

ISLESBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018 AT 6:15 P.M. IN MS. KRISTEN'S ROOM

(NOTE: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MET AT 5:45 P.M. TO REVIEW WARRANTS. LAURA HOULE, CHLOE JOULE, AND PATRICK PHILLIPS WERE PRESENT.)

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call: Board chair Laura Houle called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Board members in attendance: Laura Houle, Bill Kelly, Lars Nelson, John Gorham and Chloe Joule. Others present: Heather Knight, Ryan Martin, Vicki Conover, Melissa Jagger, and Patrick Phillips.
- II. Approval of Minutes: Motion by John Gorham, with second by Lars Nelson, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2018 board meeting. Unanimous in favor. Motion by John Gorham, with second by Lars Nelson, to approve the minutes of the special board meeting on March 28, 2018. Unanimous in favor.
- III. Correspondence
  - a. Letter from Patrick Powers: Mr. Phillips presented a letter from Patrick Powers notifying the board of his intent to resign at the end of the current school year. The board wished Patrick all the best, and asked Mr. Phillips to write Patrick a letter expressing that sentiment.
- IV. Adjustments to the Agenda: None
- V. Open Session: No comments were offered by the public.
- VI. Presentations: Ryan Martin and Heather Knight on their proposal to modify current graduation requirements to include one credit in Sustainability / Horticulture: Ryan Martin reviewed a memo he and Heather Knight had prepared, which outlined the recommendation to add a graduation requirement on Sustainability. He noted that students would be able to select from a few courses that would meet this requirement, or would be able to develop their own independent project. He stressed that with the increasing significance of sustainability (expanded curriculum offerings, establishing a Sustainability Committee, key language in the Vision Statement, etc.) such a requirement would extend the school's multi-faceted work in this area and allow all students to graduate with this important content in their ICS experience. Board members had a number of clarifying questions, and asked that the administration and Jess Woods review the graduation requirements policy and return to the May board meeting with recommended modifications. Motion by John Gorham, with second by Lars Nelson, to approve the addition of sustainability as a graduation requirement for all students. Unanimous in favor.
- VII. Unfinished Business
  - a. School calendar: discuss and possibly approve the school calendar for the 2018-19 school year: Heather Knight presented the school calendar for 2018-19 that had been modified as directed by the board at the March meeting, and reviewed with Kate Legere

on behalf of the ICS teachers association. Motion by John Gorham, with second by Chloe Joule, to approve the school calendar for the 2018-19 school year as presented. Unanimous in favor.

- b. Technology position: discuss and possibly approve a staffing plan for Technology / Network Administrator: Mr. Phillips introduced the discussion noting that the board had discussed this issue at the March meeting and had asked that it be brought back with clarification from the administration of the details of their proposal for staffing the technology program next year. Mr. Phillips noted that he had misunderstood what John Gorham and other board members wished to see in a staffing plan for the coming year, and as a result the budget had been approved by the board with insufficient funds to staff the technology program with a new full time Technology Teacher position. He apologized for this misunderstanding, and introduced the modified plan he and Ms. Knight were bringing forward for board consideration. Also in attendance was Vicki Conover, who had returned only recently to join in discussion about staffing for next year. Mr. Phillips outlined the latest proposal that would increase the number of Technology courses that could be offered next year by having Vicki teach a couple of courses, along with Jon Bolduc teaching one course, moving closer to what the board's request had hoped. Vicki Conover and Heather Knight discussed the history of staffing challenges in both Technology instruction and in address the Network Administrator role. Over the past 4-5 years, finding qualified staff who were willing to work for the amount we could afford to pay has been very challenging. The idea of filling this staffing need with internal staff has been the goal of recent shared responsibility between Jon and Vicki, with the eventual goal of moving Jon into a full time teaching role. The board expressed the worry that this proposal was very unformed in this presentation, and lacked the specifics around what courses would be taught, how those courses related to a K-12 curriculum in this area, and what the long term plan would be for staffing. Mr. Phillips and Ms. Knight agreed to return to the May meeting with a more complete proposal, including a range of options in both staffing and instructional offerings for the next couple of years. Bill Kelly asked if we had an older curriculum in Technology, to which Vicki replied that yes we do, and she would be happy to find it and forward a copy to the board prior to the next meeting.
  
- c. Magnet Program update: Heather Knight updated the board on the most recent discussions among the Magnet Committee members, including suggested options for tuition rates next year. The board reviewed the options presented and discussed a variety of considerations on how to decide the appropriate tuition level, including the board's sense of responsibility to the Islesboro taxpayers for ensuring that Magnet Program families paid a fair tuition based on regional comparisons. It was noted, however, that the ICS Magnet Program is different from what a private school would charge, in that ICS is benefitted in a number of ways by having Magnet students in attendance (greater diversity, more athletic teams, greater number of curriculum offerings.) After reviewing the options as presented, there was a motion by Bill Kelly, with second by John Gorham, to approve Option 1 (tuition rate of \$6,120 for high school, including \$120 for transportation costs; and \$4,920 for middle level, including \$120 for transportation costs). Unanimous in favor. Ms. Knight offered to develop a one-page memo (an FAQ sheet)

outlining key aspects of the Magnet Program and bring copies to the Town Meeting on April 28.

- d. Policy Discussion (tabled from earlier in the school year)—JFAB-R—Admission of Non-Resident Students: Mr. Phillips noted that the board had requested that this policy be brought back to the board in January, after it had been reviewed by the board in the fall. Mr. Phillips noted a handful of issues the board had not been able to agree on specifics around, and thus had tabled at that time. The board requested that this policy be tabled until we have additional information from the Magnet Committee. Mr. Phillips agreed to bring the policy back to the May board meeting.
- e. Discussion of preparation for the Town Meeting Budget discussion: Sally had prepared a one-page overview of the warrant articles over a three-year period, in hopes that this would address the concern raised by townspeople at last year's Town Meeting.
- f. Discussion of future of solar installations for ICS: Mr. Phillips asked the board to update its desire on solar installation issues, after reaching a decision not to install solar panels on the gym roof. The board would like to continue the exploration of possible alternative locations on the ground, and would welcome a future proposal. Lars Nelson expressed a worry that the payback period is rather lengthy and that the board should be cautious about entering into a program.
- g. Administrative search process update: Laura Houle updated the board on the interviews being conducted for the Head of School position. She noted that two additional candidates would be coming to school on Wednesday. The Dean of Students position has been posted.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. Discuss and possibly approve a staffing plan for the Physical Education / Health position for next year: Ms. Knight outlined her initial thinking about the PE/Heather position that will need to be filled after the resignation of Patrick Powers. She expressed concerns about finding the right model and staff for such a large age range. The board expressed concerns about totally eliminated PE at the high school level, and asked that Heather bring back an updated proposal at the May meeting.

#### IX. Committee/Administrative Reports

- a. Principal: Heather Knight updated the board on upcoming special activities with the school.
- b. Superintendent: Mr. Phillips updated the board on issues on the roof repair, the Quicksilver review, and any committee meetings the board wishes to schedule prior to the end of the year.
- c. Region 8: John Gorham gave a brief status report on the Region 8 construction project.
- d. Committee Reports: None

#### X. Other Business: None

#### XI. Executive Session: None

XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick R. Phillips, Superintendent of Schools