

November 14, 2011
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Chesterfield School Board
Chesterfield School, 5:30 p.m.

In attendance: Ege Cordell, School Board Chair
Jamie Card, School Board Member
Genienne Hockensmith, School Board Member
Judy Idelkope, School Board Member
Sharyn D'Eon, Principal
Darlene Dunn, Assistant Principal
Wayne Woolridge, Co-Superintendent of Schools
Tim Ruehr, Business Administrator for Towns
Kathy Brady, Recording Secretary

Also in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting: Becky Auger, John Fay, Jeanna Genest, Christine Prah, Amy Randall, Sherry Shield, Greg Colby

1. **Call to Order:** Ege Cordell called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Sharyn D'Eon led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Celebrations:** Sharyn D'Eon congratulated Maddy White on her first place award in the Lion's Club Peace Poster contest. She will be recognized at the next all school assembly. Mrs. Idelkope recognized both the boys' and girls' soccer teams for a first place finish in the Westmoreland Soccer Tournament. Mrs. Idelkope also recognized Maddy White for her NHDI submission that appeared in the NHDI newsletter. Ege Cordell commended the recent "Godspell" production at KHS.
3. **Public Input:** None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** October 10, 2011, Public Minutes, Page 1, remove #3. Destination Imagination Presentation. Page 3, section c, 2nd paragraph, remove "Mrs. Idelkope attended the Wellness Committee in Mr. Mahoney's place." Section c, 3rd paragraph; change Mrs. Idelkope to read Mrs. Card. *Judy Idelkope made a motion to accept minutes of October 10, 2011 Public Meeting, as amended, Genienne Hockensmith seconded the motion, vote taken, 4 – 0, motion passes.*
5. **Bills and Manifests:** *Finance Committee recommends the acceptance of checks # 1006905 - # 1006997 in the amount of \$256,618.52. Vote taken, 4 – 0, motion passes.*
6. **Financial Report:**

Audit Review: Mr. Greg Colby of Plodzick and Sanderson presented statements from their 2010 -2011 Audit Review. Mr. Ruehr spoke a bit on GASB 54. A brief discussion ensued on pensions and government funds.

Mr. Ruehr presented the Chesterfield School General Fund Financial Report, net available \$ 89,533.

Portable Sub Committee: Report was distributed to the board for review. Mrs. Idelkope commended the work the committee put into the packet. Discussion ensued on the budgeted amount for removal.

Sale of Assets: Some concern was voiced over the \$5,000 figure suggested to use for the budget to remove the portable classrooms. Mrs. Idelkope questioned why not budget for the worst-case scenario?

Mr. Ruehr and Mrs. Cordell conveyed that was the committee's recommendation. The board can go in its own direction if they so choose. Mr. Ruehr recommended that at budget time the board should discuss whether to present it as a warrant article or within the budget and what funds they feel they should raise toward that goal. Mr. Ruehr will check into a "disposal of assets" policy.

Lock Project: Mr. Ruehr presented the bids that the Facilities Committee reviewed for the lock project. *The facilities committee looked at the two lowest bids and recommends Kelly Brothers with a bid of \$29,867.00. Vote was taken, 4 – 0, motion passes.*

7. Reports:

- a. Mrs. D'Eon reported on the following:
 - Current enrollment of 292
 - NECAP
 - Seeking approval from board for a \$300 conference phone purchase
 - Dr. Hare, allergist, to visit school
 - LGC recommended policies, Wellness Committee to look at
 - Report out on current goals, Academic Rigor, Community Involvement, Organizational Efficiency

Mrs. Idelkope questioned how we know we are meeting goal of academic rigor? Need some measurement so we know what we are looking for.

- b. Wayne Woolridge reported out on the following:

- NAEP Testing
- Waiver from NCLB
- Constitutional Amendments
- KMS Auditorium Status
- KHS Block Scheduling modification
- Calendar Committee – thanks to Mrs. Walsh and Mr. Ullrich for attending

c. School Board: Mrs. Card attended an A.R.E.A. committee meeting with Mrs. Idelkope. Mrs. Idelkope reported that Mr. Chmiel reported out on block scheduling. Mrs. Card stated they toured KMS. Mrs. Cordell reported that the Facilities Committee has had lots of activity.

