

Wednesday, March 1, 2017  
**LONG ISLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
3:30 p.m. – Long Island Library Conference Room

**MINUTES**

Citizens in the audience are invited to speak during public comment and/or on a topic that is introduced during the course of the meeting under New Business. Each citizen is to be limited to one presentation per citizen, per topic, of not more than three minutes unless the chair gives special permission. Audience participation shall cease on a topic at such time as the chairman calls for board discussion.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Lisa Kimball called the meeting to order at 3:38. Present were Ms. Donovan, Mrs. Train, Mr. Dorr (Special Education Director) and Supt. Powers. Mrs. Hohn was unable to attend.

**2. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Kimball moved approval of the February 1, 2017 minutes. Ms. Donovan seconded and the motion passed 2-0.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

•The Department of Education has finally shared information about distributing MEA results from 2015-16. We will be printing the reports as soon as they are ready, hopefully in time to share during parent conferences or via mail for our sixth graders. The one-year lag has really rendered them unhelpful! Hopefully the timing will be greatly improved next year.

**6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- There will be a public hearing on the Governor's 2017-18 proposed school budget on Friday, March 3. Several members from the Cumberland County Superintendent's Association will be offering testimony as well as area school board members. Most southern Maine schools (including Long Island) experienced substantive projected cuts in General Purpose Aid (GPA) and, depending on what happens in the legislature, may experience even deeper losses if all administrative costs are removed from the equation. Improvement in GPA will only come through legislative action.

- Professional Development sponsored by the Island Institute is slated for Mrs. Train as a teacher leader, and we also plan to send both teachers to an executive functioning workshop in Freeport where home-school connections are emphasized. Some parents may benefit from this workshop as well.

- Wayne Dorr, our Special Education Director, was present and shared the following:

He explained that when he's on the island, he observes teaching and learning and then consults with the two teachers and the special education ed. tech. about instructional options. He and Mrs. Johnson have also been working closely on federal documents, including the five-year audit and local entitlement reimbursement. He emphasized the ever-changing rules about special education services and funding, which require constant oversight. Mr. Dorr further explained that he's very cognizant about finding the most cost effective way to support kids who need assessments and specialized instruction.

Wayne has agreed to continue on with Long Island School next year as our contracted services Special Education Director.

## **7. LEAD TEACHER'S REPORT**

- Mrs. Train announced that the Ocean Frontiers documentary featuring our fourth and fifth grade children has been really well received. She expects to receive the DVDs soon so that a Long Island "premiere" can be scheduled. She's hoping to coordinate it along with an upcoming potluck dinner.

- Computers are now ready for this year's MEAs and the format will be more familiar to the children this year. The assessments will be administered later this month. Grades close shortly and conferences are coming right up.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Revisions to 2017-18 Budget Proposal/Review of Preliminary General Purpose Aid form (EDU 279)

There were three areas of adjustment that occurred after our last board meeting:

- Tuition for ALL students is \$10,500, so an increase in Middle School tuition was noted.

- News arrived that General Purpose Aid is projected to be reduced by about \$1300 to \$4970.

- Though not listed yet in the budget document, we should experience increased revenues of \$21,000 for our two tuition students from Grade Diamond Island. Portland Public Schools will be paying for their attendance on a par with our middle and high school students.

The public hearing on the school's proposed budget will be Saturday, March 25. Following public comment, the board will officially vote on the school budget at the April meeting.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Approval of Tuition Student Request from Great Diamond Island**

- Following a February 17 meeting with Asst. Superintendent Jeanne Crocker of the Portland Public Schools, Supt. Powers agreed to propose accepting tuition students from Great Diamond Island at the rate of \$10,500 per child. Ms. Donovan moved that we accept Great Diamond Island tuition students. Mrs. Kimball seconded and the motion passed 2-0.

### **b. Approval of 2017-18 School Calendar**

- The first iteration of the 2017-18 School Calendar was presented. Start dates and vacation dates will soon be compared with Portland plans for next year; the flow of parent conferences and early release days is very similar to the current year, which has worked well. Three more teacher workshop days are still TBD based on curriculum work and dates that will be identified this spring. This calendar will be ready for approval at the April board meeting.

### **c. Breezeway door replacement proposals**

- We have received two proposals for the breezeway exterior door replacement. The Finance Committee has asked to see the proposals at their meeting this afternoon.

## **10. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

### **2016-17 School Board Meetings:**

Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings will be held at 3:30 on the first Wednesday of the month.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 5

May 3

June 7

School Budget Public Hearing: Saturday, March 25

Town Meeting: Saturday, May 14