

LAMOILLE UNION DISTRICT #18 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
LAMOILLE UNION LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

Board members present: D. Baker, J. Eisenhardt, S. Hamlyn-Prescott (6:36), P. Ingvoldstad, C. Mann (6:42), T. O'Hear, D. Osborn, S. Reber, K. Roberts, W. Sander, D. Whitcomb. Absent: B. Bailey. Others: T. Bailey, C. Hindes, B. Schaffer, J. Teegarden, M. Spaulding (7:38), Tim Messier (6:36).

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. *Call to Order, Introductions, Announcements and Public Input*

A. Call to Order – 6:30

B. Announcements

W. Sander said a week from tomorrow, at 6 PM, there will be a get-together at his place for rail modeling enthusiasts. There will be a riding railroad, and antique cars as well.

2. *Directors' Orders and Minutes of the August 21st Meeting*

A. Directors' Orders

ACTION: D. Osborn moved to approve expense orders for District #18 in the amount of \$128,935.95, seconded by W. Sander. Notable expenditures include: Apple Financial Services \$9,789.29; Cambridge Town School District \$12,491.93; Eden Town School Dist. \$9,704.00; First Student, Inc. \$13,881.03; Hewlett Packard Express \$15,542.00. The Apple lease payment was overdue. Two bills were paid between meetings. W. Sander asked if there was interest on the Apple bill. D. Osborn said it is unclear. K. Roberts asked if those bills are getting lost in central office, or not being sent down quickly enough by the schools. D. Osborn said she doesn't know. Nikki is usually good at letting her know if anything needs to be signed before the next meeting. T. Bailey will check. S. Reber asked why D. Osborn needs to go review bills once a week. She said some bills come due before the next meeting. (*S. Hamlyn-Prescott and T. Messier arrived at 6:36.*) **The motion was passed.**

ACTION: D. Whitcomb moved to ratify the action of the clerk in paying a bill from Village of Hyde Park for \$11,782.17 on Aug. 21 and a bill from Laraway for \$112,331.31 on August 27, seconded by K. Roberts. K. Roberts said it is important to track down whether the overdue bills are due to schools not sending them quickly enough or some slow-down in Central Office. **The motion was passed.**

B. Minutes of the August 21st Meeting

ACTION: W. Sander moved to approve the minutes of August 21, seconded by D. Whitcomb, and the motion was passed.

3. *Discussion and Possible Decision on Using Consent Agenda*

P. Ingvoldstad explained how a consent agenda could work to speed up meetings. It is a list of things that the board would get information about before the meeting.

There would be one motion to accept the entire agenda, or someone could ask to have an item taken out for further discussion, and then there could be a motion to pass everything else. D. Whitcomb urged the board to stay away from using a consent agenda for anything to do with finances. He said we need to be careful that the board doesn't act without getting enough info. S. Reber said his understanding is that anyone can ask a question about something on the consent agenda without pulling it out. P. Ingvaldstad said yes, and he would encourage that. (*C. Mann arrived at 6:42.*) D. Osborn said she didn't think it would work to include directors' orders in the consent agenda, because the information would have to be sent out too far ahead of time.

ACTION: S. Reber moved that the board chair be authorized to make use of a consent agenda for reports and other agenda items when information on them can be provided to the board before the meeting, seconded by K. Roberts. W. Sander said the consent agenda would probably include only minutes and administrative reports, right? P. Ingvaldstad said maybe committee reports also. D. Osborn noted that minutes and administrative reports don't need to be voted on. S. Reber said the vote would serve as confirmation that everyone had read the information provided. **The motion was passed.**

4. ***Administrative Reports / Action Items***

A. **GMTCC – J. Teegarden**

Not much has changed with the construction. The heavy tech building is open. Construction is anticipated to end in January.

The next board meeting is in Hardwick, starting at 6 PM, after the formal opening of the forestry building. People who want to go to the open house before the meeting will meet at LUHS for carpooling at 3 PM. Maps to the Hardwick facility will be put in the packet.

T. Messier gave a report on summer school. Classes offered were English 9/10, English 11/12, Math, Science, and Social Studies. One teacher was from Stowe; the others were Lamoille teachers. The dates were July 2 – 22, with the 4th off. Classes met from 8:30-11:15, except that the Science schedule was a little different. 53 students were initially enrolled. T. Messier gave the breakdown by class. 50 earned credit. There were only a couple of behavior issues of note.

