

ISLESBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 14, 2017—6:15 P.M. IN THE ICS MUSIC ROOM

MINUTES

5:30 P.M.: Finance Committee meeting to review warrants. Finance Committee members Laura Houle and Chloe Joule met at 5:45 to review the warrants to date.

- 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, Chloe Joule, John Gorham, and Lars Nelson. Others in attendance: Heather Knight, Betha Howell, Pete Anderson, Judy Smith, and Patrick Phillips.
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes of the October 10, 2017 meeting: Motion by Lars Nelson, with second by John Gorham, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017 board meeting. 4-0 (Laura Houle abstained)
- III. Correspondence: None
- IV. Adjustments to the Agenda: None
- V. Open Session: No comments from the public.
- VI. Presentations: School breakfast presentation: Betha Howell, Pete Anderson, and Judy Smith. Pete, Betha, and Judy presented their work to date on exploring the feasibility of beginning a formal school breakfast program at ICS. The group had prepared an FAQ sheet that outlined the rationale, potential considerations, and possible funding sources. It was noted by the presenters that the overwhelming findings from research indicate the students with a healthy breakfast do better in school. Staff noted that there are significant differences among students in the quality of food they have to start the day. There was strong support from the board for continuing this exploration. It was agreed that the group would return to a board meeting early in 2018 with a more complete estimate on costs and funding options. The group was thanked for their good work so far.
- VII. Unfinished Business
  - a. Board goals (tabled from the October board meeting): Patrick reminded that board that vice-chair Bill Kelly had requested that board members come to the meeting with thoughts about possible goals for the board. Patrick also noted that he had drafted, based on board request at the last meeting, a resolution on affordable housing that could be factored in to the board goals discussion. Bill Kelly stated that he believed the board should develop a goal that establishes a process to develop a 10-year plan based on the school vision. Such a 10-year plan, Bill noted, could include a number of critical issues: facilities planning, enrollment projections,

student programming, alternative sources of funding, affordable housing for families and staff, financial stability, and Region 8 programming. It was suggested that Heather and Patrick survey the staff on these and other possible long-term goal areas. Patrick agreed that once the staff has been surveyed, he would draft a goal statement on this and bring it to the next board meeting.

- b. Student Handbook discussion and possible approval: Bill Kelly suggested a change in wording in the student discipline section, and moved to approve the Student Handbook with the suggested change. Heather pointed out the cost of making hard copies of the Handbook and suggested that we could post the Handbook on our website, send electronic copies to families, and have hard copies in each classroom and in the library. Motion seconded by Lars Nelson. Unanimous in favor.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible approval of 4-year lease purchase of tractor: Patrick updated the board on the lease purchase arrangements for the new tractor, to be used primarily for snow removal. Board members asked that every effort be made to ensure the tractor and its various attachments are properly stored and cared for. Motion by Bill Kelly, with second by John Gorham, to approve the lease purchase plan with Androscoggin Bank. Unanimous in favor.
- b. School Committee Resolution on Affordable Housing: The board reviewed and discussed the Resolution drafted by Patrick. Bill Kelly asked for clarification on the purpose of the sentence on school programming, and suggested that it did not specifically address the subject of affordable housing. Patrick agreed to remove the sentence from the final draft. It was also suggested that the language about the school's coordination with the Town could be stronger. Patrick agreed to make these changes and to then forward the final document to the board and particularly Lars Nelson, who has agreed to serve as a liaison to the Town on this issue.

#### IX. Committee/Administrative Reports

- a. Principal: Heather updated the board on Family Coding Night, the current status of the laptop purchase and implementation, potential for expanding our current vision of sustainability, and efforts to clarify extracurricular offerings. She also invited the board to visit the school for a more formal tour, similar to what is currently being arranged for schools who visit for possible magnet program enrollments. Two dates were identified for board members to visit: Wednesday, Nov. 29 and Friday, Dec. 1, both would be from 8:00 to 12:30.

- b. Superintendent: Patrick updated the board on possible dates for the Policy Committee and Finance Committee meeting dates in the coming weeks.
  - c. Region 8: John Gorham updated the board on recent news from Region 8, including Tres' recent tour with Jess at Region 8, as well as his upcoming certification program in cold water diving. John also noted how effective the graphic arts program is at Region 8 and was joined by other board members in suggesting that we include this as an option for our students, perhaps using the Tanberg technology. John also noted that site work has begun on the new facility and work is underway on developing a new logo.
  - d. Committee Reports: Patrick updated the board on recent meetings of the Facilities Committee and Finance Committee. Chloe Joule updated the board on the recent meetings of the Magnet Committee.
- X. Other Business: None
- XI. Executive Session: Discussion of a personnel matter, Title I MRSA, section 405. The board went into executive session at 8:30 p.m. and came out at 9:30 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.
- XII. Adjournment. The board meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick R. Phillips, Superintendent of Schools