



The Pomfret School

CHALLENGING THE MIND ★ ENCOURAGING THE HEART

**Board of Directors Monthly meeting - DRAFT
Monday, January 19, 2015 @ 6 PM, The Pomfret School**

**Present: Tom McKone, Greg Greene, Bob Coates, Jody Eaton, Jenny Hewitt, Barb Leonard,
Rob Hansen, Alice Worth – Superintendent of Schools, Richard Seaman – Director of
Finance and Operations**

I. Call to Order 6:04 PM

II. Visitors:

Richard Seaman reviewed the 3rd draft of TPS FY16 budget and the draft of BVS-TPS Consolidation FY16 budget.

III. Approval of Minutes: December 18, 2014

Moved: Greg Greene

Seconded: Bob Coates

IV. Reports

Principal – Tom McKone

Students, Programs & Academics

- Artist-in-Residency Program Set for Spring
- SBAC Preparation Continues
 - Sarah Woodhead took the new math practice test and said it was very easy to navigate; difficult navigation was a problem with the earlier practice test. She also said the test was “wicked hard,” though because it is a leveled test it sets a high goal and adjusts to the level at which the student is able to work. Each of our Grades 3-6 teachers will be taking both the math and reading tests and later having their classes doing the same. We will administer the test in two-week blocks between late March and late May, with one class (or grade) taking it at a time.
- Literacy Initiative & Math Coaching
 - The literacy initiative started in August continues, though the meetings and workshops have ended. Math coaching, which was less active during the busiest part of the literacy

initiative, is picking up again. We completed the second round of individualized literacy testing in December and the second round of individualized math testing this month.

- ELL Support
 - We are in the process of hiring an English Language Learner tutor who will be here two hours a day.
- New Students
 - Four since January 1. Currently have 57. 😊

Emergency Preparedness

- Interior number signs have installed above doors. The ADA compliant signs that go next to the doors are ready for installation. We have the exterior signs but we can't use the adhesive tape until warm weather returns.

Buildings & Grounds

- Repairing Damage Caused by Electrical Outage and Ensuing Frozen Pipes
 - Control Tech repaired the damage to the hearing system, completing three of the four places on the day of the incident.
 - Insurance adjuster inspected damage the next day, and gave approval to move forward with clean-up, repairs and replacements, though no cost figure is yet established.
 - ServPro started clean-up first day, using fans and dehumidifiers to reduce moisture level in the four flooded rooms. Today pulled up the damaged carpet in two rooms and the old vinyl in the other parts of those two rooms.
 - We will have at least one quote for new vinyl flooring tomorrow.
- Unrelated this that damage, asbestos consultant Cliff Harper visited building today as part of doing an inspection and report. Reviewing our paperwork from 1991, he said we are the first school he's ever been to that had been certified as asbestos-free (which the architect did).
- Getting estimates for replacing the front door handles.
- Will be looking at options for reducing the chance of having a freezing/thawing/flooding problem again.

Teacher – Rob Hansen, Jenny Hewitt, Barb Leonard

A lengthy discussion took place to discuss the joint district school between Bridgewater and Pomfret as well as sick day teacher payout. Trish Denton, our Artist in Residency, will be working with groups of Pomfret School students to present acts in The Stage Show this Spring. Good work to Charles Greene! He stood outside in negative temperatures to capture an amazing photo of Comet Lovejoy, last week. Venna Reid, an intern from UVEI, began teaching last Monday in Jenny Hewitt's classroom.

Board Members

There were approximately 30 people at the Fireside Chat in Bridgewater last week. There were lots of interesting questions and concerns. Two of the major concerns were how long children would be on the bus next year and if we would provide after school programming. The voting method for the agreement was a concern as well. Some people voiced that they would prefer Australian Ballot but in order to vote using Australian Ballot the town needs to vote to use that method. Neither Bridgewater nor Pomfret use Australian Ballot. Someone will be looking at TPS kitchen to see what we will need to do in order to be up to code for serving our school breakfast and lunch next year.

“Fireside Chats” – conversations about the joint district school formations between Bridgewater and Pomfret

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 @ Bridgewater Village School @ 7 PM

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 @ The Pomfret School @ 7 PM

V. Action/Discussion

Motion to approve FY16 TPS budget in the amount of \$1,055,427 plus \$45,000 for a teaching position, and \$10,000 transfer to a retirement reserve, which results in a budget of 1,110,427

Moved: Greg Greene

Seconded: Bob Coates

Motion to approve the Joint Board Article for Pomfret

Moved: Greg Greene

Seconded: Bob Coates

Motion to approve the BVS – TPS Consolidation FY16 budget in the amount of \$1,523,909

Moved: Greg Greene

Seconded: Bob Coates

Motion to approve the Joint District School Agreement as presented

Moved: Greg Greene

Seconded: Bob Coates

VI. Executive Session

8:30 - 8:44 PM

VII. Adjournment at 8:45 PM

VIII. Upcoming Meetings:

Pomfret School Board Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2015 @ 6 PM @ The Pomfret School

WCSU Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2015 @ 6:00 PM @ WCSU Conference Room