



THE PROSPER VALLEY SCHOOL

Board of Directors Meeting, Draft
Monday, September 19, 2016 @ 6:30 PM

Present: Seth Shaw, Jody Eaton, Bob Coates, Seth Westbrook, Josh Gregg, Jenny Hewitt – Teacher Representative, Lisa Sjostrom – Principal

I. Call to order: 6:38 PM

II. Amendments to the Agenda: no amendments

Lisa made a short presentation to a board member. Jody Eaton received Mountaineer of the Month.

III. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: August 1, 2016

Moved: Seth Westbrook

Seconded: Jody Eaton

IV. Community Engagement/Public Opinion: no visitors

V. Action/Discussion:

1. Maintenance Fund – In order to release funds for re-doing some of the floors in the school building, there will need to be quotes obtained from various commercial flooring companies. Possibly using Forbo for the classrooms and Marmoleum for the back hallway and the entrance?
2. Act 46 Update – There have been several meetings by the Act 46 Committee to discuss how our district will proceed with the current stipulations from the state concerning Act 46. Act 46 is a far reaching piece of legislation designed to encourage the member districts that make up the WCSU to explore the potential benefits of unifying their existing governance structures into a single school board responsible for serving every student in the Barnard, Bridgewater, Pomfret, Killington, Reading, and Woodstock school districts.
3. Vote to Designate an Individual Authorized to Vote at the VEHI Annual Meeting – Seth Shaw designated Alice Worth as our authorized individual.

VI. Reports

1. Operations Report- Discussion about the security of our school. Should we have a lock at the front door? Lisa will lead the school in a lock down drill and a fire drill.
2. Food Service Report- none
3. Principal's Report-
Programming
TPVS and The Barnard Academy have partnered up on two fronts this past month. We have a combined soccer team and a teamed up partnership with the Montshire Museum. The museum will collaborate with teachers to come up with professional development opportunities.

Finnie Trimpi visited TPVS to offer our students an opportunity to learn the Ukulele. This will be an ArtisTree run program in our school for grades 4-6 on Tuesdays after school. The sessions will run for 5 weeks with Mark van Gulden as the leader. ArtisTree has graciously offered to donate their Ukuleles for the students use, during lessons.

Personnel

There has been a temporary hire in the Kindergarten class for a few weeks to help a child become accustomed to being in school. The word on the street is that people have been really happy with the new teacher hires and how the school has launched this year. Teachers are working very hard and are doing everything that they need to do to be on top of their game.

The Technology Initiative is off to a good start. Eileen Vaughn spent 30 minutes with each teacher individually. They discussed ways in which to use technology in their classrooms.

TPVS Goals/Vision

TPVS Action Plan will be ready by the next board meeting.

Lisa and TPVS teachers will be analyzing last year's SBAC test scores and learning all that they can from them. SBAC test scores need to be improved. Should TPVS do interim assessments?

Facilities Update

Facilities/Operation Plan – Chic and Lisa will be meeting this upcoming Thursday to come up with an action plan tying in an energy audit on the well and the electricity usage. There are no dogs allowed on TPVS property. There are signs posted in the front and the rear of the school.

4. Staff Report - Jenny Hewitt thanked our new cleaning company for their hard work and the cleanliness of the building. She said that it was a great move to bring in the new company. She said that the Initiatives are going well and that there are a lot of them. The grounds outside are looking like they need some landscaping attention. Jenny asked when the contract negotiations will be and said that the staff would like to start them soon. She also said that the teacher's health insurance cost is very high and asked the board to look into other health insurance options.

5. Board Report – Seth Shaw said that he is very proud of TPVS Board this year. He welcomed the newest addition, Josh Gregg. The Harvest Supper is on October 1st this year and things are going well. It should be very successful for the PTO, as it normally is. We will be having an all school open house on Thursday, September 22nd. Bob Coates informed the board that he would like to move to the WUHSMS board. He will advertise for a Pomfret resident to replacement him. Bob, thank you for your 6 years of thoughtful and steadfast service to our community! Words actually don't do it justice. The high school/middle school is lucky to have you.

VII. Agenda Setting for September Meeting –

VIII. Adjournment – 8:55 PM

Next meetings:

TPVS – Monday, October 3, 2016 @ 6:30 PM – TPVS Library

WCSU – Monday, October 17, 2016 @ 6:30 PM – WCSU Conference Room