



THE PROSPER VALLEY SCHOOL
Board of Directors Meeting, Draft
Wednesday, January 10, 2018 @ 6:00 PM

Present: Seth Shaw, Jody Eaton, Seth Westbrook, Patti Kuzmickas, Justin Shipman, Katie Jacobsen – Teacher Representative, John Hansen – Interim Principal

I. Call to order: 6:05 PM

II. Amendments to the Agenda: none

III. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: December 4, 2017

Moved: Justin Shipman

Seconded: Seth Westbrook

IV. Community Engagement/Public Comment: Bob Coates

Topic – The Prosper Valley School property, as regards to the town of Pomfret and the WCUD.
Dialogue on best path forward.

V. Action/Discussion:

Update on FY19 Budget Priorities – see below

Emergency Action Plan Assessment Recommendations – John Hansen presented to the board a review of the current safety standards and equipment at TPVS, at the board’s request. John utilized a K-12 School Security Checklist put out by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This information will help the board to make an informed decision regarding how this initiative aligns with the FY19 Budget Priorities, which as of this meeting, are still in the formative state.

Adoption of Current Policy Handbook (The Pomfret School Policy Handbook) into Use as The Prosper Valley School Policy Handbook - Tabled

VI. Reports

1. Operations Report - Thanks to Chic MacMaster, TPVS has been brought into the 21 Century of lighting engineering! The new fixtures in each classroom, gym, (and library very soon) will make an incredible difference to the learning environment at TPVS. Chic MacMaster, thank you so much for finding the rebates offered by Efficiency Vermont, working tirelessly to organize installation, and seeing this project through until the very end. TPVS appreciates your dedication! ☺

2. Food Service Report – Short discussion about WES Food Program.

3. Principal's Report – The Artist in Residence program was a success, yet again. TPVS Winter Concert showcased each child's handmade puppet. On December 21, the children participated in a Holiday Craft Workshop. The ice rink was installed in December and students are now using it at recess. Next week, PE classes will start their skating program. The threshold for going outside has been lowered from 10 degrees to zero degrees. The second marking period ends on January 19. Report cards will go home on Wednesday, January 31.

This summer there will be a lighting conversion to all outside lights at TPVS. All children in grades 1-6 will participate in the Friday Winter Program. K will have their own outdoor program at school and may go to the Union Arena to skate a few times. John has been working on the bridge build project. The bell rope has been replaced at school. Dreambox math has shown to be successful. Many children are using the program at school and at home. Growth is excellent when used for 60 minutes a week.

By next school year, TPVS may have a PreK classroom. There will have to be some shifting, in order to create this new classroom. This spring, children at TPVS will be participating in Genius Hour instead of Spring Fling. On Tuesday, January 30, Brown Girl Dreaming Speak Chorus community project, which includes some TPVS children, will be at ArtisTree from 6:30-7:30 pm. Rob Hansen will open Horizon Observatory, weather permitting, on Friday, January 19.

4. Staff Report – Katie Jacobsen has been working each day at the Supervisory Union office creating a plan for WCUD to bring PreK to each school by next school year 2018/2019. Katie is in her classroom for the first 2 hours of the day teaching her students and then Devon Workman takes over. She says that her class has responded very well to this change. Great work, Katie! Congratulations to our second grade teacher, Heather Durkel, who welcomed a son on December 26th.

5. Board Report - Discussion surrounding the WCUD proposed idea of the Model Classroom.

VII. Agenda Setting for February Meeting - same

VIII. Adjournment – 9:05 – Closing Poem read by Seth Shaw

What We Need Is Here

Wendell Barry

Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye,
clear. What we need is here.

Next meetings:

TPVS – Monday, February 5, 2018 @ 6:30 PM – TPVS Library

WCSU/WCUD – Tuesday, January 16, 2018 @ 6:00 PM – WCSU Conference Room