8. Public Input: Mrs. Auger had a question on Smartboards and community flyers. Commended the town’s recent 250th birthday celebration that she attended. Felt she needed to take time to advocate for her daughter and other quiet children in her daughter’s class. Room contains a boisterous group and is concerned about the quiet children getting lost. Feels the room needs support from administration and that there are “out of control” behaviors in the room.

Mr. Fay had a question on NCLB waiver and the growth model.

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business:

a. Life Threatening Allergies Procedure: Mr. Woolridge recommended including findings from allergist visit in next board packet and report out on visit at next meeting.

b. Gifted and Talented Program: Mr. Woolridge reported on the status of Gifted and Talented in the state of New Hampshire. Reviewed RTI in Chesterfield and how it should be accessing all children and meeting their needs.

Mrs. Hockensmith expressed her concern about challenging all children at all levels. Mrs. D’Eon shared how there is a specialist coming in monthly to assist staff in recognizing how to meet the needs of all children in their classrooms.

Mrs. Idelkope expressed her desire to see schools decide on a “mission”. Feels that unhappy parents are driving schools. It is difficult for schools to meet all needs and all expectations. Need to determine realistic goals and expectations and how to assess whether or not they are being met.

Mrs. Idelkope would like to see the school get more credit for the great job it does. Concerned that people are putting too much emphasis on NECAP. We need to get the message out that we are not a failing school just because the test says we are. Far more is being done in the school than 6 – 7 years ago.

c. Destination Imagination: Mrs. D'Eon shared the unique situation they find themselves in with DI. Large turnout this year. With budget constraints they are not able to register all teams, therefore the program will not be running the Rising Stars Program. More teams stretch our coordinator and at this time they are still short a coach for this team.

d. Other: Jamie Card praised the phenomenal growth the Intramural Basketball program has seen over the past few years under the direction of Jim Larkin. Encourages the board to look for someone else to take over when needed and to find funds to support this program.

Mrs. Card had questions on special education services and the delivery of such. Where are we headed? Are we effective? Mrs. Cordell shared with Mrs. Card that a special education survey was conducted a few years back which answered all of these questions.

11. Future Agenda:

- Report out on Optimal Staffing
- Delegate Assembly
- Cathy Woods – Non Public next meeting
- Calendar
- Sale of Assets – Tim Ruehr
- Report out from Allergist Visit – Ellen O'Beirne
- Academic Rigor Goal definition
- January – Status of KHS students

12. Public Input III: Mrs. Randall spoke on Gifted and Talented and challenged the board to find out the number of children we have identified as such. Offended by some comments made this evening. Would like to have proof in backpack that her children are indeed receiving differentiated instruction. Need to be shown evidence that we are covering the needs of these students.

Jeanna Genest is concerned that children that test high and then drop a little are being forgotten. Feels teachers feel these levels are acceptable, even with the drop in score. Acceleration should follow up with differentiation.

Sherry Shield would like to have an opportunity to explore what might be available for the “gifted and talented”. Would like to be part of a team or committee to explore these options.

Mrs. Prah feels that as a group they are not complaining about what we don’t have but about what they would like to have. Feels that we indeed have gifted and talented children and we should provide extra services or offerings.

Mrs. D’Eon gave a brief overview on RTI for staff and what it involves.

Mrs. Auger feels that teachers are not given time to meet and that lower grade level teachers have lost planning time.

Mrs. Shield directed a question to Mrs. Idelkope regarding things that have been added over time for gifted and talented students. Mrs. Idelkope reviewed a few of these programs which included; Tri M, Drama, Enrichment Blocks, Differentiated Instruction, Yearbook, Choraliers, and NHDI

Mrs. Auger commended Mrs. Cordell on her dedication to the drama program.

Mrs. D’Eon will look into providing a forum and panel to discuss gifted and talented and will open this up to parents.

13. Non-Public Session – R.S.A. 91-A:3

Ms. Idelkope moved to enter non-public session to discuss student personnel under the provisions of R.S.A. 91-A:3 at 9:03 p.m. Ms. Card seconded the motion. All in favor. Accompanying the Board were Ms. D’Eon, Ms. Dunn and Mr. Woolridge.

Ms. Idelkope moved for the board to move out of non-public session at 9:08 p.m. Ms. Hockensmith seconded. All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Brady
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: 12/12/11