

Mont Vernon Village School District
Thursday, January 07, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Administrative Team: Peter Warburton- Superintendent, Betty Shankel – Business Administrator, John Schuttinger-Principal, Christine Landwehrle- Director of Curriculum & Professional Development, Meg Beauchamp- Director of Student Services

Mont Vernon School Board: Thomas Driscoll- Chair, John Quinlan- Vice Chair, Sarah Lawrence-Secretary, and Bruce Schmidt

MVVS Budget Committee: Willard Archibald and Brian Bunner

Minute Taker: Danae Marotta

I. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Thomas Driscoll\

Mr. Thomas Driscoll called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Principal's Report

Mr. John Schuttinger discussed his January 2016 Principal's Report.

He thanked MVVS alum, current SHS student and MV resident Katie McCann for her presentation and organization of Hour of Code event. He added that on Thursday, December 8th she gave a short presentation to the Students and Staff and then proceeded to facilitate the Hour of Code sessions for each grade level over two days. He noted that he was appreciative of her time and commitment to the Students of the MVVS.

He thanked the third grade students along with Mrs. Mattie and Mr. Denio for attending the School Board Meeting in December. He added that they modeled two math problems and gave an explanation to their strategy.

He then noted that on December, 8th the fifth grade students traveled to the lower ropes course at SHS with Ms. Sara Millas, Ms. Dawn Garneau and Ms. Lori Meader. He added that they worked on team building and trust activities for a full day.

He then noted that over the past two months that they have had to defer to generator power for the facility. He noted that the first event was due to faulty equipment out on the line that was responded to and repaired by Eversource. He added that the second event happened before

43 school due to a power disruption in Milford. He noted that on both instances that they had ample
44 power from their own generator and each event lasted less than one hour.

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46 Mr. Driscoll asked a question about the Generator.

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48 Mr. Bruce Schmidt asked is that the first time it was used.

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50 He then noted that it would be helpful to try to keep a record of usage.

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52 Mr. Driscoll agreed that it would be helpful to have usage data.

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54 Mr. Schmidt asked a question about the Principals' Report starting the after school STEM.

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56 B. Correspondence

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58 None

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60 III. PUBLIC TIME

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62 Mr. Willard Archibald thanked the Board for the Budget Transfer information in the Agenda
63 packet. He noted that it is his belief that it would be more transparent to have an Addendum for
64 the budget transfer.

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66 Ms. Betty Shankel noted that there is a lot of information that is in the Agenda Packet.

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68 Mr. Archibald noted that he believes that the Transfers were expended before the Board
69 approved them.

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71 Discussion ensued.

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73 Ms. Shankel Betty remarked that she can make the explanations more complete and to show that
74 the Board had already approved it.

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76 IV. CONSENT AGENDA

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78 A. Minutes

79 1. November 12, 2015

80 2. December 10, 2015

81 B. Budget transfers

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83 **Mr. John Quinlan made a Motion to accept the Consent Agenda items A. Minutes from**
84 **November 12th and December 10th 2015, and B. Budget Transfers. Mr. Bruce Schmidt**
85 **seconded the Motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed**

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87 V. PRESENTATION

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89 A. FY16 2nd Quarter Report

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91 Ms. Betty Shankel noted that the first part of the presentation is the FY'16 2nd Quarter Report.

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93 She noted that there is not a lot to report in the revenue side and they are tracking with what they
94 had projected with revenues and they might have more than \$1,000 at the yearend for the current
95 forecast.

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97 She discussed that the expenditures side is different in that there were personnel changes and
98 savings in other areas, such as student support services. She noted that a large part is was the
99 AMS tuition and if the Board can recall last year we had a large Special Education need. She
100 noted that it was resolved.

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102 She then noted that the Tuition Agreement is creating erratic amounts in the Unreserved Fund
103 Balance and they are busy trying to figuring out how much the amount will be. She added that if
104 Amherst has expenditures at year end then MV will as well.. She noted that it is difficult for
105 Amherst to know how much they will be getting from MV. She then added that it is difficult for
106 Amherst to explain about situations with revenue.

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108 She concluded that they should figure out something better with the Tuition Agreement because
109 it is a difficult situation for both Districts.

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111 Mr. Schmidt asked a question about unanticipated high payment going to ASD.

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113 Mr. Brian Bunner asked a question about consolidating the Districts.

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115 Discussion ensued.

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117 Mr. John Quinlan noted that it is being looked at.

