

**Minutes Thursday, October 6, 2016 South Hero School Board Meeting
At Folsom Education & Community Center**

6:05 p.m. Meeting called to order by Kris Bowser, Board Chair

In Attendance: Kris Bowser, Dave Cain, RJ Sweeney, Bernie Toth, Bentley Vaughan, Board members; Lenny Badeau, Principal; Barbara Burrington, Superintendent; Emily Bowser, Board Secretary; Lynn Carpenter; Tim Maxham, Melanie Henderson, Peter Bowser, Randall Northrop, Peter Gregg, Jessica McAllister, Jenn LeStage, Susan Jacques, David Hobbs

Adjustment of Agenda:

- none

Superintendent's Report, presented by Barbara Burrington, Superintendent

Highlights:

- Act 166 changes waiting on Dept of Health & Human Services to coordinate licensing needs
- Nod to teachers in first data cycle; everyone is doing well
- AllEarth Renewables followed up: initial contract for Solar Agreement didn't meet guidelines the State has put in place for schools, so Superintendent Burrington asked AER to bring their proposal in line with State guides. They were able to do so and it's now under review and she hopes to be able to present to the Board in the near future.

Principal's Report, presented by Lenny Badeau, Principal

Highlights:

- (grab one)
- The 5-8 team-building trip was a great success!
- Food Service Director Ariana Middlemiss is working to expanding the varieties of foods Folsom students are exposed to, and wants to do more within the local community with farm-to-table/farm-to-school. At the next meeting, after review by himself and Superintendent Burrington, Principal Badeau will present Ms. Middlemiss's report on kitchen needs and potential funding.
- Beginning of Year assessments completed
- Building/Grounds: The tables came in 2 weeks ago and were installed within a week, ahead of schedule.
- Community Guidelines for Use of Facilities Inquiry for Board
 - Add language about the floor? High heeled shoes?
 - Item 13: Alcohol usage in school
 - Bernie Toth said that as long as no children on premises, alcohol has historically been permitted, though Kris Bowser pointed out that that is not explicitly stated
 - Not currently stated, perhaps be amended

- Superintendent Burrington recommended Emily Simmons to be consulted and Principal Badeau will come to next meeting with recommendations for amendment based upon her counsel.

Board Discussion:

Audit Discussion, presented by Randall Northrop, Auditor

- Mr. Northrop presenting findings as he is required to do, though his audit is not complete and he is still working on recommendations.
- 8-9 Bank accounts for the school, treasurer is signatory on 2-3, and other people are on other accounts which is against regulations. Recommending treasurer and only treasurer be signatory.
- Recommending Board be provided with a regular balance sheet
- Finding issues with longstanding practices with how financial matters and procedures are reported to the Board, and encountering difficulty accessing information. He is projecting a 3 year "Correction Timeline", given last year's audit issues.
 - Asked the Board to exercise influence to assist him getting information from the treasurer, as further difficulties could result in a modified audit opinion, which would mean involvement from the state auditor. Lynn Carpenter echoed this request, and Bernie Toth and Kris Bowser will speak with the treasurer,
- David Cain asked why none of this has ever come up.
 - Barbara Burrington said that they were aware, with their corrective action, that there were holes in the systems. Audit hadn't been out to bid in 15 years and knew when a new person was brought in it would strengthen the SU and prevent corrective action in future

CIPCC After School Program Collaboration, by Jenn LeStage

- Due to the fact that 3-year-olds now need preschool, CIPCC's space is insufficient for after school (school's out to 5:30p.m.) and school break (8:00a.m. - 5:30p.m.) care, and is looking to use Folsom's space. She has found an insurance broker to work with and is looking to find out what the Board needs from her to continue moving forward.
- Superintendent Burrington suggested that Ms. LeStage speak with North Hero, who pursued a similar model, and learn from their experiences in terms of what growing pains unexpectedly came up. Ms. Lestage and Principal Badeau will pursue that line of inquiry and report back to the Board.
- The Board feels that maintaining low-cost afterschool programming for the community is important, and is excited to move forward with this partnership.

Plan for Distribution of Information for November 8, 2016 Vote

- Mailer going out from Act 46 committee this week
- The Board discussed how they should pursue presenting information; with one official voice or as private citizens. Board decided to pursue as individuals they are free to make their opinions known, as long as they make it clear they are doing so as private citizens and not Board members.

Set Time for Community Forum

- Board set time for Saturday, November 5 10a.m. - 12p.m.
- The Board will meet as usual on Thursday, November 3rd.

Budget Season Approaching

- November the Board will enter Budget Season, and scheduled a second meeting for November 17th.
- Kris Bowser asked Lynn Carpenter to create a budget which highlighted those things that the Board could impact to get them familiar with what changes they could make; this was passed out to members and will be available to Subcommittee members as well.

Determine Direction of Both PreK-8 and PreK-6 Sub-Committees

- David Hobbs, Peter Greggs, Susan Jacques are PreK-6 SubCommittee, which is designed to go through the Island Merger and fact check
- Both committees will meet October 27th at 6:00p.m to synthesize information to present at the November 5th forum.
- Kris Bowser asked Melanie Henderson why State Representative Mitzi Johnson is coming to the next PreK-8 Subcommittee meeting
 - Ms. Henderson expressed that there is a lot of grumbling in her meetings about the legality of Act 46 and she feels that having Mitzi there will allow her to refocus her committee on its intended purpose, which is finding 7-8 options for Folsom. Ms. Henderson emphasized that it was not about action, it was about refocusing on the committee's direction by eliminating distraction. If, after Representative Johnson meets with them, people would still like to petition or take the fight to the legislature they may do so as citizens, not part of the Subcommittee
 - David Cain expressed his concern that this wasn't something that would contribute to the Nov 5th forum and educate the public about the K-8 options, which is this committee's charter. Encouraged Ms. Henderson to keep the forum in mind.

Public Comments:

- Melanie Henderson asked Principal Badeau about Open House, nothing has been scheduled yet.

Board Action:

- Bernie Toth made motion to approve minutes for September 15, 2016, motion passed unanimously.
- Bernie Toth made motion to pay bills, save one, which needs to be restated and submitted again. Motion passed unanimously.
- Kris Bowser made motion to appoint Superintendent Barbara Burrington as the Board's VSIB Proxy for October meeting, as no Board member is currently scheduled to go. Motion passed unanimously.

- Motion to adjourn at 8:13, motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session entered at 8:04p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Exited session at 8:13p.m, no action taken.

Board Correspondence/Sharing: none


Follow-up/Old Business: none

Meeting officially adjourned at 8:13p.m.

Next meeting will be November 3rd, 2016 at 6:00p.m. Folsom Education and Community Center

Kristina Bowser


RJ Sweeney



Dave Cain



Bernadette Toth



Bentley Vaughan