Beth talked about her role with high school procedures and how she tracks enrollment and tuition. Ms. Hemmingway provided the Board with a report of tuition student's grades 9-12 as of September 3, 2014.

Bussing Contract: We've presented the bussing contract to a family who needs bussing for NCCS. The contract states the rules and fees associated with this service. We have not received the contract back, but Mr. Phillips will inform us if this bus will have 2 more students riding once he has a definite answer.

Principal Report:

Current total enrollment for Alburgh School is 209 students.

Mr. Steve Vogl was nominated by Janet Cerro for Teacher of the Year by UVM. They look to see if any nominee excels in the following categories: Learning, professional knowledge, advocacy, collegueship and accountability. Mr. Vogl will be invited to a dinner for receiving this nomination along with Janet Cerro, the Superintendent, the Board Chair, and Head of Student Support Services, Beth Hemmingway

We are currently hiring for 4 positions- .8 EEE, School Nurse, Middle-School Paraprofessional and Middle-School Math. Interviews were held today for the School Nurse and both were moved forward to meet Mr. Phillips. We have had an internal candidate apply for the middle-school math teacher Mr. Phillips has yet to review this fully to see if this candidate qualifies for this position. Moving this candidate into the position would require that they get a provisional as they are not currently licensed at the middle-school level in Vermont. Janet is having this person spend a few days in that classroom this week to see how it goes for the candidate and the students. Beth Hemmingway will be covering as the EEE- teacher until a teacher is hired. Ms. Hemmingway has contacted retired teachers to see if they would be interested. We have not had any new applicants.

The Crossing Guard can no longer completely do the full-schedule of this position as they have taken another job. It was decided that we would fill that position internally at this time as an interim plan. There has been one parent express an interest in this position. Janet and Mr. Bushey will meet with this parent to discuss the position further. If they want to move her forward, a background check will be completed prior to hiring her. This position would be filling the morning and afternoon duty.

Board Discussion:

Discussed the logistical concerns at the Supervisory Union office and how they're becoming more limited on space.

A parent who is moving to Isle La Motte at the beginning of October has requested that their children continue to play sports at Alburgh. This was discussed in previous years and we've allowed students from Isle La Motte to play if there was room on the team. We are tabling this discussion for now as we are unsure if this family is still moving and if this is still a valid request.

New schedule this year allows for breakfast to be served from 7:30-7:45am. We have greeters outside and in the lobby to help direct people in appropriate directions and to supervise students. Students are expected to be in their classroom by 7:50am for Homeroom. If students are opting out of breakfast, they are waiting outside. During inclement weather days, they will be waiting in the gymnasium.

Lyndon Institute has an Open House on Oct 21st. There will be an "Alburgh Shadow-Day" on this day. Beth Hemmingway will check with them to see if this can be opened up to other students in the county.

Board Action:

Mr. Prairie moved that we authorize the principal to offer the position of Crossing Guard to a qualified candidate (Mr. Goodrich 2nd.)


Mr. Goodrich moved that we authorize payment of accounts payable as presented tonight (Mr. Prairie 2nd.)

Executive Session:

There was no need for Executive Session at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

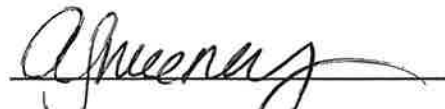
Respectfully Submitted,




John Goodrich

Alton Bruso

Rene Prairie



Allyson Sweeney



Michael Savage, Chair