C. Hinds thanked T. Messier and J. Teegarden for their support for the middle school summer program. He said the support and advice they gave was outstanding. P. Ingvaldstad said our summer school is a great program. T. Messier gave kudos to the News & Citizen. Each year they come to him to ask about summer school. T. Messier said he would like to see classes added in CPR/First Aid, P.E. and Art. He will survey students to see what they might be interested in. P. Ingvaldstad asked if teachers would have input. T. Messier said more teachers would probably be willing to be instructors if needed. S. Reber asked how enrollment has

changed over 7 years. T. Messier said this year's enrollment was the highest ever, because of the numbers from the other sending schools. T. Bailey said as far as he knows this is the only region in the state that has a tuition free summer school. P. Ingvaldstad suggested the possibility of some experiential program having to do with literacy and connected to summer school. T. Messier suggested there could be a literacy based transition class for incoming freshmen. K. Roberts said many kids can't successfully complete all the science classes they would need to get into AP courses; maybe summer school could be advertised as an opportunity for that. D. Osborn asked if students can use summer school to get ahead rather than because they're behind, and how many students might be doing that. T. Messier said the majority use summer school to make up credit and graduate on time, but some do take electives.

B. Middle School – C. Hindes

The student population is 275 right now, but will probably end up around 280-285. The Discovery Team is off to a great start.

C. High School – B. Schaffer

B. Schaffer said there was a high level of family participation in the family orientation evening. He and D. Jewett have been going into language arts classes to talk about the policies in the handbook and let students ask questions. Things are going smoothly. Enrollment is a little higher than this time last year.

S. Hamlyn-Prescott asked about how B. Schaffer envisioned using Alert-Now, and what the financial impact would be. B. Schaffer said it is a service used by several high schools in VT and across the country. It is highly programmable. We would input phone numbers. We will start out by focusing on attendance and truancy. One person currently makes calls concerning about 12 –100 students a day; this would take over that job. There would be cost and time savings. It could also be used for snow days, reminders for teacher work days, etc. We will decide at the end of the year if we want to keep using it. It costs about \$1500 for one year. In answer to S. Reber's questions, B. Schaffer said there is a flat fee, and the system plays a recorded message. We can program when the calls are made. K. Roberts asked, what technology do they use? B. Schaffer said it is telephone-based, but it calls out from a central location, not from our school. But our school number will appear on caller ID. D. Baker asked what happens if it gets an answering machine. B. Schaffer said it can call a backup number, or he thinks it can leave a message on the machine.

There was discussion about the idea of a student rep to the board. W. Sander said we can't have a student as a voting member, but in the past we have encouraged students to participate. P. Ingvaldstad said maybe committees, e.g. curriculum or policy, might be a better place for student participation. S. Reber said it would be good to make it sound like a respon-

sibility, not just something a student could come to if he felt like it. K. Roberts said it would be a different role than a member of the public.

ACTION: K. Roberts moved to authorize B. Schaffer to bring forward a student member of the board, who will not have voting rights, seconded by W. Sander, and the motion was passed. K. Roberts encouraged B. Schaffer to invite students and parents to attend committee meetings.

D. Central Office – T. Bailey

School is off to a good start. (*C. Hindes, B. Schaffer, and J. Teegarden left at 7:19.*) There were some busing issues that are better this week. A third driver has been hired for Eden, which will help the middle and high school. Central office is changing over to direct phone lines. The change was to be complete today, but one part is not yet functioning properly. This will cost less than the current system. It is piggybacking on the high school's system. It will also save the high school money when they call central office. This could possibly be introduced to Hyde Park, too. D. Baker asked if C. McFarlane had given him any figures on graduate numbers for her. He said no.

5. Committee Reports and Action Items

A. 40th Birthday Committee

D. Baker said they had a meeting Thursday, and she was disappointed at the number of attendees, but they got quite a bit accomplished. The booster club agreed to donate a cake. They are still working on getting several speakers. The event will be September 22 at 3 PM, or immediately following the game that starts at 1:00. The booster club said we can have the ceremony under their concession stand. If there is rain we will have a backup location, probably the cafeteria. There used to be a plaque in the lobby talking about the opening of the school. D. Baker has asked B. Schaffer to see if it could be tracked down and returned. D. Whitcomb said B. Schaffer is working on publicity. S. Reber asked if someone will announce the upcoming ceremony at the soccer game. The ceremony will be right by the game field. C. Mann asked who people should contact if they are interested in helping. They can call the committee members or B. Schaffer. W. Sander said the idea of scanning an original yearbook and printing copies had been mentioned. D. Baker said they are working on finding one. T. Bailey said a company in Burlington can make copies fast and reasonably on CD for less than a dollar apiece. He will look into it. He will check on having the band or chorus do something.

