

Meeting Notice

Board/Committee Name: Petersham School Committee
Day/Date: Thursday, January 7th, 2017
Time of Meeting: 5:30PM
Location: Library



Minutes

1. Call to Order- Lynn Peredina called the meeting to order at 5:34pm in the Teachers Room.
Members Present: Lynn Peredina, Janice Coughlan, and Angela Danielson.
Members Absent: None.
Others: Superintendent Tari Thomas, Principal Joanne Menard, and Director of Finance Daniel Haynes, and Alyssa Roberts.
2. Public Comment- no public comment.
3. Glimpse Into the Classroom (Mathematics)- Mrs. Thompson gave a brief report in regards to blizzard bags and Mathematics. The overall feedback from her survey was that it was a little too much work. Mrs. Thompson thinks she will make things more effective for the next snow day and be able to scale things back a bit and make accommodations. Joanne Menard commended Mrs. Thompson on all of her efforts and enthusiasm. Tari explained we hope to have 1 or 2 more snow days so we can get more feedback and talk about this at the March meeting.
4. Report of the Petersham Teachers' Union- no representative to report.
5. January Items
 - a. Grants Update- Tari gave a brief summary of all the entitlement as well as competitive grants for all three districts and that this is available in the shared file.
 - b. Special education Update- Director Phillips has a summary report which may be found in your shared

file

which shows 25 students or 20% of your enrollment require specialized services through an IEP.

c. Technology Update- Director Bunker has a summary report which may be found in the shared file.

d. Blizzard Bag Update- Director Cole has a summary on the first day of the pilot in your shared file.

A summary of all the entitlement as well as competitive grants for all three districts is available in your shared file. 100% of respondents gave a positive response to e-learning, with 80% finding the day highly Favorable

60% of teachers reported that parents contacted them for clarification with 100% of the contact being via school email

80% of respondents reported to have receive 5+ assignments on the day after a blizzard bag day

20% of respondents reported that they will be revising their blizzard bags

Tari explained the committee will be updated in March if there are more blizzard bags between now and then.

6. Matters for Action/Vote- Tari explains that these are all critical mandated to have on your website so her recommendation is to provide each of them with a second vote to be compliant.

a. GBEC - Drug-Free Workplace (2nd vote)

b. IHAMB - Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs (2nd vote)

c. JICH - Alcohol Tobacco and Drug Use by Students (2nd vote)

Janice Coughlan moved to provide a second vote of the following policies- GBEC Drug-Free Workplace, IHAMB Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs, JICH Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use by Students,; the policy subcommittee will guide us when they get to section. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED:

Unanimous.

d. Annual Report to Town- Principal Menard explains she submitted a report for your review. Joanne explained this is not due until the town until the 24th so if you have any recommendations. Joanne briefly discussed this report with the committee.

Joanne wanted to pass out a letter that went home about enrichment opportunities this year.

Janice Coughlan moved to approve the 2016 Annual Town Report for the Petersham Center School.
Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

7. Sub Committee/Liaison Updates

a. Report of the Mahar Representative- Lynn explained they received a review of the e-learning, and glimpse into the classroom of the Makerspace which is becoming increasingly popular. Tari explained that overall e-learning was positively received they will be making modifications going forward. Lynn explained Swift River School is possibly going to bring in an individual for Charting the Course.

b. Report of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee- Janice explained we set up a meeting but we are just working on getting the budget together.

i. Union Agreement- Tari explained that we introduced this in September, reviewed this a little more in November. This has been looked at during Finance and Facilities. Tari explains there used to be a consolidation agreement that was meant to be a very short term agreement on working together due to the belief that regionalization was going to go through which it did not. Tari wants to formalize the agreement that we are currently working under. Tari explains that Orange Elementary School Committee approved this,

and

this passed in Mahar (only 1 opposed).

Janice Coughlan To approve the agreement, by and between, the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District, Orange Elementary and the Petersham Center School. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

Angela Danielson moved to appoint Janice Coughlan to the Supervisory Union Committee. Lynn Peredina seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

ii. Budget development- Tari explains we are right in line with our budget timeline. This month they are working with principals, directors, and coordinators on our internal budget preparations. Tari explained they are looking at getting initial figures in February to the Finance and Facilities subcommittee as well as visiting with the Finance Committee's in the representative town. Dan mentioned that contractual raises, special education challenges this budget will be tough but we will work through this at the Finance and Facility level.

c. Report of the Policy Subcommittee- Janice explained we are on G and we have a long way to go. January 23rd at 5:30pm is the next meeting.

d. Report of the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee- February 9 at 6pm is the next meeting.

8. Superintendent's Report- Tari highlighted a few items from her report that is in the shared file.

9. Minutes presented for approval: **Janice Coughlan moved to approve the November 17th, 2016 minutes.**

Angela

Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

10. Executive Session: not necessary

11. CAPS Collaborative Board Member- Tari explained there was a meeting in December where we got the report of

our

auditor and our annual report. Tari explained they hired new employees, are working on a policy project there. Tari explains enrollment is higher than it's ever been, and opening new programs. Tari explained they moved from Gardner to Westminster and they are in Sonoma Square right off of 2A and the classrooms are quite, clean, and cheerful and they are able to support a variety of behavioral and learning challenges.

12. Date of Next Meeting: March 9th, 2017

13. Adjourn- Angela Danielson moved to adjourn at 6:37pm. Janice Coughlan seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

Minutes taken by: Alyssa Roberts

APPROVED: March 9, 2017

The agenda reflects topics that the Chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed.

Public Comment Protocols

The School Committee welcomes public comment on items that are within the scope of the School Committee's responsibilities. The Public Comment agenda item is reserved for this purpose. Members of the public wishing to address the Committee should be aware of the following guidelines:

- ❑ The Chair will recognize those wishing to speak and give them the floor. Only persons recognized by the Chair may speak. For purposes of the minutes, speakers should identify themselves at the beginning of their remarks.
- ❑ The purpose of Public Comment is to receive input from the community, not to engage in prolonged conversation with the Committee. The Chair will ensure that any comment or question that requires a response from the committee or the School Department will be addressed in a timely manner.
- ❑ All comments should be addressed through the Chair, not any individual committee member or to others in attendance.
- ❑ Speakers are expected to respect confidentiality. This includes the confidentiality of the speaker's own child/ren as well as that of school staff and personnel.