

1 Mont Vernon School Board

2 Wednesday, February 6th 2019

3 Regular Meeting-Approved 03 14 19

4 Administrative Team: Superintendent- Adam Steel, Assistant Superintendent- Christine
5 Landwehrle, John Schuttinger- MVVS Principal, and Meg Beauchamp- Director of Student
6 Services.

7 Mont Vernon School Board: Thomas Driscoll-Chair, Sarah Lawrence- Vice Chair, Peter
8 Eckhoff- Secretary and Kim Roberge and Stephen O'Keefe.

9 Minute Taker: Danae Marotta

10 Public: Howard Brown- 2 Blood Road, Mont Vernon, NH, Peter King- Moderator Mont Vernon
11 School District, 36 Kendall Hill Road, Mont Vernon NH, Charline and Andrew Brown, 7 Daland
12 Circle, Mont Vernon NH.

13 I. Call to Order

14 **Chair Mr. Thomas Driscoll called the meeting to order at 6:02PM**

15 II. Public Input

16 Mr. Howard Brown, 2 Blood Road Mont Vernon NH, discussed that the parking at the bottom of
17 the Playground has gotten out of control and is getting dangerous. He explained that the first five
18 minutes are the most dangerous for a bus driver after they leave noting that the kids are excited
19 and anxious to get home.

20 He noted that some children are not actually "walkers", parents don't want to wait in line and
21 park at the bottom of the playground. It happened again today, with someone doing a U-turn in
22 front of his bus, at the same time, kids are walking across the street to their vehicles.

23 He emphasized that it is not safe and brought it up before.

24 Mr. Driscoll asked Principal of the MVVS, Mr. John Schuttinger what can he do to fix this.

25 Principal Schuttinger replied that he had a previous conversation with Mr. Brown about this and
26 wrote about it in a Weekly Newsletter. The parking stops for a while but then resumes.

27 Ms. Roberge suggested that they send it to the Board of Selectmen.

28 Mr. O'Keefe ask that they request the Board of Selectmen to repost in that area.

29 Mr. Brown added that he has two solutions, first, the busses would go in the front and the cars in
30 the back. Second, not release the walkers until after the busses leave.

31 Mr. O'Keefe suggested that Principal Schuttinger coordinate a better structure and then ask the
32 Board of Selectmen to post No Parking signs.

33 Principal Schuttinger agreed with Mr. O'Keefe.

34 Ms. Lawrence asked how many walkers are there.

35 Principal Schuttinger replied, minimal, most are on busses.

36 Mr. Brown noted that any day it is between 8 and 15 cars, that are parked.

37 Principal Schuttinger agreed with Mr. Brown.

38 Discussion ensued.

39 Ms. Roberge asked, what if the Town does not have the money in the budget for signage.

40 Superintendent, Mr. Adam Steel replied, yes, they would find the money for safety reasons.

41 Mr. Driscoll added that Superintendent Steel will email the Board of Selectmen.

42 Ms. Roberge noted that all he has to do is to send an email right now, and suggested that he CC
43 the Police Chief as well.

44 The Board thanked Mr. Brown for his comments and Principal Schuttinger for his report.

45 III. Superintendent's Report

46 Superintendent Steel noted that they have three Amherst Kindergarteners in their K right now,
47 and asked if they are amenable to having them stay in their 1st grade for next year.

48 Mr. Driscoll, and Mr. O'Keefe replied, yes, it depends on their enrollment.

49 Superintendent Steel replied that they cannot wait until August to tell the parents and suggested
50 the date of May 1st.

51 Mr. Driscoll asked about 1st grade enrollment.

52 Principal Schuttinger replied, they are at 26 with those three students.

53 Mr. Steel commented, May 1st, and as long as they are under 18 per class.

54 Ms. Roberge remarked that she is more comfortable with 16 per class.

55 Mr. Steel replied as long as they are at 16 or less by May 1st, and he will take it to the ASD
56 Board. He then explained that those parents were very impressed with the school.

57 He then added that it is not revenue for the MVVS, however, because you have fewer 7th graders
58 next year, it is a reduction in tuition.

