

Alburgh School Board
Alburgh Community Education Center
October 2, 2017

Present: Board Chair Michael Savage, Vice Chair Trevor Creller, Board Members Mallory Ovitt, Ginni Wright, and Stephanie Waters, Principal Jim Ross, Superintendent Donald Van Nostrand, Beth Hemingway, Michelle LaBounty, Amanda Bauer, Robin Bellanger, Abby Alberico, Steve Alberico, Margaret Pent, Ramona Reed

Meeting called to order at 5:30 P.M.

Public Input:

- Abby Alberico spoke to the board about parent concerns around the safety of the playground/walking path especially for younger children (amount of supervision, lack of fencing, need for students to walk around the building to be buzzed in for bathroom, etc.). The entryway is also a concern. If there is not going to be an office by the main door, then another option should be explored in terms of school safety.
- Margaret Pent also commented that sometimes the entry door is not locked, there isn't always someone to greet students, and that we can't be sure that everyone who enters the building should be there/is going where they are supposed to upon entering the building.
- Steve Alberico shared a checklist from schoolsafety.vermont.gov with some possible solutions (both short and long term) around school safety issues.
- Mike Savage spoke about the most recent architect's report which indicated that moving the office would be costly (may need a bond vote) and there might not be enough room downstairs.
- Principal Ross shared some short-term solutions such as greeters in place at the door until 8:10 (if they aren't present parents should walk kids to the office), doors should be locked at 8:15. Fencing around the playground/walking path may be an option; Principal Ross will address staff about how to handle kids who need to use the bathroom from the playground.
- Other possibilities discussed: moving the main entrance to the front door, adding a vestibule to the front/sidewalk area, finding volunteer parents or school staff who can check people into the school, exploring grant funding for school safety projects.

Superintendent's Report:

- See the attached report

Board Discussion:

- Vermont Mathematics Initiative (VMI)- This is the last year of VMI for Michelle LaBounty and Amanda Bauer. The Master Agreement allows for 5 professional release days. In looking over the master agreement, graduate coursework is not covered under these professional days. There was an agreement signed when they entered the VMI program

allowing them release days. The board and superintendent Van Nostrand will explore the option of a side agreement.

- Act 46 Update- A flyer has been created to share about the vote (what is being voted on, as well as the implications of a YES and a NO vote). The flyer will be distributed on Facebook and Front Porch Forum. It will also be available at the post office, local stores, etc. There will be an informational meeting as required on Monday November 6 at 7:00 P.M. It was discussed that a second meeting would allow people a chance to process and ask more questions later, possibly on a weekend. It will be held Saturday October 28 at 10 A.M.
- Building Improvements- Entryway door is not functioning properly. It will be \$600 to replace the current door strike (which may not solve the problem) or \$1750 to replace the door system. Principal Ross will also get an estimate for replacing the door completely.
- Reviewed Policy Code C3- Public Participation at Board Meetings and Policy Code D10- Public Complaints About Personnel
- FY19 Budget Guidance- Superintendent Van Nostrand asked the board for guidance around what we would like to see in an initial budget. The board would like to see current program continuing while also exploring the addition of a foreign language program, and expanding after school and summer opportunities for students.

Board Action:

- Stephanie Waters moved to accept the ACEC School Board meeting minutes of September 18, 2017 and the special meeting minutes of September 25, 2017 (2nd Ginni Wright) Unan.
- Upon review by Trevor Creller, Stephanie Waters moved to authorize the payment of current valid invoices (2nd Ginni Wright) Unan.
- Stephanie Waters moved to approve the contract for Desiree Knight as the .8 FTE Health Assistant (2nd Ginni Wright) Unan.
- Stephanie Waters moved to approve the contract with Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C. to perform an audit of the financial statements of the Alburgh School District (2nd Ginni Wright) Unan.
- Ginni Wright moved to enter executive session at 7:22 P.M. to discuss the employment of a public employee (2nd Stephanie Waters) Unan. The board exited executive session at 7:30 P.M.
- Trevor Creller moved to approve the contract for Breanne Boulby as a 1.0 FTE Literacy Interventionist (2nd Stephanie Waters) Unan.
- Ginni Wright moved to enter executive session, without administration, at 7:32 P.M. to discuss the employment of a public employee (2nd Stephanie Waters). The board exited executive session at 7:58 P.M. No action was taken.
- Adjournment occurred at 7:59 P.M. on a motion by Stephanie Waters (2nd Ginni Wright) Unan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Waters

Virginia Wright

Mallory Ovitt

Trevor Creller, Vice Chair

Michael Savage, Chair