

SUTTON SCHOOL BOARD
Wednesday, December 14, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.
Location: CNSU Conference Room

Present: Celeste Girrell, George Colburn, Board members; Roberta Stradling, Principal; Laurel Holmes, Minutes Clerk; Jonsie and Angie Aviles, Visitors;

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Celeste Girrell at 7:05 p.m.

2. Tuition Request:
 - a. Jonsie and Angie Aviles came before the board to request permission to have their daughter Nevaeh Aviles attend kindergarten and Princess Jade Aviles to attend 4th grade next year in Newark, Vermont. Permission was denied for Nevaeh Aviles to attend kindergarten due to the law that boards are not required to pay tuition for students who aren't six years old. Princess Jade was approved to attend Newark School in the FY13.

3. Adopt Tuition Choice Policy F17
 - a. Celeste moved to accept the Policy F17 including the clarification of the applicable statutes for East Haven only. Seconded by George Colburn.

4. Adopt Personnel Policy D16
 - a. Celeste moved to accept the Personnel Policy D16 with an amendment Section IV Benefits, Health Insurance for full time school employees that the insurance co-pay will be consistent with the contracted employees effective retroactively July 2010. This will also be amended to Section IX Benefits Health Insurance for School year employees effective retroactively July 2010. Seconded by George Colburn. All were in favor.

5. Principal's Report:
 - a. Hiring Update: **Guidance Counselor** position- Mr. Elliott Ketay was chosen as our guidance counselor on a temporary basis until we could find a person to assume the position permanently. The search committee would like the board's approval for our candidate, Tanya Sousa. **.2 Special Education** - Title I teacher Janis Chamberlain, who has her Special Ed license, has accepted the .2 special educator position for the remainder of the school year.

b. Climate:

- i. SWIS Big Five: Due to the wrong paperwork, Roberta was not able to give the board the data for the student referrals for this year. She will get the paperwork to the board at the next meeting. The referrals are up from last year.
- ii. PBiS – Each month staff chooses a student for Catamount of the month award.
- iii. PTCG: The PTCG just completed a pizza fundraiser that was very successful raising approximately \$5000. They will also support the ski program this year.
- iv. Eighth Grade Parents Group:
 1. Held Bingo fundraiser – low turn out
 2. Drawing for raffle tomorrow night
 3. Wish to ask board for permission to use vehicles for transport on trip. There are only eight 8th grade students this year.
 4. Semi-formal dance – Snowflake Ball will be Friday December 16th.

c. Facilities: Freezer has broken. We have temporarily replaced it with two low cost Lowes models until we can get plans together for more permanent solution.

d. November Highlights:

- i. Bottled water notice: Our water was back on line by the 18th. Water system operators ran chlorine through the system. It was a town water issue. Coli form bacteria was detected in the routine water testing. Bottled water was purchased along with coolers so students could still drink water during the period of contamination.
- ii. Veterans Day Lunch: On Thursday, November 10th, the school had 10 veterans for a turkey dinner at noon. We conducted a short ceremony to honor the Veterans. The eighth grade students led us in a flag salute and a moment of silence. The microphone was passed around to each Veteran. They introduced themselves by stating their name, rank, branch of service and tour of duty. Mrs. Dee Colburn read a letter from her brother who lost his life in Vietnam. The veterans had their picture taken together and spent quite a bit of time after lunch getting to know one another. We had two very nice young men, Lewis Lizotte and Matt Wells who had gone to school at Sutton. Many of the veterans came forward after the meal and thanked the school for having them and noted how much they enjoyed their visit.
- iii. Parent Conferences: Conferences were held on November 11th. The eighth grade class held their fundraiser that evening.

- iv. Professional Development: November 21 and 22 staff attended workshops offered through the supervisory union. The Staff was very happy with the workshops and appreciated the effort made to provide a wide variety of offerings.
- e. December Highlights:
 - i. Common Core Conference – Math- on Wednesday, November 30th. Amanda Sanville and Roberta Stradling attended from Sutton.
 - ii. Pbls: Monday December 5th the committee consists of Mike Lumbr, Roberta Stradling, Gerry Whitaker, Amanda Sanville, Tom Powers and Danielle Ball.
 - iii. December 5th & 6th – Interviews for the Guidance Counselor position
 - iv. December 8th – K-5 morning curriculum meeting-Science journals with Lois Michaud, the District coach.
 - v. Holiday event – On December 15th at 6:30 there will be an Art Show in the multipurpose room; Christmas sing along led by the K-8 classes; cookie decorating; refreshments; Eighth Grade raffle drawing; A visit from Santa.
 - vi. December 14th – Focused monitoring – State Department of Education
- 6. Other business:
 - a. Celeste moved to agree to the Announced Tuition Rates for FY13 in the amount of \$9616.00. Seconded by George. All were in favor.
 - b. Celeste asked about the clarity of the hiring process. It was felt that the board should be in on the interviews but the superintendent would do the reference checks to find out if the new person should be hired.
 - c. The board needed to amend a motion made in November concerning the purchase of IPADS to read; motion was made to approve the purchase of IPADS and equipment. The total cost will be \$26740.00 , \$18740.00 will be withdrawn from the Capital Improvement and Equipment Fund and the remaining \$8000 will be taken from the local school budget. George moved to amend. Celeste seconded. All were in favor.
- 7. Future Agenda Items:
 - a. Next Budget meeting will be January 4th , January 9th budget work session for the public and warned and voted on by January 18th.
 - b. Next Board meeting January 4th.
- 8. Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.