B. Resolutions Committee

K. Roberts said that the VSBA resolutions committee had asked the board to add specific language to the resolution we submitted regarding social and medical services. The sentence "VSBA supports the delivery of these services in public schools, by use of contracted services for which Vermont schools are reimbursed at full actual cost" would be changed to say "reimbursed for mandated services at full actual cost."

ACTION: K. Roberts moved to add “for mandated services” after the word “reimbursed” in the VSBA resolution regarding social and medical services, seconded by W. Sander, and the motion was passed.

C. Curriculum Committee

The committee has been told that 10-15 % of students are coming in with deficits.

D. Finance Committee

There will be a meeting Monday, Sept. 10, at 2:30, in the high school conference room, to discuss the Sweeney House. J. Eisenhardt will join the finance committee. (*M. Spaulding arrived at 7:38.*)

6. Policy Warnings

This was the second reading of the proposed revision to Policy 4.11. The third reading will not be at the next meeting because that one will be in Hardwick; it will be at the first October meeting in case anyone wants to come talk about it. P. Ingvaldstad said there has been no feedback yet, but it hasn't yet been in the paper. M. Spaulding will give the proposed policy out to people who have been using the facilities.

7. Review of Full Board Annual Calendar

P. Ingvaldstad asked if T. Bailey was okay with scheduling evaluations where they currently are on the calendar. He said no; he just did C. Hindes' evaluation, and B. Schaffer has only been here a few weeks. But he could do J. Teegarden's. He'll check with J. Teegarden. S. Hamlyn-Prescott said the agenda indicated there would be a summer school report out and action plan, but the board didn't request an action plan from T. Messier. P. Ingvaldstad said maybe he shouldn't have used that term; he just meant to get an idea about how to move forward with planning, and T. Messier did talk about getting student input. He would like to put this back on the agenda, before the budget for next summer is decided on, to find out if we will be adding more courses. S. Hamlyn-Prescott asked, why not ask for an action plan? T. Bailey said he will ask for one. He will present info on plans for summer school to the RAB.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items and Adjourn

A. Future Agenda Items:

D. Baker said she had read that the federal government may cut SPED funds.

T. Bailey said that's Medicaid reimbursement. It will have a big impact, and they're looking into it.

B. Adjourn:

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:50 and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by,
Donna E. Griffiths

Actions taken at the LU District #18 Board Meeting 9-4-07:

2. *Directors' Orders and Minutes of the August 21st Meeting*
 - A. **Directors' Orders**

ACTION: D. Osborn moved to approve expense orders for District #18 in the amount of \$128,935.95, seconded by W. Sander. Notable expenditures include: Apple Financial Services \$9,789.29; Cambridge Town School District \$12,491.93; Eden Town School Dist. \$9,704.00; First Student, Inc. \$13,881.03; Hewlett Packard Express \$15,542.00. **The motion was passed.**

ACTION: D. Whitcomb moved to ratify the action of the clerk in paying a bill from Village of Hyde Park for \$11,782.17 on Aug. 21 and a bill from Laraway for \$112,331.31 on August 27, seconded by K. Roberts. The motion was passed.
 - B. **Minutes of the August 21st Meeting**

ACTION: W. Sander moved to approve the minutes of August 21, seconded by D. Whitcomb, and the motion was passed.
3. *Discussion and Possible Decision on Using Consent Agenda*

ACTION: S. Reber moved that the board chair be authorized to make use of a consent agenda for reports and other agenda items when information on them can be provided to the board before the meeting, seconded by K. Roberts. The motion was passed.
4. *Administrative Reports / Action Items*
 - C. **High School – B. Schaffer**

ACTION: K. Roberts moved to authorize B. Schaffer to bring forward a student member of the board, who will not have voting rights, seconded by W. Sander, and the motion was passed.
5. *Committee Reports and Action Items*
 - B. **Resolutions Committee**

ACTION: K. Roberts moved to add “for mandated services” after the word “reimbursed” in the VSBA resolution regarding social and medical services, seconded by W. Sander, and the motion was passed.
8. *Request for Future Agenda Items and Adjourn*
 - B. **Adjourn:**

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:50 and the motion passed.