

Minutes Thursday, June 2, 2016 South Hero School Board Meeting
At Folsom Education & Community Center

6:01 Meeting called to order by Kris Bowser, Board Chair

In attendance: Kris Bowser, Dave Cain, RJ Sweeney, Bernie Toth, Bentley Vaughan, Board members; Jenny Perry, Principal; Barbara Burrington, Superintendent; Emily Bowser, Board Secretary; Lynn Carpenter, GISU Business Manager, Lenny Badeau, Kari Banas, Bill Banas, Tim Maxham, Farryl Bertman, Melissa Hood, Kaight Altoff

Adjustment of Agenda: none

Public Comments:

- The Board was presented with a petition by community members Kari and Bill Banas to encourage the Board to continue to fight for the K-8 model that currently exists in Folsom.
- Bill Banas expressed concerns that there is not enough education happening of the public about what Act 46 will entail, and would like more data and figures.
- Board member RJ Sweeney expressed concerns that the Act 46 discussion has begun to be personal and contentious. While emotions are high and he appreciated that there were strong feelings and opinions, he encouraged the community to maintain civility.
- Tim Maxham expressed his reservations about looking outside of the immediate neighborhood.
- Farryl Bertman sent in a statement, read by Kari Banas, encouraging the Board to look into an island town K-8 system; but also to look to the example of the Windsor county schools requesting an exemption.

Superintendent's Report, presented by Barbara Burrington, Superintendent

Highlights:

- Congratulations classes 2020 and 2022!
- New GISU employees welcomed on board, including Folsom's new principal, Lenny Badeau
- Superintendent Burrington has been working with faculty on tier one agreements. They are working to create a master schedule which creates a learning environment that also provides adequate time for teaching.
- Folsom has six faculty members participating in the innovation course; they will learn Google classroom tools which they can bring back and share with peers.

Principal's Report, presented by Jenny Perry, Principal

Highlights:

- Enrollment numbers are holding steady

- Superintendent Burrington has met with the teaching position candidates, and is recommending them. Megan Bessette has been hired for the 3-4 position, and Samantha Cantell has been hired for the 5-8 position. Very excited to have them both on board.
- Chef Bob submitted his formal resignation.
 - reformat position for 8 hours Monday, 5.5 hours the rest of the week to allow for prep
- Arts night was a great success!
- The yearbook has come out, and the students designed the cover; the 8th grade dedicated it to Julie Pigeon
- Jump Rope for Heart has raised \$1,500 so far and is still ongoing
- Celebration of Learning will be on June 9th
- The SBAC data has come back and been reviewed. While it is only the second year it has been administered, and Folsom was part of the pilot program, the results provide good SU-wide data to compare, and will be a great benchmark tool in subsequent years.

Board Discussion:

- Act 46 – Preparation for August Non-Binding Referendum
 - Kris Bowser proposed the creation of a subcommittee of volunteers in the community to delve into options for K-8, as this is something some community members feel strongly about
 - Dave Cain expressed support for the exploration of other options
 - Bernie Toth suggested delaying the formation of the subcommittee until after the August vote, and the Board agreed to table the creation of the subcommittee to revisit at the next meeting.
 - The Board proposed setting aside money from the Robinson Endowment for legal costs moving forward outside of the Island configuration, as those costs would not be eligible for grant money.
 - Kris Bowser reached out to Mike Deweese for clarification on the creation of a stand-alone district and the role of a superintendent within those different configurations. He forwarded it to the AoE for clarification, so nothing currently to report.
 - Superintendent Burrington and Lynn Carpenter were invited to see if they could come up with some numbers for the Board. Those figures will be reviewed and utilized by the board to create the presentation for the August 9 vote.
 - Educating the public before the August vote:
 - Dave Cain and Kris Bowser will work together to put together the financials, Bernie Toth will work on the educational best practices aspects; RJ Sweeney and Bentley Vaughan will work together on objectively assessing the differences between the things Folsom will be able to offer students and what the other options might offer them.
 - The Board agreed part of their job was to educate people on the basics of Act 46, not just the greater nuances.

- The Board agreed to hold two informational sessions.
- Finalize Plans for Building Improvements, presented by Principal Perry
 - Everything is moving ahead. The science tables need to be revisited, as the models selected had water needs which will be met by the two sinks already in the science lab.
 - The climbing wall is getting PO through Central Office, as well as the microscopes, rugs, and digital microscope; table and benches are awaiting final estimate from WB Mason to be presented to the Board.
 - All the figures are in for the gym floor, waiting on final figures and measurements.
- Plan End of Year Activities
 - Bentley Vaughan will represent the Board at Graduation.

Board Action:

- Kris Bowser made a motion to create a subcommittee to look at ways to maintain 7-8 at Folsom, seconded by RJ Sweeney; Board ultimately tabled the motion
- Kris Bowser made motion to allocate \$5,000 of the Robinson endowment to legal consultation. Bernie Toth seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- Motion for Board to acknowledge retiring staff members. Dave Cain moved to accept, seconded by RJ Sweeney; motion passed unanimously
- Motion to approve minutes for May 19, 2016. Bernie Toth moved to accept, seconded by Bentley Vaughan; motion passed unanimously.
- Bernie Toth made motion to pay bills, RJ seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to adjourn made by Bernie Toth, Kris Bowser seconded at 8:55p.m., approved unanimously.

Executive Session: none

Board Correspondence/Sharing: none

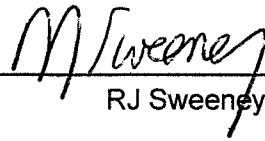
Follow-up/Old Business: Reached out to teachers about possibility about serving on Library Board, Board to reach out to others and revisit at next Board meeting.

Meeting officially adjourned at 8:55p.m.


Next meeting will be June 30, 2016 at 6:00p.m. Folsom Education and Community Center



Kristina Bowser



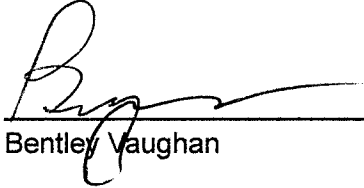
RJ Sweeney



Dave Cain



Bernadette Toth



Bentley Vaughan