

**HUUSD Board Meeting
12 October 2016
Harwood Library
6:00 PM**

Approved Minutes

Attendance

Board: Christine Sullivan, Chair; Rosemarie White, Garrett MacCurtain, Alycia Biondo, Maureen McCracken, Alexandra Thomsen, Gabriel Gilman, Jim Casey, Peter Langella, Heidi Spear, Sam Jackson

Administration: Brigid Nease, Superintendent; Michelle Baker, WWSU Director of Finance and Facilities; Sheila Soule, WWSU Director of Curriculum; Donarae Dawson, WWSU Director of Student Services; Lisa Atwood, HU Co-Principal; Jean Berthiaume, Fayston Elementary School Principal; Stephanie Hudak, WDSB Principal; Denise Goodnow, Thatcher Brook Principal; Beth Peterson, Warren School Principal, Kaiya Korb, Waitsfield Elementary School Principal

Public: Nicole Mace, VSBA; Emily Simmons, VSBA; Lara Seaberg, minute taker; MRV-TV camera operator

Call to order: Chair Christine Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM.

There was a moment of silence for Eli Brookens, Janie Cozzi, Liam Hale, Mary Harris and Cyrus Zschau.

Additions/ Deletions to the Agenda: Brigid Nease added her update on the tragedy to the agenda after the VSBA training.

Approval of Minutes: Christine Sullivan requested that the following corrections to be made to the 28 September 2016. In the board member attendance Gabriel is spelled incorrectly. In #1 under *Information Items* it should say Christine, not Catherine. #2 in *Information Items* should reflect that new members to local boards need to run for election in March and cannot be appointed. The name Gene in #3:3 under *Information Items* should be spelled Jean. Rosemarie White moved to approve the minutes as amended. Alycia Biondo seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Information Items

A. HUUSD Banking Documents: Michelle Baker requested approval for the establishment of a banking account for the HUUSD with People's United Bank and acceptance of the associated banking resolutions. Heidi Spear made a motion to approve the establishment of an account for the HUUSD at the People's United Bank and the acceptance of the associated banking resolutions. Maureen McCracken seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with no abstentions.

B. Workgroup Reports:

Facilities Committee: Rosemarie White shared that the HUUSD Facilities Committee held their first meeting prior to the HUUSD Board meeting. The Committee decided it will meet monthly for now on the second Wednesday of every month prior to the HUUSD Board meeting. The intent is to rotate where the meetings are held to become familiar with each of the facilities within the Unified District. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for

November 9th at 3:30 and will be held at Harwood Union which will also include a tour of the facilities and fields.

Communications Committee: Heidi Spear informed the Board that the Communications Committee sent out information about their activity on the press release, and that at the next meeting they will have a revised survey and cover letter to send to parents and are working on news information for the school newsletters.

Discussion Items

- A. **VSBA Training:** Nicole Mace of the VSBA offered the condolences of the VSBA. She gave the Board training on *The Essential Work of School Boards*. She first asked each member to introduce themselves and share if they have been previously on any board or not and if so, how long and why. She also asked each member to share why they joined the HUUSD Board, what excited them about it, and what they might be apprehensive of with a unified board. Topics of training and discussion included the vision of the Board, using resources as well as Roles and Responsibilities. The training ended at 8:07 PM.

Brigid Nease gave an update on the tragic loss of Liam Hale, Janie Cozzi, Mary Harris, Cyrus Zschau and Eli Brookens and how things are at the high school. She provided information for personal memorial services and funerals and a community Celebration of Life at Harwood for all 5 students. The Celebration of Life will be Monday, 24 October 2016 at 6 PM. Superintendent Nease informed the Board that the PSAT the junior class was scheduled to take on Saturday, 15 October has been rescheduled for Wednesday, 2 November 2016. She shared with the Board the overwhelming outpouring of support from around the state. She shared information on fundraising for the families. The Superintendent's office has endorsed the Mad River Community Fund and its "Five Families Fund". As of the meeting National Life had donated \$10,000 to the fund. Alycia Biondo asked what was appropriate for the Board to do in light of the tragedy. There was some discussion about how the Board could reach out. Alycia Biondo shared that her mother who makes stained glass has offered a memorial piece if the student body would like one. Gabe Gilman thanked Brigid Nease, the Harwood administration and staff. Their work and care during this tragedy are very much appreciated by the Select board of Moretown and the service of the select board is available if needed.

Brigid Nease invited the Board and those present to visit the memorial made by the students in the school.

On a motion made by Heidi Spear and seconded by Maureen McCracken the Board voted to adjourn at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lara Seaberg
Minute taker