

**MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MONTGOMERY, VERMONT  
SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Montgomery Elementary School  
Monday, October 5, 2009  
4:30 p.m.**

**Agenda**

- 1. Previous Minutes**
- 2. Curriculum/Grants Coordinator—Mary Helen Hart**
  - a. Curriculum and Grants Updates**
- 3. Superintendent's Report—Jay Nichols**
  - a. Negotiations**
  - b. Early Childhood Program Structure**
  - c. H1N1 Update**
- 4. Board Business**
- 5. Recognition of Visitors**
- 6. Principal's Report—Beth O'Brien**
  - a. Personnel Update**
  - b. School Activities/Events**
    - 1. NECAP Testing**
    - 2. Open House-Oct. 27 at 6-7pm**

**Montgomery Town School District  
Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors**

**Montgomery Elementary School  
Monday, October 5, 2009  
4:30 p.m.**

School Board members attending:    Bruce Mercy                    Morgan Daybell  
   Tom Smith                    Charlie Purrier

Administrators:                            Beth O'Brien, Principal  
   Jay Nichols, Superintendent  
   Mary Helen Hart, Director of Curriculum & Grants  
   Kim Magnuson, Director of Special Programs

Others:                                        Ruth Little

THESE ARE THE UNOFFICIAL MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

1. Bruce Mercy called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. Charlie Purrier arrived shortly thereafter. Minutes of the September 14, 2009 meeting were approved, as written, upon a 4-0 vote.
2. Mary Helen Hart:
  - a. Mary Helen provided information specific to Montgomery and that also applies district-wide, regarding grants strategies and curriculum mapping work. She told the board that she has contracted Janet Hale to do additional training in the district to help meet the goal of a coordinated curriculum supervisory union-wide. She said that the plan is to continue to improve and update curriculum so that it stays current and relevant and isn't relegated to simply becoming "a shelf ornament". Jay Nichols noted that the electronic curriculum maps are much easier to maintain and use than the paper models and that teachers will find them much more serviceable.
  - b. Mary Helen presented a taped panel discussion of supervisory union teachers expressing support for the ongoing work (despite some initial misgivings).
3. Kim Magnuson:
  - a. Kim initiated a discussion about Early Childhood Program restructuring. The pros and cons were examined of having each school assume responsibility for their own pre-school services versus the current FNESU set-up. Board members asked to have Bill run some numbers so they could do a cost study before making a decision. They will re-visit the issue at their next meeting.
4. Jay Nichols:
  - a. Jay provided an update regarding clinics within the district for administration of the H1N1 flu vaccine. Two FNESU sites have been chosen. If the plan goes ahead, Montgomery students (whose parents have signed them up) will be bused to Richford. Department of Health nurses, assisted by school nurses, will administer the vaccine to students. Children aged nine and under will need a second immunization at a similar follow-up clinic.
  - b. Jay asked the board to sign an addendum to Beth's contract regarding jury duty, and they did.

5. Beth O'Brien
  - a. Beth reviewed school activities: NECAP this week and next Tuesday, and Open House on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7 p.m.
  - b. Beth reported that the e-rate application process is continuing this year (and noted that it requires an large investment of time to prepare), and asked the board to allow her to use the money generated from it for technology expenditures, but only if the school district ends the year in good financial standing. The board gave permission for her to do that.
  - c. Beth asked whether the board wanted to transfer the \$2500 budgeted, from the general fund to the school meals fund, as is usual at this time of year. The board authorized the transfer upon a unanimous vote.
  - d. Beth raised a safety concern that was brought to her attention regarding the bus stop in the village. The board discussed ways they could address these safety issues. The board made a unanimous decision to direct Roger to make one additional bus stop near the former D&D Deli. The children that live in that general area would then not have to cross Route 118 at such a potentially dangerous location.
  
6. Tom Smith made a motion to enter Executive Session for discussion of negotiations and personnel. Morgan Daybell seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. The board moved into Executive Session at 6:17 p.m. and out at 6:58 p.m. These actions were taken:
  - a. Tom Smith made a motion to accept with regret the letter of resignation submitted by Larry Letourneau. Bruce Mercy seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. Beth noted that Larry provided very helpful lists of contacts, duties, and procedures and said he would help troubleshoot any building problems while we are transitioning to a new custodian. Beth said she was very grateful that Larry had "left us in such good shape".
  - b. The board authorized Beth to offer the custodial position to first or second choice candidates, as per the discussion in executive session.
  - c. Charlie said he had received a proxy vote ballot from VSBIT. The board directed Charlie to sign the proxy ballot and return it, as no one plans to attend the meeting.
  - d. Charlie shared an invitation to the UVM Outstanding Teacher Day, where Sue Zeineth-Collins will join a group of teachers who are being honored. Beth will attend the ceremony with Sue and Morgan said he hopes to attend as well.
  
7. Tom Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Bruce Mercy seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Ruth Little

