

**Minutes of School Directors Meeting  
Smilie Memorial School, Bolton, VT  
March 2, 2005**

**Attendees:** John Alberghini, Vicky Congdon, Gail Conley, Phil Graff, Fred Kenney, Steve May, Loree Silvis  
**Guests:** Lisa Wells

Meeting came to order at 7:00 pm.

**GENERAL ITEMS**

1. As a longtime board member and former chair, Lisa Wells thanked the board for the smooth transition to new members and new leadership.

2. Dr. Conley administered the oath of office to the new board members, Loree Silvis and Steve May.

3. Principal's Report:

Chittenden Solid Waste did a recycling review of Smilie, and the school received a A (93%), a significantly higher grade than the previous review four years ago. Smilie's concerted efforts to reduce waste and maximize recycling are paying off.

Loree Silvis has met with most of Smilie's teachers to finalize math skills continuum and to review math assessments with a focus on number operations. The assessments are tied to the GLEs (Grade Level Expectations) to prepare students for the NECAPs (New England Common Assessments).

Smilie will host another Blood Drive on March 30.

Enrollment for February is at 97 (inc. preschool).

4. Phil asked for an update on preschool/kindergarten enrollment for 2005-06. Based on anticipated enrollment, the kindergarten will be a 60% day (10:30 to 2:20) next year. There will be one preschool session, with four-year-olds and EEE students having priority for available spots. John has notified parents that enrollment will be limited. The first grade class of 22 students will be split between Kelly Palmer and Tina Cole.

5. Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Conley has proposed that the April board meeting be a carousel meeting, with all 45 board members. The first part of the meeting will be a presentation to all members on technology in the district, and the boards will then break up for their individual monthly board meetings. The proposed date is April 14 at MMU.

4. Committee Reports:

Phil and Lisa Wells gave an update on the Negotiations meeting regarding teacher contracts negotiations. The Board has proposed a higher deductible and a higher copay for medical insurance, as well as a copay on dental insurance. Steve asked if there were things the Board could offer the NEA that would make a higher copay more palatable. Phil asked about offering a choice

of plans that would cost the insured more or less, depending on the plan selected. Dr. Conley said there is already a choice with current insurer.

#### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. February minutes: Fred amended the Executive committee report to read “gender inequities” instead of “gender bias.” Steve moved to accept the minutes as amended; Vicky seconded. All in favor.

2. Following the election of two new members, the Board reorganized as follows:

Phil was elected Chair, Fred was elected Vice Chair, Vicky was elected Clerk.

Committee assignments are as follows:

Executive: Phil

Transportation: Fred

Special Ed. and Long-Range: Steve

Curriculum: Loree

Policy: Vicky

Phil moved that Lisa Wells continue as CESU representative to the Negotiations committee during the current teacher contract negotiations; Vicky seconded. All in favor.

3. The Board reviewed the Annual Meeting. Board members felt Joanne Machia’s presentation on factors impacting the budget was helpful and heard similar positive feedback from community members. The Board appreciates the voters’ support of the 2005-06 school budget and their ongoing support for Smilie’s staff, programs, and students.

4. Phil moved that the Board approve the Invoice Edit List in the revised amount of \$282,414.84; Vicky seconded. All in favor.

5. Dr. Conley distributed the annual audit report and financial statements for the Bolton School District.

6. Other business:

VSBA is offering a Policy Governance workshop on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Steve and Loree discussed attending a VSBA Roles, Responsibilities & Relationships workshop;

They will select a date and let other board members know in case others are interested in attending..

Fred asked if we wanted to consider a board retreat. Dr. Conley will ask Stephanie Colburn to look into available Saturdays at Sleepy Hollow Inn in June.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled as a carousel meeting for all CESU board members on April, 14, 2005, at 7 pm at Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Congdon  
Unofficial until approved