Alburgh School Board

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2015

In attendance: Ms. Cerro, Mr. Phillips, Michael Savage, Wendy Savage Alton Bruso, Rene Prairie, Allyson Sweeney, Renee Creller

Meeting called to order at 5:02pm. Ms. Cerro will be sharing a few extra items under the Principal’s Report, Mr. Phillips will be discussing the records being held at the town office under Superintendent’s Report. We have one member from the community here who will speak under Public Input. Mr. Prairie (2nd Mr. Bruso) motioned that we accept the minutes as presented (Unan.).

Public Input:

Family from the community addressed the Board with concerns regarding the Pre-K size and what the *projected* numbers are looking like for 2015-2016. Ms. Cerro informed eveyrone that at their upcoming in-service on the 31st of March, the class-sizes and locations as well as the master-schedule will be the focus. A few ideas were thrown out there such as paying for tuition at other schools whether it be for the Pre-K or the older kids, adding an addition, and again the consideration of where each class is located within our current building as-is. No further action was taken.

Superintendent’s Report:

The schools throughout GISU had an extensive review of the food-service programs. They look at how well documented the free and reduced lunch program is, what the menu looks like, and our policies. The report of this review hasn’t been completed and sent back to Mr. Phillips. The Alburgh School is a *Provision 2* school which qualifies all children to receive free & reduced lunch. There will be more trainings and in-services through webinars versus asking them to travel so far for these classes.

The Town Clerk had contacted Mr. Phillips back in November regarding documents that we have been keeping in their vault. Mr. Phillips is recommending to the Board that we make a motion to get rid of the documents we are allowed to dispose of after five years.

The Efficiency Vermont study completed their report, room-by-room, for each of the GISU schools. It is ready to go out for bid. Once bids are in, Efficiency Vermont would let us know any of the projects are cost-efficient for us in the long run. Mr. Gifford will head this process. We will see a copy of this report once bids are back. Nothing will be completed until it is discussed with the Board.

Mr. Phillips invited in a gentleman from Burlington School’s IT Department to visit each of the schools in the district to get a better sense for what our options are and what we can do to improve what we are doing as far as technology goes.

There will be a meeting at the North Herchool about the possibility of School Collaboration within the Islands. This meeting is more of an informational meeting and is open to members of all Island communities. This will be held at 6pm in the North Hero Town Office.

Principal’s Report:

Ms. Cerro highlighted that two of our new Alburgh teachers have applied to the Vermont Mathematics Initiative which is a four-year professional development opportunity focusing on mathematics content, effective teaching practices, action research and teacher leadership.

Ms. Cerro brought information regarding warranties of the doors from the past estimates.

Update on the newly added mid-morning snacks are costing a little more than $200/month.

Department for Children and Families Child Development Division conducted their unannounced Licensing review. There were two citing that were corrected immediately. Overall, this review went extremely well.

Lisa Newhard was considering forming a 7/8 baseball team for boys and a 7/8 softball team for girls. There are two staff members who are interested in helping with this and about 13 students who have already expressed an interest as well. Ms. Newhard would want to start practicing in the next couple weeks if we were to move in this direction. We have money in the student activity fund that would pay for busing and pay for coach stipends. It is questionable about how much equipment is needed and cost of uniforms. It would be a shorter season, three home games and three away. The Board expressed concerns and questions that Ms. Cerro will bring back to Ms. Newhard. We admit that we are at a disadvantage to not be able to offer this to our students here, but Swanton has allowed our students to play on their team when desired.

Board Discussion:

The Board reviewed what we would like to go into the Islander regarding the proposed 2015-2016 budget. We will include an insert with the general information of school highlights and increase reflections. Ms. Cerro will put together further information for the Board to have for the informational meeting being held on March 2nd.

Board Action:

Mr. Bruso motioned (2nd Mr. Prairie) that the Town Clerk shred the following documents when five years have elapsed since being audited. This pertains to invoices, check register, vouchers, and payroll records (Unan.).

Mr. Prairie (2nd Ms. Sweeney) motioned that we approve payment for the accounts payable as presented (Unan.).

Executive Session:

Mr. Prairie (2nd Ms. Sweeney) motioned that we enter Executive Session at 6:38pm to discuss student matters (Unan.).

Executive session ended at 6:57pm with no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alton Bruso Rene “Skip” Prairie John Goodrich

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Allyson Sweeney Michael Savage