

HIGHGATE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

HIGHGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

September 8, 2016

6:15 PM

AGENDA:

- 6:15 PM Call Meeting to Order
- Agenda Amendments
 - Identify Time Keeper
- 6:20 PM Public Comments Regarding Current and Future Agendas (Listen) *
- Possible Topics for Future Board Meeting Agendas
- 6:25PM Approval of June 16th and August 11th Board Minutes (Action)
- 6:35PM Meet New Staff
Betsy Fournier and Recreation Team - Rail Trail
Solar Project (Action) - Kirt Mayland and Reg Beliveau
- 7:00PM Business Report
- Check Warrants
 - Summer Facilities Work – Terry Brace
 - Present research on roof valley repair
 - Report research on swing installation and expense
 - Report about volunteers installation role, warrantee, and cost of chips
- 7:15PM Principal's Report (Listen)
- Updates, Announcements and Celebrations
 - Professional Development
 - Calendar Highlights
- 7:30PM Superintendent's Report (Action and Listen)
- SU Collaborative Board Meeting Discussion
 - Create one large group
- 7:45PM Old Business
- Negotiations Council Representatives
 - Act 46 Independent Study Update (Information)
 - DMC like efficiency study
- 7:50PM New Business
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- 8:00PM Meeting Dates
- VEHI Health Care Plan Meeting – Sept. 19th, 3:30-5:00 PM, MVU Theater
 - Act 46 Independent Committee Meeting – Sept. 21st, 7:00PM @ MVU Library

- SU Negotiations Council Planning Meeting – September 22nd, 6:00 PM, MVU Library
 - First Negotiations Session – Sept. 28th, 6:00 PM, MVU Library
 - FNWSU School Board Meeting – October 5th, 6:00 PM All Board Members, 7:00 Local Board Meetings at Swanton
 - Next Highgate Board Meeting – October 13th at 6:15pm
 - VSBA Board Chair Training – October 19th, noon to 7:00 PM at Lake Morey
 - VSBA Fall Conference - October 20th and 21st at Lake Morey
 - VEHI Annual Meeting – Oct. 21st, 8:00 AM at Lake Morey
- 8:15PM Anticipated Executive Session – (Answer the Executive Session Compliance Question...*Where premature public knowledge would clearly place the Board or other party at a substantial disadvantage*)
- Negotiations
- 8:30PM Exit Executive Session
- 8:35PM Anticipated Action
- 8:40PM Adjournment

FY2017 Board Goals:

- 1) Support growth of student achievement**
 - a. Receive quarterly Action Plan updates at Board meetings
 - b. Create multi-year budget, facilities, and technology plans

- 2) Improve communication between the school, parents, and community**
 - a. Identify staff member to manage social media
 - b. Utilize Panorama surveys to review and use student, staff, and parent data for program improvement
 - c. Use the results of the Act 46 Independent Study to dialogue with the community about the pros and cons of governance unification.
 - d. Receive feedback from the Parent Advisory Council about budget priorities

- 3) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of Board operations**
 - a. Create and follow an annual Board Work plan
 - b. Revisit Board goals on a quarterly basis
 - c. Receive information prior to Board meeting decision making
 - d. Include teacher program presentations at monthly Board meetings
 - e. Identify a Board member to serve as an meeting agenda time keeper
 - f. Complete quarterly Board meeting effectiveness surveys

***Public Comments at Board Meetings**

The FNWSU and District School Boards are working to improve the response to public comments made at Board meetings.

The Board reserves the right to ask visitors the following questions before they are invited to address complaints to the Board:

- Have you directed your complaint through our “Complaint” Policy i.e.
 - Attempt to address the complaint first with teacher/staff member, and,
 - If not satisfied, discuss complaint with the principal, and,
 - Still not resolved, then meet with the superintendent,
 - Only then, will the Board hear your concern at a Board meeting.

- When speaking with the Board, if the complaint becomes personal, disrespectful, or threatening, then the Board chair may rule the speaker “Out of Order” or,
- If the complaint addresses specific personnel or is evaluative then the Board chair may invite the complainant into executive session, and,
- The Board chair may limit speaking time for each individual and ask that similar points of view from multiple speakers not be presented.

Anyone making a comment can expect a response from the Board that will fall into one of the following categories:

- Thank the person with no further action planned.
- Respond immediately by the Board chair or administration.
- Direct the administration to contact and respond to the person.
- Seek clarification from the administration at a specified meeting.
- Add the topic to a future Board agenda.
- Refer the matter to an executive session.
- Hold a public hearing on the matter.
- Send a note of appreciation.

