

April 12, 2010

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Chesterfield School Board
Chesterfield School, 5:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Judy Idelkope, School Board Chair
Ege Cordell, School Board Member
Genienne Hockensmith, School Board Member
Deb Clemente, School Board Member
Marty Mahoney, School Board Member
Wayne Woolridge, Co-Superintendent of Schools
Timothy Ruehr, Business Administrator for Towns
Sharyn D'Eon, Principal
Darlene Dunn, Assistant Principal
Kathy Selvidio, Recording Secretary

Also in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting: Paul Cooper, Ruth VanHouten, Patty Harris, Darlene Smith, Sheena Derosia, Kelli Rooney, Barbara Girs, Carol A. Walker Dumont, Catherine Dail, Susan Wiles, Nancy Brooks, Chris Young, Traci Fairbanks, Jamie Card, Muffy White, Bob Brockman, Mr. Young

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

Ms. Clemente made a motion for the Board to move into Non-Public Session under the provisions of R.S.A. 91-A:3 at 5:02 p.m. to discuss staff/student personnel. Ms. Cordell seconded the motion, all in favor 5-0. Accompanying the Board were Mr. Cooper and Mr. Woolridge.

Mr. Mahoney made a motion for the Board to return to open session at 5:43 p.m. Ms. Cordell seconded the motion, all in favor 5-0.

1. Call to Order:

Judy Idelkope called the public meeting to order at 5:46 p.m. At this time Mrs. Idelkope reviewed rules of order regarding public input.

2. Celebrations:

Mrs. D'Eon was pleased with the student achievement for the recent PBS writing contest. In 5th grade Hannah Belawske received third place, Josie Weil in 5th grade an honorable mention and Garrett Weil in 2nd grade an honorable mention. Mr. Woolridge commended Corynn Larkin and Caitlin Scanlon for their recent Art

Awards received at KHS. Mr. Mahoney was pleased with being able to remain in contact with the student that he mentors, he was able to remain in contact via Skype that the district had hooked up for him.

Ms. Cordell was pleased with the recent eight Chesterfield students nominated for KHS Interact. Mrs. Idelkope read a recent letter from a parent regarding Mrs. Kelly and her exceptional willingness to allow their child to reach their potential. Mrs. VanHouten was pleased with the Sports Booster Club, feels that they are a hard working group of parents.

Mr. Woolridge took chair of the meeting. *At this time Deb Clemente nominated Judy Idelkope as board chair. Ms. Ege Cordell 2nd the motion. Vote taken, 5-0, motion passed.* Mrs. Idelkope took over chairing the meeting.

3. Public Input:

Carol Dumont spoke out regarding her stand on the recent issue at school. Mrs. Dumont expressed her displeasure over the rule regarding the wearing of shorts. Seems that logic and common sense went out the window. Mrs. Kelli Rooney is excited for the new board members. Moved here to Chesterfield to be part of the school, feels it was valued as the center of the community. Wants to know what the process is for parents to get a response from the board regarding issues. What is the board's role in setting policy? What is board protocol? Questioned Mr. Young's role in the school, thought he was the athletic director. Feels that the middle school teachers are not held accountable, are allowed to come in late, not held to contractual obligations.

Mrs. Idelkope took the time to outline the hierarchy for bringing forth concerns:

- Person directly involved should be approached first
- Principal or Assistant Principal
- Superintendent
- School Board, can be brought through by Mr. Woolridge and put on agenda or brought forth in non public.

There are reasons that the board might NOT act on certain issues:

- Need to determine first if it is even a board issue
- Do we need to investigate?
- Putting issues in writing is most productive
- Board does not take commentary on staff in public, staff evaluations are not done in public session.

Ms. Rooney asked how board policy gets changed, what is the procedure? Ms. Rooney was not pleased with administrations handling of the shorts issue.

Mrs. Idelkope stated that the board did not make a directive regarding the clothing issue. She expressed her opinion on this issue as a parent, not a board member. Mrs. Dail was gratified to hear Ms. Rooney's points this evening. She feels that there is a bouncing ball of accountability here at the school. Feels that a radical approach needs to be taken to rectify the problem here. Wants to see things get better.

4. Approval of Minutes:

March 6, 2010, Special Meeting, minutes accepted as written. March 8, 2010, Regular Meeting, Page 3, section C., Second sentence should read, "CPSF approved applications should be presented..." Page 4, section 10d. Last sentence should read " We don't want to make advertising decisions as a board without this input, board would like guidelines in place..." Ege Cordell made a motion to accept minutes of March 8, 2010 Regular Meeting with changes, Deb Clemente 2nd the motion, vote taken, 5-0, motion passed.

