

**New Hartford Public Schools
Town of New Hartford, CT**

Board of Education

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 21, 2017 @ 7:00pm

**Antolini School – Multi Purpose
Room**

Present: Josh Adams, Jen Benaitis, Karl Hermonat, Mary Misiorski, Stacie Cull, Penny Miller, Pat Spaziani, Superintendent Brian Murphy'

Absent: Cindy Duval, Jen Zenuh

Chair to Open Meeting: Chairman Jen Benaitis called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Old Business

Motion by Josh Adams to approve 2017-2018 Capital Budget for 77K, second by Penny. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion Passes**

Jen Benaitis updated the board on BOF Budget Workshop she, Josh Adams, and Brian Murphy attended BOF. Reg. 7/BOS were also present. There would be a 10-16% increase for tax payers of New Hartford based on proposed possible education cuts by the state. The BOF will meet at 3/28 to consider and discuss all budgets.

Superintendent Report

1.TAG Update- Ms. Shroader will start mid April for 5th and 6th grade TAG program. Class is available to the top 5% of students who identify. Fourth graders will be included in team building exercises for this year and it will run once a week from 3:15-5:00. Due to the late start, this year's program rate will be prorated for supplies and stipend.

2.Lighting Project Update- Brian Murphy spoke with Region 5 District and Seymour Public Schools who completed the lighting project presented in March 7th BOE meeting. Both districts confirmed realized savings. Mr. Murphy recommended that the school move forward and complete the project. The company will look at the other two schools and see if it is feasible to complete the same project at the other elementary schools in town.

3. Oak Hill Update- Mr. Murphy reached out to a representative of Oak Hill and they said they would get back to him in 1 week. He will have the information available at the next BOE meeting.

4. SBAC Schedule- Amanda Shaw summarized the testing sections. A schedule will be enclosed in the Friday folder. Sixth grade will be taking the science portion and the only change will be that it is online this year.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes-March 7, 2017- Motion by Josh Adams to approve the consent agenda, second by Pat Spaziani. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

2. Expenditure Report

Communication to the Board

1. Kelly O'dell sent an email in regard to the NH Education Fund Fundraiser on Saturday May 6.

Opportunity for Public Comment

1. Karen Desantis, President of the PTO, 382 Gillet Rd- Discussed the misuse of social media over the past year. Her concern comes from board member's post and she suggested a policy be discussed and implemented for active school members in regards to social media posts.

2. Glen Phillips- asked if the board had considered Veteran's Day as a school holiday and expressed his desire for the board to discuss having this as a holiday off for students.

H. Reports

1. Policy Review

a. Parliamentary Procedures (9325.3)- First Reading of Parliamentary Procedure. The third line addressing the majority of board member present and voting on motions will be edited to add, "including the addition of new business not listed on the agenda at regular meeting." The revisions will be made and a second reading will be done at the next BOE meeting.

b. Community Relations/School Volunteers (1212)- Motion by Mary Misorski to table 1212 until a later date, second by Josh Adams. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

Jen Benaitis recommend that the policy committee discuss a policy on guidelines for social media for board members. Brian and Mary will look and see if they can find anything to start with in regard to a policy for board members.

2. Long Range Planning Committee- The 5-year plan was discussed by the committee and they decided to take 2 months as a committee to gather input and then assess if they were being successful at developing the plan. If not, they would seek outside help.

The committee also discussed, after the reviewing the cost other prek programs in the area, increasing the 2017-2018 prek tuition to \$4.5K for full time and \$1.8K for part time and recommends that the board so. **Motion** by Josh Adams to increase the 2017-2018 tuition cost of full time preK to \$4.5K and part time to \$1.8k, second by Penny Miller. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

New Business

1. School Calendar 2017-2018- Veteran's Day was discussed by the board along with the programs put on by the school to honor veteran's on this day. **Motion** by Josh Adams to approve the 2017-2018 school calendar as is, second by Penny Miller. All in Favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

2. Healthy Food Certification- Brian read two paragraphs for the board to separately approve for the healthy food certification. **Motion** by Pat Motion to approve the first paragraph, second by Staci Cull. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.** **Motion** by Penny Miller to approve the second paragraph, second by Staci Cull. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion Passes.**

Adjournment

Motion by Penny Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:08, second by Karl Hermonat. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully Submitted by Alexis Calder, Recording Secretary BOE