

SHARON BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020 - 6:00 PM
@
VIA GOOGLE MEET
DRAFT MINUTES

Present:

School Board: Sam Potter, Don Shaw, Chantelle Brackett

Other: Jamie Kinnarney (Superintendent), Keenan Haley (Principal at SES), Laura Lewis (Interventionist at SES), Tara Weatherell (Business Manager at the WRVSU) (6:09 pm, left at 7:06), Raymond Ballou (Technology Manager at the WRVSU), Nicole Antal (Sharon School Board Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order
Shaw called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
None
3. Assign times/time keeper
Shaw will keep us on task
4. Consent Agenda
 - 4.1. Approve the Minutes of Tuesday, August 11, 2020 (Regular)
 - 4.2. Approve the Minutes of Tuesday, September 9, 2020 (Regular)
Brackett made a motion to approve the minutes of Tuesday, August 11, 2020, and Tuesday, September 9, 2020, as presented and submitted. Potter seconded. Motion carried.
5. Board Communications
Shaw received an email from a new parent inquiring about how tuition works in town, as they are looking to move to Sharon.
6. Public Comments
None
7. Reports to the Board
 - 7.1. Superintendent's Report
Kinnarney shared a report with the board prior to the meeting (*see attached documents*). He added to the report the following:
He presented the board with a first draft for an additional student support in the budget. There is an emphasis on math intervention across the SU. Reports across

the SU have shown that there is a greater regression in math when the schools went remote starting in March. He attributes to students not engaging in math unless in a classroom. This is true across the country. Sharon Elementary School students are a bit ahead in math, compared to other schools across the SU. Math intervention is what the SU is trying to focus on.

- The correspondence shared with staff will continue to be shared with the school board also.
- Mary Ellen Simmons will be leaving the SU for a position in Barre on Nov. 1. The SU has no in-service planned for the rest of the year at the SU level, so Aimee Toth will continue doing training on literacy. Not hiring right away for this important position will allow the SU and the school boards to determine what are the priorities to fill that position for next year.

7.2. Business Manager's Report

Weatherell shared a report with the board prior to the meeting (*see attached documents*).

She discussed the following in depth with the board:

- All FY19 Audits are completed.
- On Friday (10/9/2020), the USDA extended the Summer Food Service Program through the end of the school year (end of June), which means all children will continue eating for free. She reminded the board that the Free and Reduced Lunch applications still need to be collected, as these numbers help with funding from the state.
- CARE's Funding CRF Application was submitted on 09/2/2020. The SU is still waiting for a response from the AOE.
- Energy Efficiency Grant: the SU obtained grants for the HVAC work that needs to be done in order to be compliant with the COVID-19 requirements. For the Sharon district, it was \$85,000.
- Alternative School tuition rate: (Shaw noted that these are for alternative schools, for higher needs)

Independent schools are not required to release their tuition rates in January like the public schools. In late September, the SU received the tuition rates. Maplehill was \$92,000 per year and increased to \$102,000. CHOICE Academy Middle School was \$63,609 and increased to \$83,941. CHOICES Academy High School was \$59,504 and increased to \$72,381.

Kinnarney mentioned that the SU is looking to bring back those students, and to create those programs within our schools. As of now, we don't have the programs to support those students with higher needs at the high school level.

- Solar Proposal: Strafford Energy will offer a proposal at the next meeting for the board to review. Encore and Green Lantern have submitted an updated proposal. Raymon Ballou will assist Weatherell in reviewing and explaining these

proposals.

7.3. Principal's Report

Haley shared a report with the board prior to the meeting (*see attached documents*). He discussed the following in depth with the board:

- MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports): the school is starting to have a solid understanding of the system. On Friday September 25th, the MTSS team met for their weekly meeting. Meg Hopkins is the MTSS coordinator for the school. Kinnarney was at the meeting to give an overview of MTSS and how it will look in the WRVSU. He cleared up a lot of questions the team had.

As part of this initiative, a representative from the software data collection company, OTUS gave a tutorial on how to use their website. We will be storing our assessment data on this site.

