

**Richford Town School District
Regular Meeting of Board of Directors
Richford High School Library
Monday, August 24, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

Unapproved *** Minutes ***** Unapproved**

Board Members Present: Evan Mercy, Hib Doe, Tina Lamos, Marianne Hall, Scott Alderman

Administration: Jay Nichols, Dale Guertin, Nathan Demar, Roger Gagne, Art Liskowsky, and Robert Gervais

Visitors: Doug MacDonald and Kelley Alderman

Evan Mercy informed the Board that Virginia Davis has resigned as board secretary and Jane Fletcher would be replacing her as part of her administrative assistant duties.

The Board discussed having the Board Agendas and Minutes posted on the schools' websites.

Minutes

A motion was made by Hib Doe and seconded by Scott Alderman to accept the minutes of June 8 and June 15. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board went up to the attic (old gymnasium) to look at the issue with the roof and poor insulation. They want to come up with a plan and cost to fix the issue.

Cold Hollow Career Center – Art Liskowsky

Mr. Liskowsky informed the Board there was a little vandalism this summer. He also said Cold Hollow has reclaimed some of their property. There is now more parking available at CHCC. Other items discussed were a two-day conference that staff attended in Killington on "Teaching and Learning in the Landscape of Perkins IV," an upcoming NEASC visit in six weeks, and Open House on October 12. Mr. Liskowsky also reviewed the CHCC's Mission Statement, Philosophy and Goals.

Mr. Liskowsky informed the Board that Helen Short has been hired as the new Allied Health teacher.

Robert Gervais – Technology Coordinator

Robert Gervais discussed Distance Learning and Online Learning. The District has purchased ten licenses through Odyssey Ware and Richford High School has purchased one license. The Board wants the students to be made aware of this opportunity. Also, they would like the Guidance Director to check with colleges for acceptance of these courses on students' transcripts.

Finance – Hibbard Doe

Hib gave “Kudos” to the Principals for the great shape we are in—we have money to carry over for next year. There is \$114,000 in the reserve fund that has been set aside for the purchase of a new boiler for the Elementary School. Mr. Gagne is to talk to Bill Samuelson to start getting bids.

The Food Service program raised \$34,000 this past year by raising prices of school lunches. They are now \$19,000 in the black.

The Board would like Bill Samuelson to call Bill Blakeney about the painting of the woodchip stack.

Board Business

Landscaping

Marianne presented a proposal from the Town of Richford for the purchase of 15 white spruce trees (5 – 6 feet tall) as a buffer for the generator. This proposal was for \$1000 and the town wanted to know if the school would help with some of the cost. A motion was made by Hib Doe and seconded by Scott Alderman to pay \$500 toward the cost. The motion passed unanimously.

Contract Negotiations

Evan suggested a negotiation committee be formed. Evan and Marianne volunteered with Hib as backup. The first meeting is September 1, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union Central Office.

6:13 p.m. A motion was made by Hib Doe and seconded by Tina Lamos to enter Executive Session for Personnel. The motion passed unanimously.

6:19 p.m. A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Tina Lamos to withdraw from Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

No action taken.

Jay Nichols – Superintendent

Personnel

Mr. Nichols requested the Board authorize the Superintendent to set pay rates for paraeducators provided they are within the range of the salary scale set forth in the paraeducator agreement. The Board let Jay know the pay scale is already set per the Support Staff Agreement.

Supervisory Union Executive Committee

Mr. Nichols is asking the School Board to think about forming an Executive Committee to handle all business at the Supervisory Union board meetings. This will be discussed at the September 10, 2009 Supervisory Union Board meeting.

Board Appreciation / Celebration Evening

The Board Appreciation potluck supper is scheduled for October 1, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Enosburg Falls Middle/High School.

Richford Elementary School – Roger Gagne & Marianne Hall

Long-Term Substitute

A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Tina Lamos to pay Mary Sherrer at a per diem rate of Bachelor's, Step 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Security Alarm System

Mr. Gagne let the board know that it would cost \$556.00 to purchase a new security pad to allow teachers to have a code to enter the Elementary School building.

Parent Request

Mr. Gagne has a parent request to allow her son to attend school here while she is still living in another state. Her son will be living with her parents, who live in Richford. She will be moved to Richford by September 18. A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Marianne Hall to allow this. The motion passed unanimously.

NECAP Discussion

Mr. Gagne handed out two packets describing what he and his staff are doing to improve NECAP scores. Some things they do are: students take the practice test in September; and teachers motivate their students before, during and after the tests. They have a "Hot List" of students to concentrate on to help those students achieve 3's and 4's. Also, students will be working in small groups on the math program before and after school.

Richford High School – Dale Guertin and Scott Alderman

Personnel

A motion was made by Tina Lamos and seconded by Hib Doe to accept Marilyn Hackett as the truant office for the School Year 2009 – 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Tina Lamos to accept Carrie Garrow as paraeducator, to replace Dan Newton. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Guertin informed the board that Lesley Rainville will be on family medical leave from November to February. He will advertise for a long-term substitute. Also, Dominic DeRosia is on family medical leave for two full weeks, then two weeks – half time.

Handbooks

Mr. Guertin went over a few of the changes made to the Student/Parent Handbook and Teacher Handbook. A motion was made by Marianne Hall and seconded by Hib Doe to accept the Handbooks with the changes. The motion passed unanimously.

School Improvement

A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Marianne Hall for the School Board Chair, Superintendent and Principal to sign the Commissioner's Required Action 2 Year School Improvement document. The motion passed unanimously.

Climate Change Grant

Mr. Guertin informed the Board that he, Bill Samuelson, and Garry Shover applied for a grant for new lights in the gymnasium, but it didn't get approved.

Roof Proposal

Proposal is on hold for the flat roof, until the attic issues are dealt with.

Tennis Net

Mr. Guertin informed the Board that Melissa Bonnette, owner of the Pine Cone, has purchased and donated a new net for the school's tennis court.

Soccer Field Update

Mr. Guertin informed the Board of the progress of the soccer field. Approximately \$7,000 has been raised at this time through fundraisers and donations. \$2,000 in grass seed has been donated, 350 loads of fill have been brought in, and Mark St. Pierre has donated his equipment to work on the field. The field will be seeded either this evening (8/24) or tomorrow (8/25).

Other

A motion was made by Scott Alderman and seconded by Tina Lamos to approve a graduation date of June 11, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Fletcher
Board Secretary