March 8, 2010, Student Non Public, accepted as written.

March 8, 2010, Staff Non-Public, accepted as written.

5. Bills and Manifests:

Finance Committee made a recommendation to accept checks 1005505 – 1005587 in the amount of \$332,786.17. Vote taken, 5-0, motion passed.

6. Financial Report:

Mr. Ruehr gave an overview of the Chesterfield General Fund Balance. The current net balance is \$ 608,107.00. Right now the district is extremely fortunate financially. From this figure \$150,000 will be transferred to Capital Reserve. Mr. Ruehr noted that purchasing has been extended to May 3rd.

Mrs. Idelkope noted that building services is over budget due to the purchase of new cafeteria tables and that summer maintenance is over budget as well.

\$20,000 has been encumbered for the portable classroom study and the building envelope study. Mr. Ruehr also shared that two quotes were received by facilities for these studies. Marinace was \$22,000 and Weller Michal was \$12,000.

Food Service: Mr. Ruehr stated that he is waiting to hear from the new kitchen manager regarding her benefit selection, and then he will be able to make a new projection. Mr. Ruehr reviewed the financial report of the food service fund.

Policy GCBA: Occupational Therapist has been added to this policy. Mr. Ruehr pointed out that he feels they need to discuss sick leave in this policy, right now it is not stipulated as family sick. Needs to know the board's intentions on this. Mrs. Idelkope would like to defer this discussion to non-public session. Mr. Ruehr asked if they would like to discuss the facilities contract issue in non –public as well, Mrs. Idelkope agreed that would be a good idea.

7. Reports:

a. Principal: Mrs. D'Eon presented the following:

- Total student count of 348
- Site Visit by the Department of Education
- Update on Board Goal #1
- Update on Board Goal # 3, Mr. Young will be speaking at Friends meeting this month about the Wellness Committee's progress.
- Staff Updates: Maria Stepka, new kitchen manager. Thanks to Maureen Wells and her staff for their hard work
- Candidate for speech and language position, name will be brought forward in non-public tonight
- Teacher placements for next year will be announced soon
- New coaches: Tim Barrett for baseball and Meaghan White for softball.
- Facilities update: Personal Touch did a great job upgrading our athletic fields with jock mix.
- Core Reading training this week.
- Mrs. Dunn and six teachers attended Six Traits of Writing workshop
- Math Residency complete, very successful
- Nancy Belsky will be in to work with Grade 5 with geometry and kite making
- Mrs. Walsh will be making reusable bags for students to use.
- Student Council will be doing community service and clearing out front flowerbed.
- Fun Run Date scheduled for October 10, 2010

Mr. Mahoney was thrilled to see the athletic fields worked on. Feels that the front of the building needs some professional attention, though he is thankful to the student council. Questioned what is the plan for the summer to recover from the non-compliance of having a speech person.

b. Co-Superintendent: Mr. Woolridge spoke briefly on the following:

- Seven students missed five or more days, three due to illness, and four due to discipline.
- Race to the Top Grant
- Governor and his budget
- Pro-ration of CAT Aide
- Building Aid Moratorium
- Drop Out Prevention
- State Revenue
- Blue Print for Reform
- AYP Results

Mrs. Idelkope pointed out that our Economically Disadvantaged at risk group did make AYP this time. Mr. Mahoney feels some expectations are unrealistic.

c. Board Members: Ege Cordell spoke on the building study. Feels the scope of both bids received were very similar. Stands behind the decision of facilities to go with Weller Michal. Ms. Cordell is concerned about the water issue in the parking lot; need a study done on drainage etc. As staff liaison at staff meetings, Ms. Cordell shared that staff were discontent with the board's stand on the Evergreen Clause and were discontent over the board's lead environmental survey. Mrs. Clemente shared that Friends had their staff luncheon and purchased shirts for staff. A new sign has been approved. Still busy at work on the school garden project. April 10th Friends will be hosting a Wellness Fair at the school. Mrs. Idelkope attended an Education Committee meeting where they discussed gifted and talented at KMS, and the drop out prevention program at KHS. Wellness Committee has developed new nutritional standards and procedures. Mrs. Cordell would like the board to look at the make-up of the budget committee.

d. Other: None

8. Public Input:

Darlene Smith felt that at one point she did follow protocol for communication with board and superintendent and still got no results. Feels that there is a lack of

communication and leadership. Pulled her youngest daughter out of Chesterfield School and put her in a private school. Mrs. Idelkope stated that she would see that Mrs. Smith gets a response. Mrs. Ruth VanHouten asked if we are keeping track of drop outs, Mr. Woolridge shared that drop out rate is down by 2/3 rds. Mrs. Card asked the board to consider providing professional development for staff that work with children who fit into a different parameter. Ms. Rooney had a question on money spent for out-of-district. Mr. Ruehr explained what this figure encompasses. Ms. Rooney expressed her concern over now focusing on sub groups of children who did not meet AYP. Mrs. Idelkope said the board's goal is to bring up scores of all children. Mrs. Fairbanks asked how we are going to calculate units that students have lost for speech. Will we be using ESY to cram in what these students lost, when will services begin? Ms. Dail is in favor of differentiated instruction. Asked that people please acknowledge that mainstream or above students get lost and left behind.

