

Gardiner Public School

Special Board Meeting Minutes for July 6, 2017

Call to order	7:05am			
Roll Call	Pat Baltzley	X	Mike Baer	X
	Holly Long	X	Shelby Detro	X
	Colleen Eldred	X		
	Tim Townsend - Absent			
	Mike Tercek	X		
	George Bumann	X		
	Public:			
	Laurie Smith	X	Carmen Harbach	X
	Jean Broadhead	X	Hali Kirby	X
	Tera Parks	X	Ashea Mills	X
	Tammy Dalling	X		

General:

Public Comment:

Ashea Mills discussed starting a parent support group. She noted that in the past it hasn't seem necessary, however now there are plenty of parents that would love to be involved. Jean Broadhead volunteered to help gather information and present ideas to the Board.

Mission Statement: Not necessary for special Board meeting.

Action Items:

Current FTE Vacancy

The vote at the June 26th special board meeting for the FTE was tied, thus bringing it back as an action item. Pat Baltzley summarized the previous meeting for the public and Holly Long. The resignation of the 2nd grade position created an opportunity to evaluate what to do with the position, absorb or retain. Pat noted that the discussion has nothing to do with the schedule. She explained that absorbing the position would bring some financial relief to our current budget situation, where as retaining the position will do just the opposite and could face us with a RIF next year.

Public comment was made from Hali Kirby: She expressed great concern about the workload that the teachers currently have. She noted that either decision will have a "face" or other challenging decisions behind it and urged the board to take all aspect of each decision into consideration. Each board

member followed by stating their feelings and thoughts regarding the current FTE vacancy after the motion: Colleen Eldred felt

the same after taking time to contemplate the topic. She understands that we face budget issues but she doesn't not believe that we have a well sought out plan to make such a drastic change to our staff and students. Pat Baltzley feels very similar to Colleen in that she is questioning if this is the right position to absorb and is at the right time? Pat would prefer to have a full Strategic Plan and academic review before absorbing the position.

George Bumann believes that it is fiscally irresponsible to fill the position and that this decision should come down to making the best decision for our students and teachers. George noted that we need to allow our teachers to do their jobs well with the understanding that we have hard changes to come.

Mike Tercek has waivered back and forth between decisions because he can see both sides. He noted that Gardiner is \$150k over budget (pre year end expenses) and that we will eventually have to cut in both the Elementary and High School. Mike stressed that one year from now this decision might be even more difficult to make.

Holly Long felt as though she was at a disadvantage due to her absence at the last board meeting. She noted that her children did so well coming out of elementary and that she wouldn't want to jeopardize that for other students.

Pat Baltzley

reiterated from the last board meeting that we must realize that we are a Class C school and that we no longer have the PL604 money to support us, thus creating our current deficit budget.

Laurie Smith and

Jean Broadhead gave thanks to the board for putting forth so much time, effort and thought towards the decision of the FTE vacancy. Ashea Mills also gave public comment noting that the boards discussion was heartwarming. Ashea suggested that a direct conversation be had with whomever, if anyone, fills the FTE vacancy due to the hardship on an emotional level they will have if a RIF takes place. Ashea also noted that she feels burdened by the change that has occurred in Gardiner as a town - the increase in vacation rentals and decrease of housing, thus causing less students and increased staffing issues. The Board voted to retain the position knowing that Gardiner will face several hard decisions and review of the Strategic Plan and academic review.

Move: George Bumann moved to approve to fill the FTE position in the Elementary School.	
2nd: Colleen Eldred	Passed Unanimously

Discussion/Information Items:

Interim Superintendent Updates

Pat Baltzley reported that one additional candidate has come up since the last update and that they're getting to the point where serious conversations can be had with viable candidates. Pat also noted that the posting on OPI is still pending due to restricted access. Pat requested that Shelby find out if she has access to post on OPI.

Principal's Report

Not necessary for special Board meetings.

Superintendent's Report:

Not necessary for special Board meetings.

Adjourned Public Meeting : 7:45am