59 The Board thanked Superintendent Steel.

60 IV. Principal's Report

61 Principal Schuttinger noted that their second-grade families joined their students for lunch on
62 Friday, January 11. Thanks to Ms. Colburn and Ms. Mallows who continue this tradition each
63 month.

64 Thank you to our Spelling Bee participants and coordinators. Ms. Shakeh Dagdigian and Ms.
65 Mel Jones provided several weeks of practice sessions leading up to the grade level
66 competitions. The winners of each grade then competed for the final Spelling Bee held for the
67 school community. Congratulations to Colin Patterson, our first place winner.

68 The Geography Bee was held in front of students, families and staff this year in the MPR. Thank
69 you to Ms. Dawn Garneau and Ms. Sara Millas. Congratulations to Tommy Kelly, our
70 Geography Bee winner.

71 He added that he gave the Board the Absence Report from September to last week.

72 Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christine Landwehrle, added that there is some of the PD in SAU
73 #39, a few are really high.

74 Principal Schuttinger added that they are taking care of the subs and the number is a little off, but
75 not by much.

76 Ms. Landwehrle added that sometimes some staff can't attend that half day.

77 Mr. Driscoll added that it is nice to have the complete data but they were never focusing on the
78 personal time.

79 Principal Schuttinger agreed.

80 Ms. Roberge remarked that they can control it from a PD standpoint. She added that 14 out of 92
81 days is a pretty large percentage, if it is a full day. She noted that the reason the Board had asked
82 for this information is because they were having complaints that there were too many subs.

83 Mr. Driscoll asked if when they report this again if Principal Schuttinger can keep the numbers
84 of the staff members the same.

85 Principal Schuttinger replied, yes, of course.

86 Mr. Driscoll added that they want to have the teacher in the classroom.

87 Ms. Roberge noted that is true, but they also want them to get PD as well. They are looking for a
88 balance.

89 Ms. Landwehrle added that this doesn't show the in-service days

90 Mr. O'Keefe asked if the PD for the SAU was out of the building.

91 Ms. Landwehrle noted that she would be happy to pull data for the PD that the SAU has
92 supported.

93 Ms. Roberge added that she knows that they are contemplating increasing pay for subs and asked
94 if it could be covered by a grant.

95 Ms. Landwehrle added that it is tricky as long as the activity is written in the Title II grant.

96 The Board thanked Principal Bernasconi for the AMS Report.

97 The Board thanked Principal Schuttinger.

98 V. Consent Agenda

99 **Ms. Kim Roberge motioned to approve the 1. Minutes 1/10/19, 2. Minutes 1/24/19, 3.**
100 **September 2018 Treasurers Report, 4. Unanticipated Revenue and 5. Q2 Projections from**
101 **Finance Director. Ms. Sarah Lawrence seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous,**
102 **motion passed.**

103 VI. Facilities Report

104 Superintendent Steel added that he asked a fire protection engineer to take a look at the building
105 and they do not need to put a more extensive sprinkler system, under two conditions. First, that
106 they do not do any significant renovations or additions and second, every single classroom has a
107 direct egress, including clearing the snow from the doors in the winter time.

108 Principal Schuttinger added that he makes sure the snow is cleared from the doors.

109 Superintendent Steel noted that there are a few sprinkler heads that need flow protectors and they
110 will look into it. Mr. John Robichaud, Director of Buildings and Grounds, also included an air
111 quality report.

112 Mr. O'Keefe asked about the air quality in E3 and W3.

113 Mr. Peter King, 36 Kendall Hill Road, Mont Vernon NH, asked about the CO2 levels.

114 Discussion ensued.

115 Superintendent Steel responded that most likely it is because it is the winter and all the windows
116 are closed but they will certainly look into it.

117 Ms. Roberge added that they lost their paper recycle bin. She noted that they will be discussing it
118 at the Board of Selectmen's meeting.

119 Mr. O'Keefe asked about the lighting conversion project.

120 Principal Schuttinger added that much of the project has been done for a couple of months now.
121 He then discussed that the last ones that aren't set with the light sensor are the two classrooms at
122 the end.

