

Brimfield Elementary School Committee Meeting
Minutes of February 3, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Aimee Campbell- Chairman
Michele Shea
Jennifer Foley-Absent
Delia Brower-Absent
Jennifer Custance
Erin Nosek, Superintendent
Deb Boyd, Associate Superintendent
Brian Ledbetter – Principal

Reference Material:

Financial Report

Aimee Campbell opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

November 25, 2014 Regular Session:

Motion 15-12 made by Michele Shea to accept the November 25, 2014 Regular Session meeting minutes as written.

Motion seconded by Jennifer Custance.

Discussion: None

In favor: All

Financial Report:

Mrs. Boyd said there are no concerns with FY15. Even if oil goes a little high this year, other areas of the Budget look good and we should be fine.

School bus security cameras: Most of the McCarthy school buses have cameras. We have never used them in the past. We are asking the committee to approve their use. McCarthy management turns the cameras on. The bus drivers do not have access to the cameras. By using the cameras, this will save a lot of time in investigation if there is an incident. It also protects the drivers and the students.

Motion 15-13 was made by Jennifer Custance to allow cameras to be used on the buses.

Motion seconded by Michele Shea

Discussion: There will be something added to the student handbook when it is re-done. If the cameras are being turned on before a hand book is re-done, a communication will be sent out to the parents.

In Favor: All

FY16 Budget:

- By the end of the February meeting, the bottom dollar amount will need to be approved
- The Public Hearing will be in March
- With a new Governor this year, he doesn't have to finish his budget until March 4th, which may change some of our numbers a little bit
- It is a level services budget from FY15 to FY16 with only a 0.5% increase for FY16.

Communications:

SWCEC 2013-2014 Annual Report

Public Access:

None

Principal's Report: Brian Ledbetter

Mr. Ledbetter announced that the cafeteria has started a breakfast program. 35-45 kids are taking part in this program, which is fantastic!

The Brimfield Fire Department has been coming into the school and teaching our kids about safety. They will come again in February (this was cancelled due to snow) and talk to grades K-6. Fire safety, cooking and ice safety are a few topics that will be covered.

Mr. Trudeau has created a book club program in his 4th grade class. The students choose a book, in their group, (pre-approved by the teacher), read each night, then the next day in class it is discussed amongst their group. Mr. Trudeau also works with the groups to create assignments and projects based on their book. This has helped to engage students in reading each night.

Mr. Ledbetter discussed the Citizen of the Month process and how excited the kids are to be chosen.

Tantasqua Representative: Aimee Campbell

Some policies were discussed due to new regulations. When the policies are finalized, they will be Presented to the elementary school committees.

P.T.O.: Shannon Field

No update

Recreation Committee: Michele Shea

None

Report of Committees:**Union 61 Subcommittee:**

None

Personnel Subcommittee:

None

Building and Physical Plant:

None

Issue/Study Subcommittee:

None

By-Law and Policy Subcommittee:

None

Negotiations:

Notices went out for negotiation dates.

Motion 15-14 was made by Michele Shea to make Jennifer Custance an alternate on the Negotiations Subcommittee.

Seconded by Aimee Campbell.

Discussion: None

In Favor: All

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Nosek spoke about the SWCEC Annual Report. She also announced that the subject Spelling, will be discussed in the February meeting due to the length of the FY16 budget discussion this evening. Dr. Nosek thanked the DPW director and the staff at Brimfield for all of their hard work during the snow storms.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Citizen Request for Letter of Support for Brimfield Windmill.

Michele is going to discuss this with the Selectman and will report back to the Committee in February.

Public Access II:

None

Motion 15-15 was made at 8:18 by Michele Shea to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Jennifer Custance.

In favor: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
JoDee Phillips
Recording Secretary