

Wakefield-Milton Joint Board
8-31-16 Public Minutes
Approved

In attendance:

Wakefield Board: Norma Joy, Bonnie Cyr, Bob Ouellette, Steve Brown and Relf Fogg
Milton Board: Doug Shute, Luella Snyder, Stefanie Berry, Paul Steer, Peg Hurd

Administration: Interim Superintendent Earl Sussman, Student Services Director Anne Kebler, and Financial Officer Nathan Castle

Members of the Public: Judy Nason, Laura Rousseau and Beth Seldin

Mr. Ouellette introduced the new Milton board member Peg Hurd.

Mr. Shute made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cyr, to approve the public minutes of 6-22-16.
(Vote 8-0-2)

Mrs. Cyr made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shute, to approve the non-public minutes of 6-22-16.
(Vote 9-0-1)

Financial Reports

Mr. Shute asked if the \$1,744.47 was the final fund balance. Mr. Castle replied that it was. Mrs. Cyr asked Mr. Castle when he anticipated receiving revenues. Mr. Castle said that Bright Beginnings spent less than anticipated and the just received the IDEA Grant revenue two days ago. Mrs. Cyr made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shute, to approve the treasures report. (Vote 8-2)

School Board Business

Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr. Fogg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to nominate Lue Snyder as Vice-Chair. (Vote 10-0)

Cross Training SAU Staff

Mrs. Cyr feels that SAU staff should know how to do others jobs so when people are out or on vacation questions could still be answered. Board members shouldn't have to step up and do the job of an SAU employee when someone is out. Mr. Castle stated that this is already in the works. Mrs. Snyder asked who is cross training with who? Mr. Castle said that Donna is cross training with accounts payable, Sue is cross training with payroll and he is cross training with Kathie. It was a consensus of the board that this continue.

Superintendent Expectations

Mrs. Cyr felt it would be a good idea for the joint board to set goals and objectives with Mr. Sussman. There was a discussion about what this meant. Mrs. Berry thought it was a good idea as a collaborative effort. What has he seen and what does he feel is important? Mr. Shute feels that some of the comments should be discussed in non-public. Mrs. Cyr and Mrs. Berry both felt that the discussion should take place in public. Mr. Shute will bring his point into non-public stating that his comments have nothing to do with Mr. Sussman. Mrs. Snyder said Mr. Sussman's honesty was above reproach and she feels he is doing an awesome job. Mr. Shute reiterated Mrs. Snyder's remarks. Mrs. Cyr feels Mr. Sussman is positive and insightful. Mr. Sussman recommended that all members send their goal ideas to Chairman Ouellette and he will meet with Mr. Ouellette assess and set five goals. Mr. Brown wanted to know how these goals will work with the two districts going in different directions. After much discussion, it was decided that the goals would be generic and broad and could work for either district. Mr. Steer said the goals should be joint board related goals and not individual board goals.

Approve Superintendent Professional Development

There were questions about the number of meetings and the number of days the Superintendent will be out of district. Mrs. Joy stated that the board discussed limiting the number of meetings. Are we going back to the Superintendent won't be in the office every Friday? The board members felt that information garnered at these meetings is never shared with the boards. Mr. Sussman said it was up to the board to decide if he should go to any of these meetings and if they want him to go he will be happy to report back to each board. Mrs. Kebler said that the Commissioners meetings were once a month and were two hours long and that the Southeast Superintendents meetings were a breakfast meeting one Thursday a month and that the past superintendent was back in the office by 11:00am. After much discussion Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fogg, to approve Mr. Sussman going to the first three Commissioners and Southeast meetings and the annual meeting. After discussion about these meetings being open to the public or board members the motion was changed to: Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown that Mr. Sussman attend the meetings using his discretion and report back to each board and pay the NHAA membership dues. Mr. Brown made an amendment to the motion which failed for lack of a second. (Vote 9-1)

Assets

Mr. Castle suggested that the Asset Inventory Assessment be paid for with using monies from the Curriculum Coordinator position that was not filled. The money would come out of the Contracted Services line which will overspend this line. It's a bottom line budget. The estimated cost for this service is estimated to be between \$800 and \$1,200. Mr. Shute explained that he got a legal opinion on spending any surplus money for anything and it cannot be done. Mr. Steer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shute to make the cost of the appraisal a 50/50 split between the two districts. (Vote 10-0)

Public Comment

Mrs. Nason told the board that what was done by previous superintendents was to send out an email once a month on the happenings at the SAU office and at the bottom all the meetings that he planned to attend for the coming month listed at the bottom of the page. Mrs. Cyr and Mrs. Berry both commented that it was a good idea. Mr. Sussman said he agreed. Mrs. Nason asked

when they were going to schedule the asset appraisal. Mr. Ouellette asked when she thought this should be done. She replied right away. Mrs. Nason offered a solution for splitting assets between districts. Split the list and put the amounts on each list. If one district has a higher dollar amount with the 57/43 split, that district has the amount deducted from the surplus at the time of that division. Mrs. Cyr made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fogg to hire an appraisal firm. (Vote 10-0) Mr. Castle will schedule a company and get a price to do the appraisal and report to the each board. The details of the split will be worked out at a future time. Milton has appointed two board members to be part of the asset division team and the Wakefield board will address that at their next meeting.

Non-Public

Mrs. Berry made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cyr to enter non-public session pursuant to 91-A-311 a, b and c at 7:15 (Vote 10-0) Roll Call: Ouellette Aye, Cyr Aye, Joy Aye, Brown, Aye, Fogg Aye, Shute Aye, Hurd Aye, Snyder Aye, Berry Aye, Steer Aye.

During non-public the board accepted a resignation and discussed filling the position.

Respectively submitted for approval at the next board meeting.

Priscilla Colbath
Secretary