123 The Board thanked Superintendent Steel.

124 VII. World Language Update

125 Ms. Landwehrle discussed that she and Principal Schuttinger met with Ms. Danielle Guarrera,
126 World Language Teacher, and she said one of her biggest challenges for her current 6th grade is
127 that World Language is viewed as a special and not an academic course. They have a small
128 number that opt for French, but the challenge is that some will move seamlessly to 7th grade
129 Spanish but some will not. Ms. Guarrera explained the importance of homework and how by
130 doing some outside work it will be an easier transition.

131 She noted that Ms. Guarrera is trying to create brand new units, and is excited to make changes
132 and work on the curriculum. She is also looking at integration around Science and Social
133 Studies, she knew the challenge was the gap and was looking for a tech component. She found
134 rockalingua <https://rockalingua.com/> a Music based Spanish learning app.

135 Ms. Roberge asked about the exposure to the lower grades.

136 Principal Schuttinger replied that they have talked about that quite a bit.

137 Ms. Landwehrle added they did ask her if the time should change and if she needed to be a .8 and
138 she was not sure yet. It might be good to revisit it during budget time, either August or
139 September, and to get thought the year.

140 Mr. Driscoll added that they will put that in the Trello Board.

141 Ms. Landwehrle noted that Ms. Guarrera is not a certified French Teacher but can certainly help
142 with a club. Because there are such few numbers, they could do an independent study or it could
143 also be a summer program; they are open to different ideas.

144 Mr. Brown asked about when ASD starts teaching world language.

145 Ms. Landwehrle replied, they start at 6th grade, the MVVS starts in Kindergarten. The challenge
146 with that is Students have a Spanish lesson once a week which is not enough time for retention.

147 Mr. Driscoll noted that they need to change that and that is where it is headed.

148 Ms. Landwehrle noted that the beginning work would start here in MV in the 5th grade.

149 The Board thanked Ms. Landwehrle.

150 VIII. Adjourn Regular Meeting

151 **The Board recessed their Regular Meeting for their Deliberative Session at 6:47PM.**

152 IX. Regular Session

153 **The Board resumed regular session at 8:36PM**

154 XIII. Summer Enrichment

155 Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christine Landwehrle, gave the Board an update on Title I
156 programming. She discussed that Math Interventionist, Ms. Charline Brown, is working to pull
157 student data to determine eligibility and finalize letters to go out in the next week or so.

158 In regards to Enrichment, they received a Title IV grant for well-rounded education from the
159 Government. Every district got a minimum of \$10,000 and more based on their free or reduced
160 lunch numbers. They did a needs assessment and summer or even afterschool enrichment was at
161 the top of the list.

162 Additionally, she sent out a survey out to teachers and got interest in a French club, music,
163 poetry, and a graphic design club. If they did a STEM club, the Boston Museum of Science has
164 enrichment kits meant for afterschool activities. They looked deeply in the kits and there is a lot
165 of interest. They are in the beginning stages and it will help for the following year.

166 Mr. O'Keefe asked if they have a date before they have to spend the funds.

167 Ms. Landwehrle replied before September 30th.

168 Mr. O' Keefe suggested an athletic program, track program or something that is done in-house.

169 Mr. Driscoll asked for clarification on Title IV.

170 Ms. Landwehrle replied that it is for Well-Rounded Education, which is pretty broad. She noted
171 that she wanted to open it up to the Board to hear their thoughts.

172 Mr. Driscoll added that direct feedback from students and parents is important.

173 Principal Schuttinger added he would be interested to see what the students wanted.

174 Ms. Landwehrle noted that someone mentioned a cooking club, but they don't have the facility
175 here. Also, there is interest in a running and hiking club, and three dimensional installations, with
176 murals or sculptures.

177 Discussion ensued.

178 Mr. O'Keefe gave his support for the Title IV grant he then asked about Title I.

179 Ms. Landwehrle noted that Title I runs usually 4 weeks, 9AM -12PM, three days a week.

180 Mr. Driscoll added that he would love to see having a band again, noting that it was great and the
181 kids really enjoyed it.

182 The Board thanked Ms. Landwehrle.

183 XIV. Non- Public Session - None

184 XV. Adjourn Meeting

185 **Ms. Kim Roberge motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55PM. Ms. Sarah Lawrence**
186 **seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous motion passed.**

187 Meeting Adjourned at 8:55PM