

~Draft Minutes ~

Newbury Town School District
Newbury Elementary School Board
Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Present

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Danielle Corti

Administrators: Chance Lindsley, principal NES; Bruce Williams, Assistant superintendent OESU

Visitors: Craig Hervey, Art Morris, Cooper Leland

Call to order: P. Jewett called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm

Agenda review: Good

Approve minutes: D. Corti made a motion to approve the minutes from 6/4/2019. P. Jewett seconds. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

- Eirene Mavadones has written a letter of resignation effective 6/30/2019 and thanks the board and the school for all their support. D. Corti moves to accept with regret and thanks E. Mavadones for all she has done at NES. P. Jewett seconds. Motion passed. D. Corti asks B. Williams if E. Mavadones had signed a contract for the upcoming year? B. Williams answers yes and explains the process that should be followed after a teacher has signed a contract but accepts a position somewhere else. The teacher would need to ask the permission of the superintendent to seek another job. D. Corti states that this leaves schools scrambling to fill positions. B. Williams states that it is a one way contract in favor of employees.
- A letter from Jarrett Rock applying for the Wells scholarship has been received. P. Jewett asks C. Lindsley to send a letter to J. Rock explaining what he needs to do to receive the money.

Playground Equipment: Discussion re: playground redesign. Art Morris, Cooper Leland and Craig Hervey all agree that the proposed architect plans would have a cost far exceeding the available funds of \$10,000.00. C. Lindsley asks about using some of the capitol improvement fund? D. Corti states that she thinks it might be feasible, but not sure and would depend on amount. Discussion re: possible ideas that would cost less, cause less disturbance to the existing playground and be fun for kids. A. Morris suggests a four square court and he has also seen other less expensive, equally fun things online to consider. D. Corti states that the original intent was to focus on a nature based, sustainable playground. C. Hervey would be interested to see what materials the original architects had in mind for the structure. B. Williams offers to speak with the architects and ask about materials and also discuss some of these ideas. Some ideas talked about: sand table/area re-design, swings, balance logs, playhouse, tunnel. C. Lindsley suggests bringing the concepts back to the original students so they can keep it going by coming up with a school wide survey of the new ideas with costs associated as part of their project based learning. D. Corti suggests asking the Dee Foundation for a grant. B. Williams asks C. Hervey, A. Morris and C. Leland to send their ideas to him so he can discuss with the architects. D. Corti will check into a Dee Foundation grant. A meeting is scheduled for June 25th @ 5:30 pm to discuss this further.

C. Leland, A. Morris and C. Hervey exit. A few minutes later A. Morris and C. Hervey re-enter as they have gone to look at the site and have determined that some of the existing structures are in great shape and could stay. Also, they have seen 2 areas where potential new things could be added with little to minimum cost.

Topographical Map: B. Williams reports that Horizons Engineering has been to the school and he is waiting on their report.

Boltonville update:

- D. Longmoore has boarded up the broken window and has made the building “secure”. C. Lindsley will coordinate someone to put in a new window. P. Jewett asks about the interest in purchasing the building by the town. D. Corti will put on the agenda for an OUUSD meeting. B. Williams asks if he should contact the realtor re: getting in touch with the original interested party and lowering the price. D. Corti would like to have contact with the town and the select board before that happens as they have asked them about interest in purchasing.

Principal report: Graduation went smoothly. The surprise parade for Chance went well and he was honored. Bathroom project has been started. The floor downstairs is set to be tiled. He is heading to the BEST conference with other principals from the SU. Jazz lab space will be a special ed/counseling/mindfulness space and will also be used for parent meetings. C. Lindsley has met with Cate Beaton the new MTSS coordinator for the OESU. He was very impressed with her and is looking forward to working with her. P. Jewett expresses concern over the confusion for teachers with a whole new system. Communication is key. The innovation station is a huge success and is constantly in use. Kudos to Kim Goody for keeping up the weekly schedule.

Act 46 update: June 28th is the vote for a stand alone NES budget in case lawsuit is successful. P. Jewett made a motion to approve the following verbage for advertising the vote: “A vote for Newbury Town School taxpayers takes place on Friday, June 28, 2019 by Australian ballot at the Newbury Town Hall between 10am and 7pm. The significance of this budget vote is that it will put in a provisional NES budget in place to be used if the Vermont State Supreme Court rules in favor of our lawsuit opposing a “forced merger” for our board and budget. A final decision on this lawsuit should be made this summer.” D. Corti seconds. Motion passed.

School use agreement with TONASP: P. Jewett would like the NES board to sign this agreement. Discussion re: setting up a phone voice vote on Friday June 21,2019.

Rose, Bud, Thorn:

- Rose: Project based learning with H3, PBL in relation to mission and vision, remarkably strong community support, longevity of board, forest school, school is in great shape, lunch program/salad bar/reading during lunch, weekly assemblies, peace train, circle of trust, learning expositions, traditions (Tucker Mt. hike, spring fling, turkey trot, International Day of Peace, Checkerberry Hill, Farm Raiser, Graduation), poetic mission statement.
- Bud: Agricultural element in relation to greenhouse and gardens, clearer communication to MTSS behavioral supports, lunch program, united integrated project based learning with adventure.
- Thorn: Connection between school and su has been frayed, apathy of parents that results in less parental involvement, community social fragmentation, how to support families and children in crisis and trauma (#'s rising).

Payables: D. Corti moves to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the following:

- An accounts payable warrant dated 6/12/2019 in the amount of \$27,804.77
- An accounts payable warrant dated 6/17/2019 in the amount of \$3,977.02 P. Jewett seconds.
Motion passed

2:18 pm D. Corti made a motion to adjourn. P. Jewett seconds. Motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Fredella -minutes clerk

Not official until approved

DRAFT