9. Old Business:

a. JLCF – Wellness Policy, 5th Reading: Mr. Mahoney shared that he would never vote for this policy. Feels that it is unrealistic and unenforceable. Should not be serving as nutrition police. He would not be able to endorse in good conscience. Mrs. Hockensmith is concerned as well with the minutia in this policy. She is also concerned over the language “whenever possible.” Feels that young children still enjoy and benefit from rewards and celebrations.

Discussion ensued on the various aspects of the Wellness Policy and the various boards' standing on this policy. Mrs. Idelkope questioned the board on the direction they would like to go with this policy. It was agreed that they would like more time to take a look at this. Mr. Young said that the committee will look at again and address the other four goals and the concerns of parents. The policy will go back to the Wellness Committee.

b. Goals Retreat Date: May 12th, 3:30 – 6:00. Mrs. Idelkope stated that a possible facilitator could be Anne Rider, resume looked good. Mrs. Idelkope will request the use of the town offices for retreat.

c. Advertising Policy: Mr. Woolridge said he has reviewed with Mrs. D'Eon. They need more time to discuss the impact on the school and the community. Need to make it a bit broader, will bring it back next month.

d. None

10. New Business:

a. Appointment of new Board Members/Board Reorganization: *Deb Clemente made a motion to nominate Ege Cordell as board vice chair, Genienne Hockensmith 2nd the motion, vote taken, 5–0, motion passed.*

Board Reorganization:

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| • SAU 29 | All encouraged to attend |
| • Advisory Committee | Judy Idelkope |
| • AREA Board | Deb Clemente, Genienne Hockensmith alternate |
| • NHSBA Delegate | Ege Cordell |
| • KSB Ed Committee | Ms. Cordell will schedule on rotate basis |
| • Finance Committee | Marty Mahoney, Ege Cordell |
| • Negotiations | Support Staff this year, Marty Mahoney and Judy Idelkope |
| • Staff Liaison | Rotate through Board, Ege Cordell would like to remain on |
| • Scholarship | Genienne Hockensmith |
| • Select Liaison | Full Board, Ege to schedule |
| • Facilities | Ege Cordell |
| • Budget Committee | Marty Mahoney, Judy Idelkope alternate |
| • Endowment | Deb Clemente |
| • Friends | Deb Clemente |
| • Safety | combined with Facilities |
| • Health & Wellness | Judy Idelkope |
| • Tech Committee | Judy Idelkope |

10b. Reaffirmation of School Board Policies: *Marty Mahoney made a motion to reaffirm all Chesterfield School Board Policies, Ege Cordell 2nd the motion, vote taken, 5–0, motion passed.*

10c. Board Evaluation: Mr. Woolridge handed out the school board report card. Mr. Woolridge will make a correlation to data with question #1 (have you attended meetings and how many?)

10d. Nomination of Principal and Vice Principal: Did not complete discussion in non-public, will continue in non-public this evening.

12. **Public Input III:** Traci Fairbanks thanked the board for allowing their lengthy input this evening. Ms. Rooney asked how nominations work?

Mrs. Idelkope stated that they will continue discussion in non-public and will report out in minutes in public session.

11. Future Agenda/s:

- Board Retreat
- Special Education Policy
- Facilities Goal
- Advertising Policy
- June – Food Service
- June – Wellness Report

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

Ms. Cordell made a motion for the Board to move into Non-Public Session under the provisions of R.S.A 91-A:3 at 9:45 p.m. to discuss staff/student personnel. Ms. Clemente seconded the motion, all in favor 5-0. Accompanying the Board were Ms. Reeves, Ms. Dunn, Ms. D'Eon and Mr. Woolridge.

Ms. Cordell made a motion for the Board to return to open session at 11:00 p.m. Ms. Idelkope seconded the motion, all in favor 5-0.

Mr. Mahoney made a motion to accept the Proposal by Weller and Michal for a cost of \$12,000. Ms. Cordell seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen Selvidio
Recording Secretary