

**Minutes of Bolton School Directors Meeting
Smilie Elementary School, Bolton, VT
June 7, 2006**

Attendees: Vicky Congdon, Phil Graff, Fred Kenney, Jim Massingham, Loree Silvis, Michael Woods
Guests: Eddie Chabot, Laura Nassau

Meeting came to order at 7:05 pm.

GENERAL ITEMS

1. Comments from community members: Bolton resident Eddie Chabot took issue with board member Steve May's letter in *The Burlington Free Press* indicating that by supporting the teachers during the strike, he was "representing his constituents." Mr. Chabot said that Steve's constituents are the voters of Bolton. He had called Steve May but the call was not returned. Mr. Chabot also noted he did not support Commissioner of Education Richard Cate's proposal to reduce the number of supervisory unions, feeling it would result in a loss of local control over school issues.

2. Approval of previous minutes. Fred moved to approve the May 10, 2006 minutes as written; Vicky seconded. All in favor.

3. Superintendent's Report:

Jim announced a new special ed. coordinator, Beth Oszajca, has been hired. Beth DeForge is unable to return because of health issues.

The master agreement for the teacher's contract is being formalized; central office is waiting for the fact-finder report for the support staff negotiations, which are in impasse.

Phil asked about the carousel meeting; Jim said it went well and board feedback had been positive. Long-Range Planning committee has developed a proposal for three carousel meetings a year.

4. Principal's Report:

Michael reported the unofficial results of the Developmental Reading Assessment (administered in May to second graders); 16 of the 17 students were at or above the standard.

Eighteen parents attended the kindergarten orientation night on June 5 and there was positive feedback. Preschool orientation was held on June 6.

The new greenhouse has been erected.

There are currently 14 students in the Computer Class for Bolton Seniors.

5. Committee reports:

Transportation: The committee reviewed the issue with dead spots on routes where there is no radio reception and continued the ongoing discussion on route consolidation.

Policy: The committee reviewed the draft of the school crisis policy; it is waiting to hear back from the MMU Policy committee before the policy is warned. The committee reviewed the Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy as required by federal law, as well as VSBA's model policy on wellness. Two community forums have been scheduled in June for public input on the proposed policy and the guidelines. The committee has been asked to review the conflict of interest policy and to add a recommended course of action to the guidelines.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Laura Nassau presented the FY 06 year end estimates. There is an anticipated surplus of \$4,345. After the \$3,303 that voters approved at Town Meeting to support the food service program, there will be an unreserved surplus of \$1,042.

Laura reviewed Joanne Machia's FY 05-06 summary of the meals program. Joanne is projecting the program will end the year with a deficit of \$1,600. She recommends that the lunch price increase from \$2 to \$2.25 and that breakfast increase from \$1 to \$1.50. Phil moved that the board accept Joanne's recommended price increases; Vicky seconded. All in favor.

Laura reviewed the FY 2007 service bids and her recommendations. Fred asked why there were not more bids to consider. Laura said central office puts the contracts out to bid, and these are the bids that were received. Phil moved to accept Laura's recommended bids; Loree seconded. All in favor.

2. Graduation: Graduation is scheduled for June 13. After discussion, Loree moved that the board appropriate funds to have the graduating students each choose a book that would be dedicated to them and would then be donated to the library; Fred seconded. All in favor. Michael will follow up on this.

3. The board finalized the agenda for the retreat on June 24.

4. Fred moved to accept the Invoice Edit List in the revised amount of \$566,239.71; Loree seconded. All in favor.

5. Loree suggested a brunch for teachers on the first inservice day in August to show appreciation, noting it was a popular tradition at Brewster-Pierce, where she had taught for many years. The other board members thought this was an excellent idea; the date will be determined at the retreat.

6. At 9:05 pm, Fred moved the board enter into Executive Session under the authority of Title I, Section 313 (1) to discuss a personnel issue; Vicky seconded. At 9:15 pm, Phil moved to come out of Executive Session; Fred seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

The next School Board meetings are scheduled for June 24, 2006 at 9 am at Sleepy Hollow Inn in Huntington and September 6, 2006 at Smilie Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Congdon
Approved