

Wednesday, September 14, 2016
LONG ISLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING
3:30 p.m. – Long Island Library Conference Room

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Lisa Kimball called the meeting to order at 3:36. Board members Tammy Hohn and Annie Donovan were present along with Supt. Powers and Lead Teacher Marci Train.

2. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

•June 8, 2016

Mrs. Kimball moved approval of the June 8, 2016 minutes with Mrs. Donovan seconding. In discussion, Mrs. Hohn inquired about the superintendent-authorized hirings that took place over the summer, including one long-term contract in custodial and maintenance services as well as the three one-year contracted services hirings, including the school counselor, school nurse, and special education director. Mrs. Powers explained that the long-term contract position was posted while previous practice had been for the superintendent to recruit for the other difficult to fill positions. There was a request made by Mrs. Hohn that contracted services positions be posted on the town list serve in the future for full transparency along with regular contract positions. The original motion then passed 3-0.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

•Scholarship information from Island Institute

Supt. Powers checked to be sure that scholarship students had received updated information from the Island Institute. This was confirmed.

•Approval by the DOE of the Long Island Teacher Evaluation System

It was further noted that the Department of Education formally accepted Long Island's Professional Evaluation/Professional Growth Plan for all teachers and principals. Teachers will soon be establishing smart goals regarding student achievement and professional growth as part of their evaluation plan.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Staffing Changes/Updates

Supt. Powers then announced that she had filled the following positions with certified or otherwise qualified personnel:

- Special Education Director Contracted Services – Wayne Dorr
- School Counselor Contracted Services – Cindy Perkins
- Nursing Contracted Services – Kristina Truesdale
- Maintenance/Custodian – Rod Jacobs

- Summer Work Review

A retreat was first held in early August to help build a renewed team after the retirement of long time teacher, Mrs. Johnson. The culture of the school received significant attention, while Cindy Perkins, school counselor, had several suggestions for supporting a more compassionate community of learners. With Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Train opting to create a K-5 learning environment, this retreat helped everyone visualize children of all ages working together cooperatively and important roles all will play in that process.

On August 15 and 16, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Train, and Mrs. Powers met with a team from Chebeague at the Casco Bay Lines Ferry Terminal conference room. Mrs. Powers explained that the first day was devoted to reviewing a variety of learning standards in English language arts while the second day focused on math and science. Following a close review, the six teachers who were present chose to use the the Maine Learning Results (based on the Common Core State Standards) as the two schools' adopted standards, with slight tweaks for the primary grades. This document will soon be available for parent review on the school's website.

In addition to reviewing learning standards, teachers exchanged ideas about program materials and those that were found to be effective in meeting student needs. As a result, the updated Everyday Mathematics curriculum (Revision IV) was purchased in time for the opening of school. Student journals, which were previously ordered, will be returned.

- Need for a credit card for the school

Mrs. Powers explained that it would be helpful for some purchases to have a credit card available to use, similar to the one used by the Community Programs staff. Mrs. Kimball offered to check into that option.

- RICOH copier contract

It was also reported that our local RICOH salesman nearly lost the ability to offer copiers and service agreements to island schools. This has now received corporate approval so a lease will be signed rather than an outright purchase made, as service calls now must be financed, with apologies from our long time sales rep.

LEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

- Classroom changes

Mrs. Train spoke about the daily schedule and how the teachers are jointly planning for instruction, beginning with a daily class meeting, songs, and check ins. She explained that the classroom setting now includes a shared technology center, quiet reading space, and writing area. Ed. techs. are also being utilized differently to supervise and assist with instruction primarily within the classroom setting. She noted that the change has really set the stage for a good climate in the larger classroom. It has felt nurturing for the older students to be comfortable in both sides of the room and sometimes to help the younger students.

Also, the updated math program is working well and includes activity cards that review the introduced concept, which is perfect follow up for the ed. techs. to use with children.

- Report card plans

Mrs. Train talked through the new standards based report cards for monitoring student growth. Draft examples were shared at the meeting. The revised report card will be discussed at Open House and used for the first marking period and a summary of learning goals will be provided to each parent.

- Special areas of study

Weather Blur is an exciting new program regarding science issues and is sponsored by the Maine Math and Science Alliance. The children will be assessed next week for prior knowledge in measurement and interpreting data. The class will adopt a tidal pool plus check out water quality in comparison to other sites. They plan many investigations. Kelp will be part of the water study as well and she hopes to once again grow and harvest kelp.

- Ocean Frontiers

A film crew from this production company wants to film teachers who teach coastal environment, place-based instruction. October or November is the goal for their visit to our school.

•Island Institute Conference in October

Teachers and ed. techs. will be attending the Island Institute on October 13 and 14. Mrs. Train said she has been asked to give a presentation on her aquaculture learning project.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Elevator installation

The board was informed that the elevator installation is nearly complete, with the dedicated phone line the last remaining hurdle prior to the final inspection and award of a certificate. Mrs. Kimball noted that the \$50,150 in grant funds have now been received by the town to help pay for the project.

b. HVAC Upgrade

A new project manager was assigned to our project. The installation will proceed in a week with the goal of the full upgrade completed by the start of the heating season. Rod Jacobs will be in charge of local oversight with Trane monitoring the system from their Portland offices through software systems and Pine State providing service.

c. Question of security in the school AND library

Security concerns for both the library and the school was discussed. Teachers have asked if it may be possible to add number pads to the doors in place of the keys, many of which are in circulation. The problem is with older doors, which would likely need to be replaced too. This is likely a larger CIP matter.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Donovan moved approval of the School Maintenance/Custodial Contract for Rodney Jacobs. Mrs. Hohn seconded it and the motion passed 3-0.

Mrs. Kimball then moved to approve the NCLB grant TITLE II proposal for the purpose of improving teacher quality, based on the needs assessment regarding the need to improve instructional quality for ed. techs. and teachers. Mrs. Donovan seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mrs. Kimball moved to adjourn at 4:23. Mrs. Donovan seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Open House: Monday, September 19 @ 6:45

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 5 @ 3:30

2016-17 School Board Meetings:

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

November 2

December 7

January 4

February 1

March 1

April 5

May 3

June 7