

SOUTH HERO SCHOOL BOARD
Special Meeting Wednesday, April 27, 2016 Minutes
At Folsom Education & Community Center

6:00p.m. - Meeting called to order by Kris Bowser, Board Chair

In attendance: Kris Bowser, Dave Cain, Bernie Toth, Bentley Vaughan, Board members; Jenny Perry, Principal; Barbara Burrington, Superintendent; Emily Bowser, Board Secretary; Lynn Carpenter, GISU Business Manager; Jen Lyon-Horne, Nicole Vaughan, Matt Jensen, Helen Bishop

Adjustment of Agenda: Add "Act 46 Update" under "Board Discussion"

Public Comments: none

Principal's Report, presented by Jenny Perry, Principal

Highlights:

- Gym Renovation Project: Principal Perry presented estimates for the gym renovation project. Parts of the process will be put out to bid. The board will be seeking estimates for a new gym floor, new curtains for the stage, and a climbing wall. The possibility of adding bleachers to the gym will need further investigation, none currently found that fit the needs of the space.
- Middle School Reconfiguration: Language Arts and Social Studies will become unified block of Humanities for 5-6 and 7-8. There will be one math teacher for 5-8, and one science teacher for 5-8. This model allows teachers to provide intervention and extensions for students who require it, as well as provide co-teaching opportunities. The model is considered best practice.

Board Discussion:

- Prepare For Principal Search Forum:
 - Kris Bowser has posted the notification to Front Porch Forum, *The Islander*, and paper flyers around the town. Kris Bowser and Bernie Toth will be the Board's representatives, and the forum will be held as a brainstorming session for members of the community.
 - Side note from Superintendent Burrington that having three Board members on the Principal Hiring Committee achieves a quorum, which would push the meeting into open session. To keep the process closed, one Board member will step down. RJ Sweeney was not present at this meeting, but Bentley Vaughan volunteered to step down if need be.
- Gymnasium Upgrades:
 - The Board authorized Principal Perry to send out begin the process of getting bids for the gymnasium upgrades, and to look into other educational or

maintenance upgrades the school may need, to be presented at the next meeting.

- Budget to Actuals, presented by Lynn Carpenter.
 - Projecting a surplus this year. Lynn has agreed to come back for the next meeting in May when the academic year is almost over to present projected final numbers.
 - The May board meeting's agenda will include continued discussion on the best way to proceed with the surplus.
- Last Day of School for 2015-2016:
 - Folsom had two "Ice Days", and students are presently scheduled for their last day on June 10, with 178 student days. Currently all students in the GISU are scheduled to end on June 10, and schools plan to have teachers return for two inservice days the following week.
 - Board agreed to keep those dates.
- Act 46 Update, introduced by Bentley Vaughan
 - No final decisions made in GISU committee.
 - Chairs of South Hero, North Hero, and Isle La Motte met with two members of the South Burlington School Board and the S.B. Superintendent to discuss the possibility of a merger. As South Burlington does not have to merge under Act 46's rules, all information was new to them. Mike Deweese has suggested giving South Burlington until August to consider the merger, and the Board agreed this was reasonable.
 - The Board heard from community members in attendance who expressed their opinions about possible structures and advocated for another community forum to share info with South Hero residents.
 - North Hero and Isle La Motte would prefer to maintain their PreK- 6 configuration with school choice for grades 7-12. They have expressed an interest in the possibility of becoming a part of the South Burlington district in a side by side structure.
 - The Board reiterated that there are several options available to South Hero, including side-by-sides, and that their responsibility is to protect the interests of all of South Hero, and South Hero's students. To that end they will continue to seek community input and research all options presented in hopes that a decision can be made on preferred structure before the end of May.
 - The Board will host an Act 46 South Hero Community Forum to be held May 16th at 6:30pm, with information mailed out no later than May 9th.

Board Action:

- Motion to approve minutes for April 7, 2016, Bernie Toth moved to accept, seconded by Dave Cain, motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to confirm June 10, 2016 as last day of school for students, and Tuesday June 14th the last day of school for teachers made by Kris Bowser, Board Chair. Seconded by Bernie Toth; motion passed unanimously.

- Kris Bowser made motion to pay bills, David Cain seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to adjourn made by Bernie Toth at 8:06 p.m., seconded by Bentley Vaughan, approved unanimously.

Executive Session: none

Board Correspondence/Sharing: none

Follow-up/Old Business: none

Meeting officially adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next meeting will be May 19th, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Folsom Education and Community Center

Act 46 Community Forum, May 16, 2016 at 6:30pm, Folsom Education and Community Center

Kristina Bowser

RJ Sweeney

Dave Cain

Bernadette Toth

Bentley Vaughan