Kinnarney explained that he has used the program. It helps monitor student growth. Shaw asked where the data is stored and will the data remain once the student leaves (inquiring about cost per student). Ballou said it is stored in the cloud, it's a service we pay 1700-\$2000 across the SU and is not a fee per student.

- Assessments: the school finished all the assessments.
- Covid has put a damper on a lot of activities, but with the State of Education announcing that we entered in phase 3, the 6th Graders will be able to go on 10/14/2020 at Hulbert Outdoor Center. It will not be an overnight trip as in previous years, but it is still an exciting time for students. They will have team building exercises. This is their last year at the elementary school, it is a year where they usually have a lot of responsibility that will not happen this year. Haley was happy to report that at least, they will have this opportunity.

7.4. Policy Committee

7.4.1 [A24: Board/Superintendent Relationship](#)

7.4.2 [F30: Budgeting](#)

7.4.3 [Records Retention](#)

Shaw asked the rest of the board to review and submit reviews to the Policy Board.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Academic Data Report

Lewis explained to the board what her role as an interventionist is at school.

She has assessed the students. She explained that it was expected that there would be learning loss, due to COVID and school closings. As of now, Sadowski, the Math Interventionist, is only there one day a week. Sharon needs more math support to answer the demand. The SU and Lewis are reflecting what happened, and the method on how we educate, especially using virtual learning and engagement.

We are looking to increase that in the coming year.

Shaw asked if we are able to fund a full FTE Math Interventionist position. Kinnarney answered that maybe, potentially.

The proposal tonight shared with the board is the most conservative proposal.

8.2 21-22 Budget *Student Support (See “21-22 Student Support Budget” Document)

All lines: Salary, Benefits, etc. are all included to ease discussion with the board.

The budget includes:

- Increase the Math Intervention role, 0.8 FTE increase.
- Guidance Counselor increase due to demand.
- Nurse is a 0.6 FTE position. Sharon temporarily increased the position to respond to COVID, but we can go back to 0.6 FTE.
- Regular Education Paras: Sharon has 5 Regular Education paras that the school can use as we see fit. There are 2 in the preschool, one in Kindergarten, 1 in Gr1-3, and one in Gr4-6. Sharon has more paras than other schools.
The proposal is to have more subs instead, with a permanent floating sub which would reduce the cost but would still be an integral part of the school community. It would be a sub that would come in almost every day, and would cover where needs arise. The proposal more accurately represents what we have been spending in the past years.

Potter asked if the increase in FTE for the nurse’s office has been covered by other funds? Kinnarney answered that the SU has applied to have those costs covered by grants, and he is confident that they will be.

8.3 Solar Project

See Business Manager Report

8.4 COVID-19 Updates

Kinnarney explained that the whole SU level, the instruction days are increasing to full days.

8.5 Parking Lot Paving RFP

As we have discussed in the past few meetings, Sharon didn’t go out for a second RFP after the last one only attracted one proposal.

Kinnarney has brought a facility consultant to review the RFP. The RFP will be finalized soon, and will go out to the same sources (industry journal, two local newspapers).

9. Action Items

None

10. New Hires

Julia Waslow, Strafford music teacher, has been hired. She is starting this Thursday (10/15/2020).

The PE position might be finalized soon.

The Art, Music, Language, Library classes will continue going in the classroom. PE classes will mostly be outside, but phase 3 has allowed for school to be using gym spaces. Sharon is

easing up slowly, the gym hasn't been used for instructions yet. Yoga or low-intensity sports might be inside in the coming weeks. Phase 3 also allows for flexible grouping of students. Sharon is still not doing that. But it opened the use of the cafeteria.

11. Confirm Next Meeting Dates

11.1. Tuesday, November 10, 2020 - 6 PM @ VIA GOOGLE MEET (Regular)

Don Shaw confirmed the meeting. MEETING HAS BEEN changed to 6 pm.

12. Adjourn

Brackett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm. Potter seconded. Motion carried.