

Milton-Wakefield Joint Board
3-29-17 Public Minutes
Approved

In attendance:

Milton Board: Doug Shute, Luella Snyder, Paul Steer and Peg Hurd

Wakefield Board: Norma Joy, Bob Ouellette, Steve Brown and Beth Seldin

Administration: Interim Superintendent Earl Sussman, and Financial Officer Nathan Castle

Videographer: Niko Giokas

Mr. Sussman called the meeting to order at 6:04. He commended the Joint Board leadership of Mr. Ouellette and Mrs. Snyder saying they had done a fine job. He then asked for nominations for a chairman for the next three months.

Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to keep Mr. Ouellette as chairman and Mrs. Snyder as vice chairman for the next three months. (Vote 8-0) Roll Call: Ouellette Aye, Joy Aye, Brown, Aye, Seldin Aye, Shute Aye, Hurd Aye, Snyder Aye, Steer Aye.

Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shute, to approve the public minutes of 11-30-16. (Vote 6-1-1)

Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Steer, to approve the non-public minutes of 11-30-16. (Vote 6-1-1)

Financial Reports

Mr. Castle presented the expense report and revenue report through March 22nd 2017. Mr. Brown asked if money would be moved to cover the lines that are over. Mr. Castle responded, we don't move money the line stays overspent. Mr. Brown asked if the E-Rate will take care of the electricity line. Mr. Castle said most of it.

Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the treasures report. (Vote 7-1)

School Board Business

Assets Inventory-Committee Report

The Assets Committee met today from 3:00 to 5:00. All assets have been divided. The three principals plus Mr. Williams and Mr. Adams looked at everything that neither district wanted. Mr. Castle will update the asset list and send it out. The file cabinet upstairs are in the process of being cleaned out. The lack of heat or insulation has made it a difficult job. Each department is responsible for their own files. Milton will retain all the SAU 64 records. Mr. Brown said there needs to be a memorandum of understanding drawn up so that Wakefield has access to those files. Mrs. Hurd said that employee files have to be held forever. Mrs. Snyder said papers needed to be shredded. Mr. Castle said the cost to shred papers was around \$150.

Mr. Steer asked if the SAU car had been discussed today. Mrs. Hurd said it hadn't. The car was valued at \$3,100. Mrs. Snyder felt this was too low considering new tires and inspection had just been taken care of. Mr. Brown reminded her that Wakefield had paid 57% of those costs. Mr. Brown said that the Joint Board hired a firm to come up with the value and if you question one thing you may question all things. Mrs. Joy informed the board that by law the SAU records could now be electronically filed. Mrs. Seldin asked if there were any student records upstairs in the files and Mr. Castle believes there are.

Financial Manager, Student Services, Superintendent Update

Mr. Sussman said the Asset Committee worked well together getting things done. He said Mrs. Nason was extraordinarily good and kind. He felt the process was moving along very well. He updated the board on the state reports concerning the results of Smarter Balanced testing. Now that there are two years to compare, those results will be coming to the separate boards. Parents will be informed first and the data will help drive instruction.

Mrs. Kebler informed the board about rumors that had been circulating. One was that she spent ninety-five percent of her time working from home and five percent of her time in the office. She said this was impossible given the duties of her job. One, Mr. Tursi would never allow that and she takes too much pride in her work. The second rumor was that she was accused of nepotism. Her daughter, who works for a company that the district contracts with for services placed her daughter in Milton and Wakefield to supply services. She had no part of that decision and she did not employ or supervise her daughter but she did ask the company that her daughter be removed from the district.

Public Comment

Mr. Fogg made some comments about the Transportation Coordinator. He said the School Board endorsed the plan and they also talked to the current director and an applicant. He believes the board should stay with the Withdrawal Plan. Mrs. Colbath asked where Wakefield will get the \$36,000 to pay for their share of the coordinator. Mrs. Joy said that that was a discussion for the Wakefield Board to have.

Mr. Brown said he didn't even know the details and there is already an agreement. Mr. Brown wants to know whose employee he is going to be. Mr. Brown said that Mr. Shute said it was already a done deal. Mr. Shute replied, I did not say that. Mr. Ouellette said this will be discussed in non-public. Mr. Steer said that these discussion always end up talking about the taxpayers and not what is in the best interest of the student.

Non-Public

Mrs. Hurd made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Snyder to enter non-public session pursuant to 91-A-311 c at 6:40 (Vote 7-1) Roll Call: Ouellette Aye, Joy Aye, Brown, Aye, Fogg Aye, Shute Aye, Hurd Aye, Snyder Aye, Steer Aye.

During non-public the board discussed the Transportation Coordinator position.

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hurd, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22. (Vote 8-0)

Respectively submitted for approval at the next joint board meeting.

Priscilla Colbath
Secretary