

Killington Board of School Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 8:15 A.M. at the Killington Elementary School

Meeting Minutes

Present – Jennifer Iannantuoni, Laura McKenna, Butch Findeisen, Mary Guggenberger - Principal, Richard Seaman – WCSU Finance, Sarah Rasmussen – Clerk

1. Meeting Called to Order at 8:23 am
2. Amendments to the Agenda - none
3. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: August 10, 2017

Butch made motion to approve minutes, Laura seconded, approved.

4. Community Engagement/Public Comment - none
5. Action/Discussion Items:

Health Insurance – KES teacher’s health insurance will no longer be valid after December 31, 2017.

Jen made a motion, Laura seconded and approved the following:

1. To provide KES administrators with the same insurance options as the 2017-2018 WCEA Teachers Agreement and a 100% HRA reimbursement for the CDHP Gold Plan; and
2. To provide the same insurance and HRA options as the 2017-2018 WCEA Educational Support Personnel agreement to all non-union support personnel; and
3. Where appropriate, salaries will be grossed up to offset higher contribution rates in FY18.

FY19 Budget Priorities – the new Act 46 district board will draft the FY18 budget. The current KES board will send priorities to the new board to be considered.

The Act 46 Board is making the following suggested new roles within the district: IT person, Director of Building and Grounds, outsourcing food service at all schools, Director of Communications, Nature’s Classroom viability.

Current KES Board suggestions: no more than 2% on the expense side, increase in teacher’s salary by 2-2.5%, additional Regular Ed para-educator, discussion of Pre-K, continue an afterschool program, continue summer programming and summer tutoring, continue “Specials” as is, continue with Starbase (5th grade) and Four Winds, and needing a math interventionist.

Board discussed Tuition Students – 39 this year, budgeted for 33.

6. Reports:
Principal's Report

Education:

- WCSU Literacy and Math Initiatives - Grades K-2 will be receiving training in the use of the Fountas and Pinnell Phonics Program. This program integrates with the Fountas and Pinnell Continuum of Literacy. The WCSU Literacy Initiative plans for grades 3-5 to implement the F&P phonics program in the next school year. This consistency of programming across grades will promote increased proficiency in spelling, vocabulary, and phonemic awareness in reading fluency. Grades K-5 teachers are implementing Investigations 3 Math this year, which is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and are receiving ongoing professional development and coaching to implement the program with fidelity.
- The Killington-Pico Rotary Club donated \$500 to the Principal's Sunny Day Fund, as well as delivered dictionaries to the third grade students. The students are always so excited to receive their dictionaries signed by the Rotary Club members. KES thanks the Killington-Pico Rotary Club for their generous donations to benefit our students.
- Sally Fridy of Naturescapes has very generously donated \$1,000 to KES. We are very grateful for this donation and have earmarked the money to support the language arts department at KES. KES is thankful for the opportunities this gift will provide.
- KEEPERS invited and supported Cartoonist Marek Bennett to visit KES on Oct. 2 and Oct. 6. Students were engaged and excited to learn about the story tools used by cartoon artists to create fun-to-read graphic novels and short stories. Thank you, KEEPERS, for bringing this unique opportunity to the KES classrooms!
- KES administration, faculty and staff believe in a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) to meet the needs of all students, both academically and socially/emotionally. There are three main tiers of supports. First, universal instruction, otherwise known as best practices in general classroom instruction. Second, differentiated instruction, also classroom instruction but with accommodations, such as pre-teaching, re-teaching, and extra practice for mastery of skills. Third, specially designed instruction to match students' strengths to specific tools and strategies recommended for learning. KES has

designed a schedule to incorporate a 30-minute block each morning, 8:15 - 8:45, in grades 1-6 to target the multi-tiers of instruction and learning in math and reading. Students will work independently or in small groups with other students based on skill levels, not necessarily within their own grade level. The goal is to target instruction to teach skills to mastery, as well as to encourage a higher level of thinking resulting in an increase in positive student outcomes.

- KES is offering a series of parenting classes based on the needs expressed in the spring parent survey. The first in the series is being offered on Tuesday, October 17th in the KES Library, 5:30 - 7:00 PM. The topic is Managing Social Media presented by Toni Racine, Family Support Specialist with the Rutland County Parent/Child Center. Child care will be available. Remaining classes are as follows:
 - November 14 - Bully Prevention presented by Toni Racine
 - April 5 - Building Self-Esteem presented by Fritz Weiss
 - April 26 - Positive Discipline presented by Fritz Weiss

- Parent Conferences will be held the week of November 6-9. Teachers will schedule conferences before, during, and after school to accommodate parent schedules. First quarter report cards and SBAC Score Reports will be shared with parents at the conference.

- The KES Afterschool Program is thriving with students attending the programs that are offered, such as bike week, fort building day, junior police academy, and many more learning and exploring adventures. Thank you to Officer Whit Montgomery for visiting us during bike week and junior police academy day! The children look forward to your presence. Additionally, Ms. Kalnitsky has been actively seeking grant money and other resources to support the program. More information on resources, such as 4-H and 21st Century Grant opportunities, will be shared as we get closer to finalization.

- Thanksgiving Lunch will be on Wednesday, November 15th. On this day, the free ski swap that traditionally took place on parent conference day will be held in the gym. Parents are welcome to any gear that is at the swap, especially to outfit children for the Trailblazer's program beginning January 11, 2018.

- Grade 6 is keeping with tradition and planning for the Haunted House on Friday, October 27th.

Business:

- Enrollment: K-6 - 88; Preschool - 20 (11 from Killington)
 - Tuition students - 34

- Safety: All drills have been performed according to the VPA rules as of 9/30/17.

- Kids' Kingdom experiences use year round with summer visitors, KES summer enrichment program, and school day recess, and the afterschool program. It is inevitable that repairs become necessary. A volunteer parent group is being formed, consisting of both preschool and elementary school parents, to make the necessary repairs to the structure. Repairs necessary consist of replacing exposed nails with screws, sanding, varnishing, and replacing/repairing wooden boards and posts to prevent more chipping and splintering. It is the hope of this volunteer group to begin repairs as soon as possible in order to finish the work before winter.

7. Butch made a motion to adjourn at 10:55 am, Laura seconded and approved.

Next meeting:

KES Board- Thursday, November 9, 2017, at 8:15 a.m., Killington Elementary School