

Alburgh School Board  
Alburgh Community Education Center  
November 2, 2015

**Present:** For Administration, Ms. Burrington, GISU Superintendent, Ms. Carpenter, Business Manager, Mr. Ross, ACEC Principal; for the Board, Mr. Savage, Chairman, Mr. Creller and Mr. Goodrich (recording)

Meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm and *Minutes* of October 19, 2015 were accepted as presented on a motion by Mr. Goodrich (2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Creller)

**Superintendent's Report:** Ms. Burrington's printed GISU Report dated November 1, 2015 was presented: GISU's telecommunications needs and practices were cited with a focus on the five-schools' different needs and costs. A review of G.I.S.U. curriculum, assessment and instruction practices were examined as well as SWIFT and special education programs. Ms. Burrington closed with business office and budget trends. (Also see Ms. Carpenter, below.)

About

**Board Discussion:** Ms. Carpenter presented "*Alburgh Town School District Expenses All Funds Function and Object Codes*" (July-October, 2015) and led the Board through specific line items. Ms. Carpenter advised that at this point we appear to be on track to complete the fiscal year at or under budget. – The Board then discussed **Act 46**, the Vermont Legislature's directive to school districts throughout the state to form or attempt to form consolidations of small school districts into larger ones. The Board encourages all interested people to attend a Supervisory Union public meeting at the Grand Isle School on Saturday, November 14 at 10:30 pm to learn more about **Act 46** and to advise board members of Alburgh voters' preferences regarding school governance consolidation, high school choice, (or its elimination) middle school course offerings, etc. **Act 46** will, within two years, have a significant effect on Alburgh's education system and property tax levies. Details about Act 46 are available in *The Islander*, on line and through individual board members. – VEHI, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage for school personnel has announced a 7.9 percent rate increase for next year. The Board discussed its implication for budgeting and negotiations considerations. Additionally, Ms. Burrington and Mr. Goodrich reported that should the Grand Isle Supervisory Union be dissolved or reduced in size, the current health insurance (BC/BS) for all employees will be replaced by Vermont Health Connect at the end of 2017. - The federally sponsored "SWIFT" program, which supports GISU in-service programs, contributes \$20,000 per year to our five-district supervisory union. – Mr. Ross raised a question about professional development fund allocation for teachers. The Board reviewed contract language and found that professional development funds are largely subject to the Superintendent's discretion.

**Board Action:** Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Creller 2<sup>nd</sup>) "to authorize Central Office to pay accounts payable as reviewed by Mr. Prairie." (Unan.)

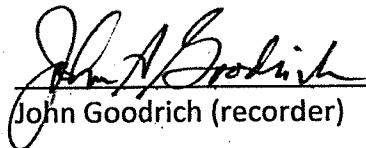
**Executive Session:**

At 5:17 pm, Mr. Goodrich moved (Mr. Creller 2<sup>nd</sup>) "to enter **Executive Session** to discuss a personnel matter." (Unan.) **Executive Session** ended at 5:32 pm with no action taken.

**Agenda Building:** At our November 16 meeting, Act 46 will again be discussed and as always, public participation is welcomed. If individuals wish to address the Board with prepared remarks or inquiries, please contact Chairman Michael Savage at your earliest convenience.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm on a motion by Mr. Goodrich (2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Creller)

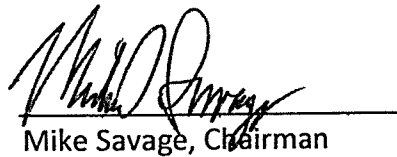
Respectfully submitted,

  
John Goodrich (recorder)

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Rene "Skip" Prairie

  
Trevor Creller

  
Jennie Lund

  
Mike Savage, Chairman