

**Alburgh Community Education Center
Board of Directors Meeting
December 1, 2014**

Present: For the Administration, Ms. Beth Hemingway, Director of Student Support Services, Ms. Janet Cerro, Building Principal; Mr. Robert Phillips, Superintendent. For the Faculty, Ms. Tracy Giroux, Primary Teacher. For the Board, Mr. Michael Savage, Chairman, Mr. Alton Brusco, Mr. Rene "Skip" Prairie and Mr. John Goodrich (recording)

Mr. Savage called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and Mr. Goodrich moved (2nd by Mr. Prairie) "to approve the **Minutes** of November 17, 2014 as presented." (Unanimous)

(Ms. Cerro added to tonight's **Agenda**: Cafeteria freezer and Univex mixer discussions.)

Superintendent's Report: The State Agency of Education had decided to delay, for twelve months, the "Universal Access Pre-K Outreach" mandate because Act 166 provided poor timeline implementation guidelines. (Ms. Hemingway asserted that EEE specifications provide for the inclusion, in pre-school, of some three-year-olds, depending on their qualifications.)

Mr. Phillips advised that his research found no statutory or policy prohibition of staff taking time off without remuneration.

Ms. Hemingway provided handout, "Alburgh School District – Tuition Students Grades 9-12 As of December 1, 2014." This paper and Ms. Hemingway's apt discussion provided approximate estimates of projected secondary enrollments and tuition costs for FY 2015-2016.

Principal's Report: Ms. Cerro announced that our current enrollment is 212 and fluid.

Current unfilled positions include one Math Interventionist (Teacher), one Middle Level Paraeducator and a request for part-time Kindergarten assistance. A math teacher was interviewed today (12/1) and will approach the Superintendent for further review.

Alburgh Students showed their pride and appreciation of area veterans on Veterans' Day with many and varied commemoratives.

Our school-based clinician, Felicia Cota, has organized a holiday door decorating project to be publicly displayed through December 11's Holiday Luncheon. (Open to the public.)

Smarter Balance Assessments (SBAC) shall occur between March 17 and June 12 for all students in grades 3 through 8.

Upcoming dates include December 11's Holiday Dinner, 12/15 School Board Meeting, 12/18's Holiday Concert and 12/24 – 1/2/2015 Christmas Vacation.

Our kitchen needs a freezer repair, estimated at \$1,500. Consensus decided that we should address this matter in the next fiscal year. Similarly, a failed kitchen mixer, estimated to need a \$1,655 repair or \$5,700 replacement was referred for further review.

Board Discussion: Athletic Director Lisa Newhardt has arranged for a "team coaching" accommodation for one coach whose background check is delayed in review. Additionally, Ms. Cerro has directed Ms. Newhardt to devise improved language for next year's Code of Conduct pledges.

The Board discussed Holiday Concert etiquette and the school children's need for quiet, respectful audience participation at the December 18 music celebration. When adults and youngsters wander about, talk, use cell phones and exit the hall during performances, the players and fellow audience members are distracted and offended. We "brainstormed" means and methods of convincing the entire populace to adhere to civic courtesy and decorum.

Board Action: Mr. Prairie moved (Mr. Goodrich 2nd) "to authorize the Superintendent to advertise an opening for a part-time (65%) Pre-School Teacher for the remainder of the current school year." (Unan.)

Mr. Brusio presented the itemized, current account payables and Mr. Prairie moved (Mr. Goodrich 2nd) "to pay the bills as presented with the understanding that specific reimbursements for mileage and hotel fees are forthcoming." (Unan.)

Executive Session: At 6:16 pm, Mr. Prairie moved (Mr. Goodrich 2nd) "to enter **Executive Session** to discuss the employment or evaluation of an employee." (Unan.) **Executive Session** was concluded at 6:49 pm and no action was taken.

Adjournment occurred at 6:55 by consensus agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

John Goodrich (recording)

Allyson Sweeney (Clerk)

Alton Brusio

Rene "Skip" Prairie

Michael Savage (Chairman)