

THE NEW SALEM/WENDELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FINAL Minutes
June 2, 2016

PRESENT: Johanna Bartlett, chair; Dick Baldwin, Jessalyn Zaykoski, Carla Halpern, Alyssa Rulf-Fountain, John Dewitt, Melissa Burke, Jack Radner, members; Kelley Sullivan, Principal; Jennifer Haggerty, Superintendent; Aaron Osborne, U28 Director of Finance; Trudy Smith, Diane Adams; teachers.

Public Hearings: There was an appreciation for the service of John F and John D on the school committee, celebrated with cake. They will be ending their service on the committee.

Warrants:

- a. Bill - 4057, 4058, 4059.
- b. Payroll - 424, 425, 822, 823, 4240, 4241, 4242, 4250, 8220, 8230.

Teacher Presentations: Diane Adams spoke about the research-writing project in the third grade including tsunamis, volcanoes, Scotland, and how to edit videos on some topics. Trudy Smith, the speech therapist, spoke about the broad range of what she works on with students and how her work ties in with the curriculum through supported science and supported social studies.

Superintendent's Report: Jen noted she has been working on her summative report. She said she has spoken to Diane Sullivan in a phone conversation about "Revisiting U28" and a proposal on what it may look like to have a regional school. Jen also announced DESI's amendment of district measures was passed by the Senate. There was a request to the Deputy Commissioner to appeal the decision of being penalized for more than 5% of students opting out of PARCC because the Department of Education was unclear about the ground rules of "being held harmless". Last Jen thanked the committee for such a great first year.

Director of Finance and Operations Report: Aaron announced the he and Kelley have been working hard to close out the year. There were a few unexpected costs such as an out of district student and a larger than expected school choice tuition out. On a positive note the school lunch program received more than expected as a reimbursement. Aaron is waiting to hear back about a grant for "Breakfast in the Classroom". Kelley noted she would like to film the outside of the windows in the front of the school, this was recommended by the state police as a result of a lockdown drill. Aaron also noted he received the auditors report which noted nothing significant.

John D. moved that the New Salem-Wendell School Committee approve the utilization of \$26,971 of Circuit Breaker and an amount not to exceed \$30,000 in School Choice to offset the out of district costs, capital needs, and Food Services account deficit as necessary to balance the general fund budget. Carla seconded and the committee approved AIF.

Principal's Report: Kelley noted the enrollment is the same as last month at 167. The 2 homeless children in the school have moved to Athol. There is a new family moving into New Salem. Kelley announced that Terri Nelson, Beth Haggerty, Carolyn Croteau, Paul Bocko, and Karen Dean would be retiring. She said the first evening concert at the school was wonderful. On another note, the PTCA was struggling to get parents to participate and

was rebranding the organization "Team SRS". Kelly also told the committee that the McGinnis's won the Supermarket Sweep. She noted there will be a reception for the retiring teachers on June 22nd, also Field Day, the Talent Show, and Graduation are all coming up. Lastly Kelley noted the fire department came to the school to inform families about how to protect their home from fires.

Collaborative: Melissa reported that the Collaborative is working toward granting COLA's for teachers in programs the Collaborative runs in order to have long-term parity with all public school teachers. She noted that a member of the Collaborative is filing a lawsuit against the director of the Collaborative. She said they reviewed the budget and programs and noted a reminder about the Continued Ed programs the Collaborative runs.

Summer Warrants: Jessalyn, Alyssa, Johanna and Dick offered to sign warrants over the summer.

Community Action Award: Carla moved to reward Jody Vezina with the Community Action Award. Alyssa seconded and the committee approved AIF.

Policy: Jack moved to approve policies GCCA, GCCAB, GCCAG, and GCCBD. Melissa seconded and the committee approved AIF.

Carla moved to delete policy JKF, Melissa seconded and the committee approved AIF.

The committee discussed the procedure if a member misses a certain amount of meetings and what the consequence may be. Carla suggested that BettyLou review the minutes to see what the procedure may be. It was also noted that Wendell and New Salem both need members. Johanna also voiced her concern on the issue of a tie breaker when there are 3 members of each committee voting against each other.

Minutes: Carla moved to approve the minutes from May 5, 2016. Melissa seconded and the committee approved AIF.

Carla moved to adjourn at 8:15 pm. John D seconded and the committee approved AIF.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessalyn Zaykoski
Committee Secretary