

~Approved Minutes ~

Newbury Town School District
Newbury Elementary School Board
Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Present

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Emmy Hausman, Danielle Corti

Administrators: Bruce Williams, Assistant Superintendent OESU, Chance Lindsley, Principal NES

Call to order: P. Jewett called the meeting to order @ 12:05 pm

Agenda Review: Add discussion of school lunch bid under contracts

Approve minutes: E. Hausman made a motion to approve the minutes from 8/20/2018. D. Corti seconds. Motion passed.

E. Hausman made a motion to approve the minutes from 8/24/2018. P. Jewett seconds. Discussion of changes to wording regarding the heading of the warning. Clarify the wording of the original heading and what it is to be changed to. Motion passed with changes. D. Corti abstained due to absence. Discussion of Town of Newbury voters vs. Newbury Town School District voters. Make sure to clarify at the informational meeting why Wells River residents won't be voting on the issues.

Correspondence:

- Email from Margaret Maclean discussing the option of legal action against the state to seek a preliminary injunction if there is a forced merger. She is asking interested boards to discuss and make a decision by 9/28/2018 if they are interested in joining a potential lawsuit. Discussion re: pros/cons. B. Williams would like to discuss the issue with Emilie Kniseley. D. Corti is concerned about the cost of a legal battle to the taxpayers. The board authorizes P. Jewett to find out more accurate information re: fees and timeline for legal action and bring to next meeting.
- P. Jewett shares a revised letter of meeting structures for OESU that he will be sending to the state BOE.
- P. Jewett shares a letter he sent to Lisa Hervey of Newbury Village trustees in response to Bailey fund money. This will be on the agenda for 9/18/2018.
- Code of ethics for school board members. P. Jewett would like to discuss with E. Kniseley before signing. D. Corti and E. Hausman signed.

Payables: D. Corti made a motion to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the following:

- An accounts payable warrant for \$26,868.86 motion passed
- Discussion of \$400.00 for Healing Hands massage. C. Lindsley authorized for Professional development out of principal discretionary fund.

B. Williams has a suggestion for the warrant signing process: Authorize a warrant signer for the board. D. Corti asks B. Williams if it is ok to ask questions of the OESU finance department. Her experience in the past is that it has been frowned upon to do so. B. Williams states that this is ok to do and encouraged if there are questions. He goes on to say that one of the goals of E. Kniseley is to make systemic improvements at OESU to be more efficient.

12:58 C. Lindsley enters

Other: E. Hausmann contacted C. Conquest and asked him to provide written comments to the State Board of Education re: AGS proposal. She will also ask him to come to the informational meeting.

Contracts:

- The bids for food service are to be opened 8/10/2018. B. Williams would like to meet and accept one for a quick turnaround to ensure there is no lapse in food service. Current contract ends 9/22/2018. The board will meet 9/10/18 to open bids and review.
- E. Hausman made a motion to approve and authorize the board chair to sign an amendment to the contract for Kim Goody from 1 FTE coaching position to 1 FTE licensed elementary teacher. Motion passed with the understanding that her position is not being paid for from the general fund, but from the CFP fund.

Informational meeting prep: C. Lindsley will do a robocall. People to be represented, NES board, Town of Newbury select board, Village of Newbury trustees, lawyers for Town and NES board, OESU representative. The board will provide a brief summary of what has transpired so far with ACT 46 discussions and meetings. Also will discuss the possible implications for the residents of Newbury with a forced merger. B. Williams will research actual debt for the various schools involved and what ACT 46 requires as far as taking on debt with a merger. He can also gather the per pupil costs and tax rates for the towns/schools involved. He will bring this information to next meeting. B. Williams states that ACT 46 and the State Board of Education are more focused on the macro process of policy than on the micro process of how affects towns in the short term. Need to discuss Newbury representation on a larger board and potential of school closure. The board will meet on 9/10/2018 @ 1:00 to create posters and hand outs for informational meeting.

1:49 pm P. Jewett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. D. Corti seconds. Motion passed

2:10 The board came out of executive session. No action taken

Boltonville Update: B. Williams has been in touch with Lyman Realty. A P & S will be forthcoming.

P. Jewett asked that OESU financial manager Lori Blood give the board a financial update in the next 2 months. B. Williams suggests that an October board meeting will work better when an on site OESU audit is over.

Capital fund expenditure: C. Lindsley gives an overview of expenditures so far on previously discussed projects. Total spent so far = \$106,000.00 including flooring, outside painting, OT/JAZZ/PD room renovations, landscaping, inside painting, and replacement of gym door were itemized. A contract for renovating bathrooms has yet to be negotiated. Total cost for all expenditures must fall under \$150,000.00.

P. Jewett asks about NES' involvement in the State's grant supporting school safety improvements. He noted that an article in the JO had neglected to mention Newbury as a recipient of safety grant money. C. Lindsley assured the board that doors, outside lighting and blinds for downstairs classrooms were to be covered by the grant. C. Lindsley will bring details of grant money expenditures to the 9/18/2018 meeting.

2:30 pm E. Hausman made a motion to adjourn. P. Jewett seconds. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Fredella -minutes clerk