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119 Ms. Shankel replied that we might be able to do something in the Bookkeeping area.

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121 Ms. Shankel then described a financial situation about invoices.

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123 She then remarked that we will keep thinking and appreciated the feedback.

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125 Ms. Shankel noted that they they cannot know until year end and then they will know about
126 Mont Vernon.

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128 Mr. Brian Bunner asked the question why AMS and the elementary school are through the same
129 Budget.

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131 Superintendent Warburton agreed that it is a difficult situation for both Districts and they need to
132 find a better solution.

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134 B. FY17 Budget

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Ms. Betty Shankel then discussed the Draft 3 Budget Changes.

She noted that they did put a salary pool in for non-unionized employees, an increase for the Principal, the audit bid was up 25\$ due to a low bid and there were some supplies that were left out of earlier drafts.

She added that there was not much of a change from Draft 2 to Draft 3, about \$11,000. She also mentioned that it is not a great change down 2.21%.

She then discussed that there is an Estimated Tax Impact of \$0.93 cent reduction for the forecast.

She then discussed the Default Budget looking at an amount of \$4,455,889.

She then discussed the Warrant Articles.

She noted that Article #2 is relating to the Operating Budget. She added that if it did pass there would be an estimated tax impact of \$0.93 and if it did not pass it would be an estimated tax impact of (\$1.47).

She discussed that Article #3 is relating to a trust for educating students with disabilities. She discussed that in any small school it is a volatile piece, not knowing how many students there will be with special needs.

Ms. Shankel then discussed Warrant Article #4, she noted that it was for the Expendable Trust and for the maintenance.

She then noted that Article 5 is for the Live Streaming, and added that for one year it is \$800 and that it is a small amount.

Mr. Driscoll agreed that it is a small amount.

Mr. Willard Archibald asked a question about the Live Streaming amount.

Mr. Brian Bunner asked a question about the Default and regular Budget.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Thomas Driscoll asked the Board if they had any questions.

C. Budget Committee Report Out

Mr. Willard Archibald thanked the Administration and the Board for answering any questions.

He then discussed that they accepted Warrant Article #3 and #4 as presented.

181 Mr. Thomas Driscoll asked if there were any other questions.

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183 He then thanked the Budget Committee for their time and involvement.

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185 He lastly noted that there were a lot of improvements that are being discovered.

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187 Mr. Brian Bunner thanked the Board for the information.

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190 D. NWEA information

191 Ms. Christine Landwehrle discussed the NEWA results. (Fall 2015 NEWA MAP Results)

192 She then discussed the overview and score interpretation.

193 She noted that the NEWA MAP adapts to each student's learning level. She added that it

194 generates a RIT score for each student. It allows measuring and monitoring of student growth

195 from year to year. She mentioned that it establishes a student's instructional level and identifies

196 areas to focus on for growth. She finished with the NEWA allows for comparison of a student's

197 academic progress with other students.

198 She discussed the NEWA MAP Reading for Fall of 2015.

199 She discussed that they did a new norming study, with the addition of K and 1st grade. She

200 mentioned that it is in an audio format and they love it. She added that the kids had so much fun,

201 they had touch screen computers and thought that they were playing a game.

202 Mr. Schuttinger noted that the students were engaged and they loved it.

203 Ms. Landwehrle added that they can see growth in Kindergarten students.

204 She added that the NEWA MAP is over 49 states and not all schools and districts administer it.

205 She discussed that the mean RIT score at MV and how it relates. She noted that the mean RIT is

206 148.3, which means that they are in the 89th percentile which is good.

207 She then discussed the differences in the Smarter Balanced Assessment with the NWEA.

208 Mr. Bruce Schmidt asked Ms. Landwehrle if any Districts that we are compared to used NEWA.

209 He added how is Bedford with NEWA and SBAC and if there were any predictions.

210 Mr. Bunner asked a question about the lowered scores in grade two and three.

211 Ms. Landwehrle noted that she does not have the data to explain second grade.

212 Mr. Bunner asked a question about test results.

213 Ms. Landwehrle discussed thinking of the NEWA as a more traditional assessment.

214 Mr. Schmidt discussed the difference in NEWA and Smarter Balanced Assessment.

215 Ms. Landwehrle then discussed the Grade 3 Reading Growth. She noted that 48% of students
216 met or exceeded projected RIT. She added that since it is a small population a small change can
217 make a big difference.

218 Mr. Bruce Schmidt asked a question about student growth. He then commented on getting that
219 level of detail to the teachers.

