

October 20, 2011

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting  
Westmoreland School 6:30 PM

Attending:

Justine Fletcher, Chairperson  
Kurt Martin, Board Member  
Debra Hunter, Board Member  
Michael Acerno, Board Member  
Stuart Adams, Board Member  
Mark Hayward Jr., Principal  
Timothy Ruehr, Business Manager  
Wayne Woolridge, Co-Superintendent  
Debra J. Nelson, Recording Secretary

- I. Mrs. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM
- II. Public Input: None
- III. Approval of Minutes: A motion by Mrs. Hunter to accept the minutes of September 15, 2011 as submitted, seconded by Mr. Martin, a vote of 5-0 the motion passed.
- IV. Bills and Manifest: Mr. Martin made a motion to accept the bills and manifest checks 8003891-8003940 in the amount of \$82,069.85 and check 8003890 in the amount of \$1,104.84, seconded by Mr. Acerno, a vote of 5-0 the motion passed.
- V. Financial Report:
  - a. Mr. Ruehr noted the acceptance to allow the Town of Westmoreland to participate in the SAU 29 insurance plan. A motion by Mr. Acerno for Westmoreland Board approval of the Town of Westmoreland Employees joining SAU 29 insurance rate pool as long as update of rate shows no negative impact, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, a vote of 5-0 the motion passed.
  - b. Mr. Acerno inquired how our town's recent re-evaluation will impact our share of payment to SAU 29. Mr. Ruehr stated that if all towns evaluations are down, the rate will remain steady. If Westmoreland is the only town that is down, our share will reflect that.
  - c. Mr. Ruehr passed a Budget Status Report to all Board Members and explained each line item. Mr. Ruehr noted the additional revenue from the "Ed Jobs" grant of \$24,110.00 and the return of \$1,391.00 that we were overcharged by the state for retirement in July.
  - d. Facilities Update: Mrs. Hunter inquired about wood chips for the playground and whose responsibility they are. The Board takes full responsibility for supplying them and would like it done a.s.a.p. to maintain safety. Mr. Martin and Mr. Adams updated the Board Members of repair items that will be done that include the gym heaters and the grade 6 fire exit door.
  - e. Mr. Ruehr passed a Town Tuition rate formula to all Board Members to set the 2011-2012 tuition rate for Westmoreland School. Our cost per pupil is \$12,165.00 which remains the lowest in the district. A motion by Mr. Acerno to accept the rate of \$12,165.00 per student, seconded by Mr. Adams, a vote of 5-0 the motion passed.
  - f. Cost of School Lunch Program: Moved to a future agenda

## VI. Reports

- a. Principals: Mr. Hayward previously submitted a written report for School Board packets. Mr. Hayward stated the NECAP testing is done and that the boxes have been packed and are ready for UPS pick-up. NWEA testing is almost complete and only one student has an outstanding make-up test to complete. Last Friday the first “Top Dogs” student lunch celebration was held at the Westmoreland Village Store and it was a huge success and enjoyed by all. Mr. Hayward spoke of his participation in a Civic Leadership conference that will take him to Washington DC October 25-26<sup>th</sup>. Open House was held Wednesday, October 19, 2011 and was well attended. We also had a plumbing problem yesterday that was immediately addressed by the EH Houghton company and all is back up and running. Mr. Hayward shared the celebration of two staff members (Mr. Bailly and Mrs. Castagna) that will be finishing their Masters program this winter. A letter was distributed to Board Members from Mrs. Castagna thanking the Board for their foresight of moving SPED and the offices which allotted triple the space and enhanced SPED services for students. A letter was also distributed to Board Members from Cameron Fisk outlining a program that he would like to start for health and wellness at Westmoreland School, short discussion ensued. Mr. Hayward also distributed a “shopping list” that was done at the old Marlborough School of the items received for a total cost of \$265.00. Time was spent researching the actual cost of these items to purchase them new, total cost would have been \$8,180.10 plus shipping and handling. The Board thanked Mr. Hayward for his savvy cost saving measures.
  - b. Co-Superintendent: Mr. Woolridge reports one Westmoreland High School student has missed more than five days. NCLB is under scrutiny. Possible new voucher system being proposed for New Hampshire. Building aid may be back in two years but would be a much different program than the past one. AREA meeting held recently with a tour of KMS. Science NECAP scores went up. Mr. Chmiel has announced his retirement as of June 2012, and a principal search process for his replacement will begin soon.
  - c. School Board Members: Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Fletcher recently attended the AREA meeting. The Keene Board of Education meeting continued the discussion of block scheduling. SAU 29 Advisory Committee meeting Monday October 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Acerno reports that the Westmoreland Budget Committee has started their process. The committee consists of Mr. Kotfilia, Mr. Acerno, Ms. Lincoln, Mr. Campbell and perhaps Mr. Staples.
  - d. P.T.A.: Mrs. Hunter reports that the Bulldog Halloween Bash is scheduled for Saturday, October 29 from 2-5 beginning with a costume parade from the Town Hall to Westmoreland School and will include children’s games and trunk trick or treating.
- VII. Old Business: Mr. Acerno noted that the soccer fields have been vandalized again by vehicles. Short discussion. Moved to a future agenda.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Employee Use of Social Networking Websites Policy #5017 Review
  - b. Blizzard Bags: Discussion. The Board Members support the concept, it was decided that Mr. Hayward would meet with staff to discuss and create a possible plan of action.

- c. Spectator Policy, Review: Will be displayed in the gym for basketball season.
  - d. Mrs. Hunter read a letter from Kristen Chamberlin supporting the expansion of the health and physical education position/program at Westmoreland School.
- IX. Future Agenda
- a. Playground vandalism
- X. Public Input II: None
- XI. Non-Public Session R.S.A. 91-A:3: A motion by Mrs. Hunter to move to Non-Public Session R.S.A. 91-A at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Acerno, a vote of 5-0 the motion passed. Accompanying the Board Members was Mr. Hayward and Mr. Woolridge.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Nelson  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: 11/17/11