

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
March 19, 2015 7:00PM

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 19, 2015. In attendance were Miriam Morrissey, Nelle Andrews, Jim Olson, Hadley Kornacki, Peter Corcoran, Dave Berardis, Julia Grabowski(7:07pm Arrival) and Chair Michelle Grow. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager, Christian Strickland, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk.
Absent: Christine Daniels

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Grow called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Miriam Morrissey made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2015 regular meeting, the minutes from the budget workshops on February 24, 2015 and March 10, 2015 as well as the Accounts Payable report. Jim Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

STUDENT REPORT

Mr. Strickland introduced Sixth Grade students Natalie Matarazzo and Lauren Matarazzo who gave the monthly update for the Deep River Elementary School. The Board thanked the children for coming and presenting to the Board of Education.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment at this time.

OTHER ITEMS:

Principal's Update

Mr. Strickland gave a brief update of the activities at Deep River Elementary School. The Science Fair is next week. Grade 5 took the CMT Science assessment. We are scheduled to take the pilot assessment prior to April break. Conferences are being held this evening and tomorrow. Upcoming events in April include the Mosaic Art show at Central Office, SBAC and MAP testing, the Tip A Teacher fundraiser and the elementary school band concert. The PTO is sponsoring a Shred It event at the Deep River Elementary on May 2nd.

REPORTS:

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief update of the financial status for Deep River Elementary School. Mr. Sawyer was able to answer various questions from the Board. Currently Deep River is projecting a small surplus. The Administration will keep the Board informed if the situation changes as we proceed through the year.

Cafeteria Report – Mr. Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave an update on the status of the Cafeteria Budget.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Recommended Deep River Budget Transfers for 2014-15.

Mr. Sawyer reviewed the requested budget transfers.

Upon a motion made by Jim Olson and seconded by Miriam Morrissey the Board unanimously VOTED to approve the 2014-2015 budget transfers as recommended by Mr. Sawyer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet March 31st.

Policy

The next meeting is scheduled for March 24th.

Curriculum

The next meeting is scheduled for March 24th.

Supervision District

The Transportation budget was reviewed at the last meeting. We entered into contract negotiation with our current bus company supplier and have decided to continue working with them. There is a change for the scheduling of Spring break in the 2016-2017 calendars. We approved our budget with a 2.49% increase.

LEARN Committee Update

LEARN is putting together a more comprehensive Principal evaluation. Declining enrollment is being felt in other districts. Start times for elementary and high school are being discussed in some districts.

DRES Facilities

We will be making some repairs due to termites in the school during April break and in the summer.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – J. Beekley

General Update

Dr. Beekley was not present so no report was given.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - R. Levy

District Update

Dr. Levy said that Band Geeks at the High School was excellent. We have many great things happening in our district including winning the semi-finals in boy's basketball and several academic awards. Celebrate Learning will be at the Deep River Elementary School this summer. She has been working on budgets. She has also been involved with regionalization.

Regionalization Update

The Committee has been begun answering the nine questions we need to answer for regionalization. We are working on compromises with each school and Dr. Levy stated that all three elementary schools will stay open for the foreseeable future. They are also discussing ADM. The referendum voting process must have the affirmative vote of all three towns. We need to put a plan in place to deal with declining enrollments. There is a meeting next week to continue working on the questions. If we come to an agreement at this time, the earliest referendum date would be June 9th. This agreement gives us the mechanism to serve our students better and to use our resources and teachers in a better way. Ms. Andrews would like to inform people in a simple way of the changes regionalization will bring. Dr. Levy will work with the local newspaper to put together an article which will discuss what the agreement is about.

Information and Communication

No additional update.

Discussion Regarding Pending Policies

Policy #4132 Publication or Creation of Materials

There was a first read at the Joint Board of Education. The Attorney has reviewed. This policy was briefly discussed. This will be voted in April.

Discussion and Possible Vote to Adopt proposed 2015-16 Deep River Elementary Budget to be presented to the Town

Mr. Sawyer discussed changes that have been made.

On a motion made by Miriam Morrissey and seconded by Nelle Andrews Board unanimously VOTED to recommend bringing the Deep River Elementary School Budget for school year 2015-16 to the Deep River Board of Finance in the amount of \$5,464,344 (five million, four hundred sixty four thousand, three hundred forty four dollars) to be presented to the Town. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Personnel Matter

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to move into Executive Session at 7:48pm to discuss a Personnel Matter and to vote on staff non-renewals. The motion passed. Dr. Levy and Mr. Strickland were asked to attend the Executive Session.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 8:05pm.

On a motion made by Jim Olson and seconded by Dave Berardis, the Deep River Elementary Board of Education unanimously VOTED to approve the Non Renewal Notice as presented by Mr. Strickland.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 8:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk