

MAPLE RUN UNIFIED BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

October 17, 2017 6:00 p.m. NWTC, 71 S. Main St., St. Albans VT

MINUTES

Present for a Quorum: James Farr, Steven LaRosa, Michael Malone, Denise Smith, Al Corey, Jack McCarthy, Nilda Gonnella-French.

Unable to Attend: Mike L'Esperance, Martha Casavant-Ries, Nina Hunsicker.

Administrators: Kevin Dirth, Superintendent; Martha Gagner, Business Manager; Jason Therrien, SATEC Assistant Principal; Angela Stebbins, SATEC Principal; Stacie Rouleau, SACS Dean of Students, Joan Cavallo, SACS Principal; Jill Ballou, Central Office Administrator; Joanne Wells, Assistant Special Education Director; Chris Mosca, BFA Principal; Lisa Durocher, Assistant NWTC Director; Heather Fitzgibbons, Assistant BFA Principal; Leeann Wright, NWTC Director; Julie Regimbal, Special Education Director; Shannon Warden, Assistant BFA Principal; Kathy Finck, HR Director, Sean O'Dell, Fairfield Interim Principal.

Others: Jeff Morrill, Mitch Craib, Michelle Weaver, Joyce Kemp, Hilary Devarney, Colin Capsey, Ross Lavoie, Taylor Wolfe, Jacob Remillard, Alan Dubie, Mark Capsey.

5:45 - 6:00 p.m. Snacks made and served by Culinary Arts Students in the Hideaway.

1. **Call to Order** – James Farr called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m.
2. **Agenda Review** – There were no changes to the agenda.

Michael Malone made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Steven LaRosa. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Visitors**
5. **Host Site**

A. NWTC Presentation – Leeann gave a review of the 50 years of BFA and spoke about the Tech Center. She then asked alumni to introduce themselves: Michelle Weaver, an alumna, spoke of her experience going through the medical professionals program and how it helped her be better prepared for college. Alan Dubie is a senior at BFA, went through A Plus engineering and received his certification as IT Professional, and is now taking digital design. Jacob Remillard was a 2016 graduate and went through the building trades, allowing him to be OSHA compliant and get into commercial construction younger than most. Taylor Wolfe is a 2016 Grad who went through the medical professionals training and got her LNA. Ross Lavoie went through the building trades program in 2006, did commercial construction for a number of years and is now a Lab Supervisor at NWTC, and hopes to get his teaching degree. Colin Capsey went through the automotive tech program, worked at dealerships and is now an automotive Lab Supervisor at NWTC. Hilary Devarney is a BFA senior who take an adult class in welding.

6. **Consent Agenda**
 - B. Approval of Minutes of October 4, 2017

- C. Donations/Gifts - SACS received a gift to the Band to support 10 students to go on the band trip. Each time City School does a band trip they raise funds to support students that cannot afford the trip, so that all students have access. Alisha Sawyer applied to a Walmart opportunity in Williston for an award of funds, and received \$2,500.00. Tools and equipment are being donated by Northwest State Correctional Facility to the NWTC as they are eliminating their automotive program at the prison – total value is \$22,600.

The consent agenda was adopted.

7. **Old Business**

8. **New Business**

- D. Climate Survey – James Farr explained that in the spring the board promised to do a climate survey for Fairfield. Kevin Dirth added that there will be a presentation on a program that we are piloting on student leadership. Part of this pilot program includes doing a climate survey for all the schools. It makes sense that we do all the schools at the same time. Joan Cavallo explained more about the pilot program. These surveys will be done in November for all students grade three through twelve. The Center for Creative Leadership out of North Carolina is providing this to us free of charge due to Martha Waddington willing a multi-million dollar benefit for school leadership to the organization. There are two components: student leadership and climate. The Board questioned whether this will meet the needs of the climate survey promised to Fairfield. Kevin was asked to get another established climate survey to see if all the questions we need are included. It was also asked who should be surveyed in Fairfield – parents and community members were included when the original issue was brought up.
- E. 2017 Vermont School Board Association (VSBA) Exceptional Board award – James Farr announced that this Board was awarded the Exceptional Board Leadership award. It will be given at 12:15 lunch at Lake Morey on Thursday October 19. Kevin Dirth read the criteria for the award, and expressed his kudos to the Board.
- F. Early Retirement – Kathy Finck reported that there were three requests, and the side letter allows up to five. She suggested the Board consider allowing more time for others who may be inclined.

Michael Malone made a motion to accept early retirement for the three letters received: Susan Jette, Debra Bushey and Coreliss Pratt; and to extend the deadline until November 15, 2017 for further applications; second by Steven LaRosa. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Other Business**

- G. Warrants

Michael Malone made a motion to approve the warrants; second by Jack McCarthy. The motion passed unanimously.

- H. Administrator's Report - Leeann Wright reported that she had included a written report and would be happy to answer any questions. Kevin Dirth said that he really likes the format of using the Mission Statement and fitting the work within those parameters.

- I. Principal's Voices – Leeann Wright thanked everyone for coming. Lisa Durocher said she is working with the Grand Isle Workforce Investment Board (WIB) on a grant to provide CDL Training. The grant request is \$24,500. Chris Mosca reported drama teacher has begun work and is already working with students. Mr. Mosca was shadowed by the Ukrainian exchange student which provided interesting exchange of insight. On October 11th the BFA Business department and businesses partnered for a financial night which was very successful. Angela Stebbins attended a Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBiS) Leadership forum with two teachers. They are implementing tier two, and received an award as well. The solar panels are all installed, and the official kick-off will likely be first week in Nov. Joan Cavallo reported that SACS has been accepted as a satellite conscious discipline location, so conscious discipline will be coming to Vermont. They had a visit from Erica Campbell from Senator Sanders office, who viewed programs including farm to school, and expressed positive feedback that use of grant money was used for things becoming self-sustaining. Sean O'Dell also had a visit from Erica Campbell to look at the outdoor classroom and farm to school. Fairfield will have a training for para professionals Thursday on autism spectrum and behavior issues. The Harvest dinner coming up. Dr. O'Dell is working with partners to get a grant to help with food insecurities. Fairfield had a fire safety visit last week, as well as an author visit from Kate Messner. Heather Fitzgibbons said parent teacher conferences are scheduled for the next two days. Guidance has a senior college application breakfast scheduled. Jason Therrien reported that Puppets in Education did a presentation for K-4 students. It was well attended by parents and grandparents as well. Stacie Rouleau reported a successful spelling bee. Students are getting ready for their economics projects. Shannon Warden reported teachers will be working with their aligned proficiencies by calibrating assessments and rubrics within their curriculum. They are sending paraeducators to an Asperger's spectrum workshop through Northwest Counseling Supports and Services (NCSS) at Enosburg Elementary School. On October 26 there will be a College and proficiency based learning forum to talk with families on the impact on learning and applications for college.

10. **Agenda Items for Future Meeting:** SBAC presentation Nov 1st; climate survey; policies, feedback on the Award.

11. **Potential Executive Session**

12. **Adjourn 7:18 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted

Brenda Comstock