

**MISSISQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD (MVSD)
MEETING MINUTES
HIGHGATE SCHOOL LIBRARY
July 16, 2019
6:30 PM**

Present: Board members: Board Chairperson, Chris Shepard (Highgate), Board Clerk, Meaghan Conly (Swanton), Vice Chair, Don Collins (Swanton), Steve Scott (Highgate), Terri O'Shea (Swanton), Jen Chevalier (Highgate), Peter Magnant (Franklin) Absent from the Meeting: Devin Bachelder and Eric Beauregard

Others Present: Julie Regimbal, Superintendent of Schools, Lora McAllister, Business Manager. School Administrators: Jay Hartman, Principal of MVU, Pat Hartnett, Principal of Highgate School, Kosha Patel, Director of Curriculum, Paul Gregoire, Director of MVU Facilities, Wendy Cunningham, Early Childhood Coordinator, Tamara J. Kelley, School Board Secretary-Substitute. Channel 15/16 cameraperson. Community Members: David Roddy, Rachel Lombard (DEW), Tim Heinlein (DEW)

Call the Meeting to Order- Chris Shepard called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Agenda Amendments- No

Correspondence and Public Comments

None

Consent Agenda

Approval of the Minutes for June 18, 2019

Action: Don Collins moved, seconded by Terri O'Shea to approve the June 18, 2019 meeting minutes. The board approved the board minutes on a 6-0-1 vote. There is one small adjustment that will be emailed and corrected.

DEW Update

Paul Gregoire, Tim Heinlein & Rachel Lombard

The construction project is still going strong, Tim and Rachel are Franklin County residents and are really working hard at keep everyone on schedule and take pride in the progress. DEW is hitting all the pre-set dates from April and are still looking at a completion date of 8/27. All the materials are in. DEW is working with MVU to work around 1st year teachers and in-service days and be ready for when the students start back 8/27. Working on the vestibule, curtain wall, bollards for safety, 3.5 weeks to go and a lot that has to happen.

The Annual Snapshot for FNWSU Based on 2017-2018 Data (Presentation)

Kosha Patel, explained to the board what the Snapshot was designed to do.

- ❖ Reflect EQS Goals
- ❖ Help Stakeholders Identify Strengths & Needs
- ❖ Guide Continuous Improvement
- ❖ Provide Holistic View of school Systems
- ❖ Reduce Reporting Burden for Schools & SU/SDs
- ❖ Hone in on Equity
- ❖ Determine Eligibility for Comprehensive & Equity Schools

Kosha explained that at this time, only Academic Proficiency was being reported. She went over Historically Marginalized Students Groups ie: racial/ethnic groups, students with disabilities, English learners, and students in poverty, and that the data is often suppressed due to small school size.

The Equity Index Rationale:

- ❖ Provide data to help understand where the gaps are
- ❖ Provide data to help understand impact of efforts over time
- ❖ Help community understand where needs lie
- ❖ Inform Continuous Improvement

The ratings were also explained and gone over. Data for all Vermont schools is available to the public at <https://schoolsnapshot.vermont.gov/>.

The results and overview were discussed and looked at FNWSUs strengths and weakness, and where did they compare to the rest of the state and overall performance. The focus is English, Math, Learning Arts and now Science. There has been a positive increase in ratings with the common core teaching that has now been implemented.

The conclusion and next steps are:

- ❖ Celebrate our success in exceeding growth goals in math and literacy
- ❖ Strengthen literacy and math instruction to maintain growth
- ❖ Provide professional development for science instruction in K-6 and middle and high school
- ❖ Continue implementing our Continuous Improvement Plans
- ❖ Look at 2018-2019 SBAC Data for trends over time

Hiring Updates

Highgate is currently at full staff.

Action: Meaghan Conly moved, seconded by Steve Scott to authorize the board chair to sign any new contracts. The board approved on a 7-0-0 vote.

Public Comment by Dave Roddy regarding the interview process of new staff/educators. It was stated that the principals put together a team to help with

the interview/hiring process. David said it would be nice if a member or two of the board could be present also.

School Board Meeting Agenda Structure

Julie Regimbal went over the new agenda structure for the MVSD board. She presented the new template and also explained that two schools would be represented at each meeting with a written overview, and the representing schools would rotate. Any information to go on the agenda for the next meeting should be emailed to Chris Shepard a week prior to the meeting.

Lease Agreement

The MVU technology lease is on a 3 year cycle for Chrome books. Lora McAllister has gathered rates for the new lease. The goal is to eventually get all the schools on the same lease cycle. After Lora compared rates, the best rate was from Gorham Savings Bank at 3.5%.

Action: Steve Scott moved, seconded by Don Collins to authorize the business manager to move forward with the lease for Chrome books with Gorham Savings Bank at a rate of 3.5%. The board approved on a 7-0-0 vote.

Business Office Update

Lora wanted to make sure to give accolades to the staff for all their work, extra hours and getting payroll completed without a hitch. Thank you to all the staff including: Sue Day, Lisa Way, Marnie Carlton, Tamara Kelley, Bonnie Moulton, Michelle Stanley, Becky Hart and everyone at the central office.

Julie Regimbal would like to say big Thank You to Lora and Becky for all their hard work during this merger.

Lora also went over the finance schedule with the finance timeline. Looking at having everything prepared on Fridays to be ready for signatures all day Monday or Tuesday mornings.

8:00pm Jen Chevalier left the meeting

Superintendent's Report

Julie thanked Carol Lizotte for all her hard work with the summer programming and everything having to be moved due to the MVU construction. Carol did a wonderful job finding space for all the programs.

Also, the schools had to test their taps for the presence of lead and Paul Gregoire jumped in and was able to help Highgate get all their testing done. The state said every school and childcare had to have all their taps tested and has to fall in the new guidelines.

Next Meeting Date

The board decided on their next meeting on August 6th in Swanton at 6:30pm.

Terri O'Shea wanted to thank Julie Regimbal for all her work and keeping everything on track and steering the ship. She did an amazing job and everyone appreciates all her work.

Anticipated Executive Session: None

Adjournment

Steve Scott moved, seconded by Terri O'Shea to adjourn at 8:25pm. The board approved 6-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Meaghan Conly, Board Clerk

Submitted by Tamara J. Kelley, School Board Secretary Substitute