

ISLESBORO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

July 10, 2012

There will be a meeting of the Islesboro School Committee on Wednesday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Room of the Islesboro Central School.

AGENDA/MINUTES

I. Call to order and roll call

- Chairperson Julie Reidy called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- School Committee members present: Julie Reidy, Laura Houle, Shey Conover, Bill Boardman and Mike Boucher.
- Others in attendance included: Linda Gillies, Josh and Sonya Leach, Michelle Reidy, Janis Berthume, Megan Murphy, Dan Murphy, Rosalie Murphy, Natalie Murphy, Davis Boardman, Lilly Kolle, Heather Knight and Supt Joe Mattos.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. School Committee Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2012

- **Motion (Mike) to approve the June 13, 2012 School Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Bill. Vote: 5-0.**

III. Review of Financial Records

A. School Revenue and Expense Reports

- Supt. Mattos reported that the ending balance for the 2011/12 school year should be approximately \$135,000. This amount should provide sufficient monies to be put forward into the 2013/14 school budget.

B. School Lunch Accounts

- Heather reported that bills have been sent to parents. Hopefully all bills will be paid prior to the start of school.

C. School Activity Accounts

- Heather provided the school committee with written information on all school accounts – balances, income, expenses, etc. Also included was information that described how school funds were handled e.g. depositing funds, requesting checks, and reviewing accounts.
- On a student related issue, Mike asked that we write a letter to Jim McLeod (Maine Department of Transportation) regarding issuing free ferry tickets to students who are involved in summer recreational activities that are on the mainland, such as the swimming program in Belfast. Heather and Supt Mattos will follow up on this request.

IV. Open session (Comment from the public)

- Linda Gillies expressed concern that the weeds in the flower gardens and grounds at the entrance of ICS were detracting from the visual appeal of the Islesboro Central School. She mentioned that donors oftentimes drive by the school to look at it. Heather mentioned that the new horticulture teacher may

have a long term solution for reducing the need to weed these areas. Supt Mattos stated that he would have these areas weeded immediately.

V. Correspondence and Communications

- Supt Mattos asked school committee members to submit to him their completed forms for participating in the MSMA Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance. Mike forwarded his completed form to Supt Mattos.
- Supt Mattos stated that he would like to have some discussion under Old Business regarding the article on School Accreditation he wrote for the Islesboro newspaper later.

VI. Committee/Administrative Reports

A. Principal

- Principal Heather Knight distributed to school committee members her July 10, 2012 Principal's Report. Included in this written report were the following items: Kindergarten Schedule Proposal, Lead Team Update, Summer School Review, and Yearly Review of Handbook.
- There was a significant amount of discussion regarding the Kindergarten Schedule Proposal. Questions were raised regarding this schedule and issues related to using the PK facility at the Town Office as an off-site location for PM PK student programming. These issues included insurance coverage, water tests, employee finger-printing, etc. Heather will address these issues when requesting use of this location for PK programming.
- It was recommended that the new athletic policy and information on the selection of the Valedictorian/Salutatorian be included in the student handbook.

B. Superintendent

- No report.

C. Region 8

- Bill reported that Region 8 would be using Accuplacer to help students better prepare for admission to post secondary educational programs.

D. Committee Reports

- The School Facilities Committee last met on June 21. Notes from the meeting were distributed to school committee members.
- There was some discussion regarding the relocation of the Ainsley Bell Garden. Laura will follow-up and meet with Harriet and Betha regarding the new location, fencing needs, and plans for ongoing maintenance.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Second Reading of Proposed Student Athletics Policy JJI

- There was discussion regarding language that was added following the first reading, based on school committee members concerns. All new language was accepted.
- **Motion (Mike) to approve Student Athletics Policy as revised. Seconded by Shey. Vote: 5-0**

B. Discuss/Establish School Committee Goals for 2012/13

- School committee members discussed possible goals for the 2012/13 school year. Areas discussed included: 1. educating parents and students regarding standards, homework, and guidance services (Bill), 2. addressing the academic and behavioral needs of students with special needs through teacher/staff professional development and training (Julie), 3. establishing clear communications and expectations (academic and behavioral) for students (student to student) and teachers (students with teachers) (Laura), 4. increasing clarity and communications between students and teachers regarding grading expectations and reporting timeliness (Mike), 5. completing school policies and moving forward on school horticulture program in a whole school integrative fashion (Shey).
- Supt Mattos added that he would like to improve communication with all stakeholder groups regarding the quality of programming and student achievement at ICS. This would be done using a variety of strategies e.g. school web site, newspaper articles, development of School Improvement Plan based on Nine Characteristics of High Performing Schools, parent and community newsletters, school committee meeting presentations, etc.

VIII. New Business

A. Appointments for Fall Coaching Positions

- Supt Mattos reported that a final interview for the position of soccer coach had not yet been completed. This final interview should take place in the next week and an appointment made at that time, which will be forwarded via email to school committee members.
- Supt Mattos stated that based on the recommendation of Heather and Andrew, he was appointing Johanna Rogers as the varsity X-Country Team coach. Several school committee members voiced concern about this appointment. Discussion on this appointment was limited based on Chairperson Reidy's concern that issues related to a person's character or personal qualities not be discussed in open session. It was noted that appointments are at the superintendent's discretion and do not need school committee approval.

B. Discuss Tuition Charges for Foreign Exchange Students

- School committee members discussed the pros and cons of having foreign exchange students pay tuition, depending on whether or not they live on or off Islesboro. It was agreed by all school committee members that ICS should continue its current practice of having foreign exchange students, whom live off island, be treated as Magnet Students and pay the Magnet Student tuition rate. Foreign exchange students who live on island would be treated as a resident student and not pay any tuition fees.

IX. Other Business

- None

X. Adjournment

- **Motion (Laura) to adjourn. Seconded by Shey. Vote: 5-0 8:45 pm**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Mattos
Superintendent of Schools – Islesboro