

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Block Island School

September 20, 2010

7:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, September 20, 2010, in the media center of the Block Island School. Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Annie Hall, William Padien, Sean McGarry, and Richard Tretheway. Shea Butcher was not in attendance. Robert Hicks was also present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion (McGarry, Hall) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 23, 2010, as presented carried with a vote of 4-0.

Reports

An unaudited fiscal report through June 30, 2010, was submitted for School Committee review and showed a fund balance of \$99,021. There are, however, encumbrances of \$44,000 for the skylight replacement and door locks. The drainage project has been completed and seems to be working well with no leaks in the middle grades rooms and the playground draining well during heavy rains. A motion (Padien, McGarry) to accept the consolidated statement of activity through June 30, 2010, carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, McGarry) to accept the statement of accounts through August 31, 2010, carried with a vote of 4-0.

One of the findings during the state's visit last spring was the need to update our policy on graduation to include the requirement that state assessments count for one-third of the graduation decision, describing post-secondary planning, and determining program effectiveness. Mr. Hicks submitted a policy outline as well as a draft parent letter concerning the role of state assessments in graduation requirements. He explained that while state assessments will count towards graduation, students cannot be denied because they did not score at least a "2" or "partially proficient" in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. An alternative set of tasks will be developed for those scoring lower than 2 to give them an opportunity to show proficiencies through specific assignments. Once the policy has been expanded to include all requirements it will be brought back to the School Committee for posting and adoption.

Old Business

Mr. Hicks submitted a summary of the meeting he had on August 31 with representatives from Washington County Regional Planning Council. Mr. Hicks raised some of the questions he and the School Committee had and were answered to his satisfaction. The WCRPC requested that the School Committee approve the participation agreement, which the Town Council approved at a recent meeting.

This step includes no financial obligation on the part of the schools. A motion (Padien, Hall) to sign on to step one of the Washing County Regional Planning Council's participation agreement carried with a vote of 4-0.

An outstanding invoice was received from Bradley Hospital in the amount of \$61,642 for services authorized by our special education director under state regulations and provided to one of our students. A motion (Padien, Hall) to pay \$61,642 to Bradley Hospital for said services authorized by the Special Education Director and approved by the Superintendent carried with a vote of 4-0.

Hoods were installed over vents on the north side of the school where water was consistently infiltrating. The original company that installed the HVAC units was consulted on the design prior to fabrication and this configuration was recommended. There have been no leaks since they have been installed. The installer does warranty the hoods and will put this in writing when he returns from vacation next week. Mr. Hicks stated that the installation of these hoods was properly authorized through our purchase order system. A motion (Padien, Hall) to sign the check for the ventilation hoods in that amount of \$5,450 pending review of the warranty and of the installation process carried with a vote of 4-0.

New Business

Correspondence was received from Jim and Marion Ortel requesting

that they be permitted to continue home schooling their son, Wade, for the 2010-2011 school year. A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the request received from Jim and Marion Ortel to home school their son, Wade, for the 2010-2011 school year carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the reappointment of Scott Comings as an educational consultant for the 2010-2011 school year, not to exceed five periods per week, carried with a vote of 4-0. Mr. Comings will be compensated at the rate of \$37.61 per class period.

A motion (Hall, Tretheway) to consent to the appointment of Lisa Robb as a part-time (0.2 FTE) ceramics teacher carried with a vote of 4-0. Mrs. Robb will be placed on Step 1 with a stipend for a Master's in Art Education.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Erin Alfieri as the part-time food service helper pending receipt of a favorable background check carried with a vote of 4-0. Ms Alfieri will be compensated at the rate of \$12.50 per hour.

A motion (Tretheway, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Victoria Carson as the tutor for student athletes as required by the participation policy carried with a vote of 4-0. Per contract, Dr. Carson will be compensated at the rate of \$30 per hour.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Shannon

Morgan as the cultural activities coordinator for secondary students carried with a vote of 4-0. It was noted that earlier today Amy Dugan, who had applied for the middle grades position, withdrew her name for appointment.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Tim Keane as the assistant coach for the junior high soccer team pending receipt of his coaching certification and a favorable outcome of his background check carried with a vote of 4-0.

A resolution transferring the debit card from Leslie Ryan to Robert Hicks was submitted for School Committee review and approval. The debit card is used in case of emergency when our students are stuck off island. A motion (Padien, McGarry) to approve the resolution regarding replacing Leslie Ryan's name with Robert Hicks' name on the debt card carried with a vote of 4-0.

An updated employment contract with Special Education Director William Anderson, as recommended by Mr. Hicks, was submitted for review. The number of work days and the obligation to work beyond the 180-day school year have been clarified. In addition, the evaluation procedure has changed. A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the employment contract with William Anderson and to authorize the Chairperson to sign it carried with a vote of 4-0.

Calendar of Events

The next regular meeting of the School Committee is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2010.

Correspondence

Correspondence addressed to the principals regarding the high school mathematics program was forwarded for School Committee information.

Adjournment

A motion (Padien, Tretheway) at 8:23 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 4-0.

Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk

Date approved: October 18, 2010