



THE PROSPER VALLEY SCHOOL

Board of Directors Meeting, Draft
Monday, August 14, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

Present: Seth Shaw, Jody Eaton, Seth Westbrook, Justin Shipman, Patti Kuzmickas, Katie Jacobsen and Heather Durkel – Teacher Representatives, Barbara Reynolds – Principal, Mary Beth Banios – Superintendent of Schools

I. Call to order: 6:39 PM

Seth Shaw welcomed Barbara, Mary Beth, and Heather to our school.

II. Amendments to the Agenda:

Action/Discussion – Planned Teacher Leave
Executive Session to discuss personnel

III. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: June 5, 2017

Moved: Justin Shipman

Seconded: Seth Westbrook

IV. Community Engagement/Public Opinion: no visitors

V. Action/Discussion:

1. Flooring Update – tile and carpet installation – Barre Tile did a great job on the entryway and the hallway school flooring. They completed the job within 2 weeks. It all went very smoothly. Seth Westbrook recommended to Mary Beth that there be a general contract that schools can use with Sub-Contractors. There isn't one at this time.
2. Flooring update – core samples – Samples were taken from the kitchen floor in order to test why there has been failure. Mary Beth will speak with Richard Seaman to check on status of the sample. The USDA will be visiting our kitchen soon to evaluate TPVS's school lunch program.
3. Bridge/Outdoor classroom update – The outdoor classroom was undermined during the July 4th heavy rains this year. Temporary support for the bridge should be in place soon, however, the bridge should be replaced. The board discussed either creating a go fund me page or using some of the proceeds from the Harvest Supper to fund the build.
4. Website development update – Marie Cole, Jody Eaton, and Barbara will be meeting this week to go over Marie's new TPVS website. Mary Beth said that when the districts merge in July, each school should have linked websites.

5. Maintenance schedule – Seth Shaw gave Barbara and Mary Beth some background concerning our water well and septic agreement with Harding Place. Jody will forward the legal agreement to Barbara. Jody will speak with Bob Coates to find out the status of TPVS being an emergency shelter.
6. Food Service Contract – Seth Shaw will sign the contract with Abbey Group this week. Mary Beth will check with Richard Seaman on whether there is grant money available for our food program.
7. Planned Teacher Leave – Heather Durkel, our new 2nd grade teacher, is expecting her first baby at the beginning of December. She will only have 3 weeks of vacation built up by the time the baby arrives, since she is new to school. Heather is requesting that the district give her an extra 9 weeks of unpaid leave and for the district to pay for uninterrupted health insurance during that time. The board told her that we would have an answer for her within the week.

VI. Reports

1. Operations Report – The Upper Valley Cleaners will be in school for 3 days in August to clean up after the floor installation.
2. Food Service Report – The Abbey Group Contract needs to be renewed.
3. Principal's Report – Most information in these minutes was relayed to the board by Barbara. She has been very hard at work.
4. Staff Report – Several staff members attended a Responsive Classroom Workshop in Morrisville, VT from 8/8/17-8/11/17. Katie Jacobsen would like for our teachers to create their own approach to behavior and community using both PBIS and Responsive Classroom.

The staff members have been talking about contracts and the upcoming merger and what is going on with negotiations. Katie relayed to the board that the staff is uncomfortable not having representation at the negotiations. Katie also wondered when the teachers would be joining the Teacher Union. The Act 46 merger will require them to do so. Mary Beth suggested that Katie speak with the Union Rep. Patti will speak with Paige Hiller to discuss. There was a discussion about how we will continue our mutually respectful relationship between the board and staff after unionization next year.

5. Board Report- Justin Shipman informed us that Reading is now part of the ACT 46 district. On September 18th, there will be an organizational meeting with the new WCMUUSD. Mary Beth is suggesting that a consultant be hired by the new board in order to transition to the new district next year. Jody Eaton spoke about the timeline for the Harvest Supper. The Harvest Supper will be on October 7th, this year.

VII. Agenda Setting for August Meeting - same

VIII. Executive Session – 8:45-9:02 PM

IX. Adjournment – 9:03 PM

Next meetings:

TPVS – Monday, August 28, 2017 @ 6:30 PM – TPVS Library

WCSU – Monday, August 28, 2017 @ 6:00 PM – WCSU Conference Room