

## **BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**STOWE, VT**

**September 17, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Cam Page at 6:03 P.M. Board members present were Ashley Tagatac, Susan Segal, Don Post, and Jed Lipsky. Holden Waterman, Interim Superintendent, Tracy Wrend, Superintendent Elect, Richard Smiles, Nancy Shiok, Jeff Maher, Principals, represented the administration. Guests included: Lisa McCormack, Denise Gutstein.

The minutes of the meeting of the August 13, 2007, were approved based on a motion by Ashley Tagatac and seconded by Susan Segal.

The motion was carried.

Cam discussed a letter she received from a parent regarding concerns about the safety of the bus lanes at SMS/SHS. Jeff was asked to investigate the situation.

Cam also discussed communications she has had from parents regarding lack of fall athletics coaches at the middle level. Nancy explained the situation and gave some background information. Jed Lipsky spoke about his concerns and ideas regarding the Athletic Director structure. Cam shared some of her knowledge of the situation related to the contracting of Athletic Director services from the town. She asked that Susan Segal represent the board on a new committee to investigate some of the issues related to coaching students in athletics. Other board members made comments about the situation.

A motion to create an ad hoc subcommittee to look at school athletics was made by Ashley Tagatac and seconded by Don Post. It was also suggested that names of interested parents can be submitted to Holden.

The motion was carried.

The calendar of events for the three schools was distributed.

### Principals Reports:

Richard Smiles, Elementary School

- Orientations were held for new students in Kindergarten and grades 1-5
- PTO newcomers coffee
- Start of the year assembly and first community meetings
- Vermont Youth Orchestra concert on September 19
- Photo day will be on September 26
- Open House on September 27 with launch of the AWE Project
- District literacy assessments started, POA at grades K-2 and DRP at grade 5
- Chef Suzette's Kitchen, composting assembly, September 28

Nancy Shiok, Middle School

- Great opening to the school year - variety of activities designed to establish a strong school-wide community
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade garden, local food for the living arts and lunch program
- Open House
- Hike for Hunger on September 28

Jeff Maher, High School

- Bay of Fundy Trip
- October 2, ribbon cutting ceremony for new science labs with SEF
- Opening assembly
- Open House on September 20
- National Merit Semi-Finalist, Ruth McGovern
- Inaugural newsletter
- Parent/student/teacher team meeting
- DI work with faculty
- OctoberFest Parade with SHS Band

An update on student enrollment was provided by Holden. Total opening day enrollment for 2007-2008 was up by 0.6% over the opening day of 2006-2007. Jed and Don posed some questions about enrollment and possible reasons for children leaving the district. Other board members posed questions.

An update on the action plan was provided by Holden.

A proposed timeline for the Stowe Middle School Principal hiring process was presented and discussed. The board members indicated their approval of the process.

The proposed harassment policy was reviewed and discussed. Board members asked questions about the policy. It was suggested that two designated employees be selected from each building, as opposed to two from the district. The document was approved for first reading based on a motion by Ashley Tagatac and seconded by Jed Lipsky.

The motion was carried.

Fuel bids were reviewed and the bid of Bourne's (Option II, capped price of \$2.4065) was accepted based on a motion by Don Post and seconded by Susan Segal

The motion was carried.

Tracy advised the board of two girls from Peoples Academy who want to play on the Stowe Hockey team. Jed Lipsky made a motion seconded by Don Post to accept the two PA girls.

The motion was carried.

The board went into executive session to discuss a student and personnel issue based on a motion by Don Post and seconded by Jed Lipsky.

The motion was carried.

The board came out of executive session.

The board agreed to adjourn at 8:22 P.M. based on a motion by Don Post and seconded by Ashley Tagatac.

The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Smiles  
Clerk, pro tem