220 Ms. Landwehrle noted that it is the next step and it is a high level overview. She added that it is
221 an important thing to look at and that we are small enough to look at individual students.

222 She then discussed the Grade 4th Reading Growth.

223 She noted that they want to look at last year's students and that it is different information from
224 both assessments.

225 Mr. Schuttinger commented that RTI happens every week, and the reading specialist is only part
226 time and she is not here in the afternoon.

227 Mr. Driscoll commented that it would be helpful if parents got targeted information.

228 Discussion ensued over Khan Academy.

229 Ms. Lawrence noted that it would be great to use Khan Academy with the NEWA results.

230 Mr. Bruce Schmidt noted that it would be great to show the long term connection.

231 Ms. Christine Landwehrle then discussed the Grade 5 and Grade 6 Reading Growth. She noted
232 that there was a discrepancy in the data and she called NEWA to inform them. They stated that
233 there was a bug in their system and it will not be fixed until the end of January. She added that
234 she still wanted to include it.

235 She discussed Grade 3 Mathematics and it is the current third grade. She noted that it was the
236 large group that had one teacher, and it is on the low side. She noted that it is a guess and that
237 there might have been other factors.

238 Ms. Landwehrle then discussed the Grade 4 Math Results and noted that they are at 46% and that
239 one student could have raised it over 50%.

240 She discussed that the scores in Grade 6 Math are representative of the learning in Grade 5.

241 She noted that the Growth Summary Chart is a little off because of rounding errors.

242 She then finalized her Report and discussed the next steps. She discussed that they will meet
243 with teachers to review student level results and compare with the SBAC. She noted that they
244 will examine growth information from grades K and 1 (fall to winter growth). She will also
245 discuss goals or targets for students for future NEWA assessments.

246 She added that she will also look into more information with the Khan Academy and their related
247 student privacy policies.

248 The Board thanked Ms. Landwehrle for her Report.

249 VI. INFORMATIONAL

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251 A. Afterschool Math

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253 Mr. John Schuttinger discussed starting a 15 week program with one-hour long math sessions.
254 He added that they want to do an enrichment piece and extra help. He noted that they are looking
255 to do that soon.

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257 Mr. Thomas Driscoll asked what the format would look like.

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259 Mr. Schuttinger added that it would not be a class size but at the present time it would be lower
260 than a class size.

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262 VII. DISCUSSION

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264 A. Long range planning

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266 Superintendent Warburton discussed a few concerns relating to long range planning.

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268 He commented that there will be a new Board Members soon and to hold off on a few items.

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270 Mr. Quinlan agreed that it would be better to wait for the new Board.

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272 Mr. Warburton thanked the Board for all of their work.

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274 Mr. Driscoll asked if they are looking at holding a Town Forum.

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276 Mr. Warburton replied, yes, and added that he would like the town input.

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278 He then thanked the Board for their continued support.

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280 B. Strategic Planning Pillars

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282 Mr. Warburton noted that he wanted to get the Strategic Road Map completed.

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284 Mr. Schmidt noted that he attended a meeting and met with some SHS Alumni. He added that
285 and that they had great feedback. He stated that the past students wanted to include Coding and
286 more diversified course offerings.

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288 Superintendent Warburton noted that it is in the SAU #39 Strategic Plan for Pre-K through 12th
289 Grade.

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291 Mr. John Quinlan discussed his meeting with the Streamline group.

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293 Ms. Laurence added that the Unite group met today (1/7/16) and that they discussed the
294 commonalities and public perception surrounding the SAU #39 Schools.

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VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Policies

1. BCA – School Board Member Ethics
2. AA - School District Legal Status
3. AC – Non - Discrimination
4. ACA – Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

Mr. Warburton noted that they have the crossed out notes for the Board’s approval.

Mr. Driscoll asked if this was the first reading.

Mr. Bruce Schmidt noted that if it is the first reading it should be labeled as such.

Superintendent Warburton noted that the first reading should be at the District level.

There is a consensus among the Board Members that the Policies are a first reading

B. Long Range Planning – Public Forum Date

The Public Hearing date is set for Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7pm in the MVVS Library.

The MV Deliberative Session is set for Wednesday, February 3rd 2016 at 7pm in the MVVS Library.

The next MVVS Board Meeting is Thursday, February 11th 2016 at 6pm in the MVVS Library.

XI. ADJOURN

Mr. John Quinlan made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, Ms. Sarah Lawrence seconded the Motion, the vote was unanimous, motion passed.