

~Approved Minutes~

Newbury Town School District  
Newbury Elementary School Board  
Tuesday, December 18, 2018

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**Present**

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Danielle Corti, Emmy Hausman  
Administrators: Bruce Williams, Assistant superintendent; Chance Lindsley, Principal NES  
Visitors: Students and teachers of NES, Mary Collins

**Call to order:** P. Jewett called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM

**Agenda Review:** Amend agenda to hear from student council first. Also add Mary Collins. D. Corti would like to add a discussion about professional development funding to the next agenda.

**Student council:** The student council, along with their advisor, Kim Goody, came and spoke to the board about some initiatives they are working on for the school. Members of student council are Aiden Hervey, Lizzie MacGregor, Amy Vaughn, Alyssa Vance, Tessa Cook, Hayden Grant, Lilliana Dix, Chase Fisher and Mallory Young (not present). The first initiative is to replace the existing single package milk cartons with a bulk dispensing system. Student council wanted to replace the single serve because of all the waste going into the trash. Cartons are wax covered and non-recyclable. They have looked into various types of re-usable cups and have presented this initiative to be implemented district wide. B. Williams states that other schools in the OESU have agreed to research this and possibly implement. Thetford elementary already uses a bulk dispensing system. The current food service provider, Abby Group, has agreed to help with this. Student council has researched cups and also discussed the most efficient ways to use a bulk system. B. Williams notes that he has seen data where the initial consumption of milk goes down when implementing a bulk system but then goes back up when students get used to it. Student council has also spearheaded a food drive for NES. K. Goody will be dropping off 9 boxes full of food for the Newbury food shelf. Students also discussed their classes individual expo projects. Some classes are debating both side of an issue. These include Women's rights, LGBT issues, dog racing, animal testing, fur trade, helmet laws, gun laws, and the recent controversy over standing/kneeling at football games. Some heady topics for these students! The last topic that the student council spoke about was their most recent idea, one on one mentoring of younger students by student council members.

12:24 pm: Representatives from the jellyfish and penguins class along with their teachers Ms. Vance and Ms. LeBeau have been working on a project to analyze current use of the play structures and have come up with a proposal to re-structure some of the playground. These classes have made up a survey, received results and have spoken with an architect about possibilities for additions to the playground. P. Jewett suggests taking into consideration, cost, time and safety.

Boltonville update: B. Williams will be in charge of winterizing the building. Last year D. Longmoore and K. Thomas winterized it. B. Williams will talk to D. Longmoore.

**Approve minutes:** D. Corti made a motion to approve the minutes from 12/11/2018. E. Hausman seconds. Corrections: Spelling of D. Kelley's name. Last name of woman in phone discussion with D. Kelley is unknown. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:** P. Jewett has received an email from Margaret Maclean stating that a legal motion will be filed on 12/19/2018. She was looking for quotes from participating schools for a press release. B. Williams received an email from a neighbor of the school complaining about the new outdoor lighting and requesting to be notified of any decisions to alter them. C. Lindsley will send an email re: lighting changes and updates to all interested parties.

Principal's report: Holiday sing along on 12/15 went very well and C. Lindsley has received very positive feedback. C. Lindsley discusses the upcoming expo this week. He is celebrating the long road of PBL and celebrating the schedule that gives teachers extra planning time (H3). B. Williams asks for clarification. C. Lindsley explains. B. Williams thinks that BES could very much benefit from a similar schedule.

12:50 M. Collins enters

C. Lindsley states that the new JAZZ lab has had some growing pains and has learned through discussing, modifying and the culture of critique. One realization with the current students is discovering their love of reader's theatre. B. Williams suggests contacting Plymouth State as they have a program that reaches out to schools. E. Hausman also suggests reaching out to Keisha Luce at Court Street Arts as they often have programs that come in and are willing to work with local schools.

Capital improvements update: New gym door is going to cost around \$10,000.

Needs to be very specific to historic building. Lights update: Youngs Electric will be finishing work today on putting most outside lights on a timer. To be turned on at 4 pm and turned off at 8 pm. Lights on the common will be on a separate switch to be turned on only when needed. The types of LED bulbs are energy saving and would be too expensive to alter at this point. Instead the tilt has been adjusted and yellow shields will be used to cut down the glare.

Mary Collins discussion: Discussion of capital improvement fund money. There is other money to come to the school through additional tax revenue (mostly delinquent taxes). Where to put this money? With potential merger, money should stay with town. Originally the 2018 capital improvement fund was created and voted upon to help the Newbury school district to protect the money and help preserve the building. That money was transferred and has been spent. This discussion is about money left to be transferred or put somewhere else. M. Collins is worried about transferring any more money to this fund. With a forced merger, voters of Newbury would be helping to pay for capital improvements in other schools. Would this fund mean that other schools would not be contributing to capital improvements in Newbury? B. Williams recommends talking to Brad James or Chris Leopold about this to get legal advice. M. Collins is waiting on the fund balance report to know what is left in the 2018 capital improvement fund. Brief discussion of the impact of accounting mistakes at the OESU historically and in this past year with Oxbow's budget.

P. Jewett reads aloud a resignation letter from C. Lindsley, effective 6/30/2019. D. Corti made a motion to accept with deep gratitude and lots of regret. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed reluctantly and with many tears being shed. B. Williams suggests coordinating with Melanie Elliott and Emilie Knisely on a new principal search. He also recommends using a search consultant, maybe Bob Stevens.

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

- An accounts payable warrant dated 12/14/2018 for \$23,780.97

- A payroll warrant dated 12/21/2018 for \$70,266.47 E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed. D. Corti has a question re: invoices being paid to Abby group are sometimes paid to Abby Group and sometimes to Underwood Catering. B. Williams recommends talking to M. Elliot or Audrey at the OESU office to clarify. He will also check into it.

2:04 pm P. Jewett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Act 46 litigation. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.

2:30 Out of executive session. No action taken

2:30 E. Hausman made a motion to adjourn. D. Corti seconds. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Fredella -minutes clerk