

**VINALHAVEN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**November 20, 2019**

**MS Science Room**

**Warrant Signing: 6:00 PM**

**Business Meeting 6:30 PM**

Board Members Present: Renee Jones, Rachel Noyes, Alexandra McCarthy, Caitlin Claphan, Laura Lazaro

Members of Administration Team Present: Superintendent/Principal Tonya Arnold, Assistant Dean/Lead HS Teacher Bryan Feezor, Assistant Dean/Lead Elementary Teacher Blake Reidy

Member of the Public and Staff Present: Alanzo Hoose, RJ Jones, Nicole Hoose, Bianca Barroso, Patti Burgess, Bri and Zach Dorr, Alison Thibeault, Samantha Thompson, Danielle Poole, Kris Osgood, Susan Philbrook, Jill Oakes, Jessica Farrelly, Megan Day, Aubri Hoose, Kristi Butler, Mae Applegate, Richard Carlson, Dawn Spears, Ginger Swears and Lil Saul.

1. Call to order by Chair Renee Jones at 6:33 pm
2. Action on minutes of October 16, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**Motion R Noyes/second A McCarthy to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

3. Adjustments to and Approval of the Agenda

Add approval of French trip (Susan Philbrook will explain) to New Business

Add approval of WIF Committee members for 19-20 school year to New Business

Kate Elmes  
Mark Jackson  
Carol Thompson  
Sue Radley

Move Executive Session to last item

**Motion L Lazaro/second A McCarthy to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items

A concern was raised about the hiring process for coaching positions when there is more than one applicant. Some of the audience members made supportive statements about the candidates. One person asked if we could put a procedure in place and have it published.

The current process used was explained.

A concern was also raised by a candidate about being told in the past that he could not volunteer as a parent to help coach.

A Board member shared that, when they were a parent of a Vinalhaven athletic student, they too were also told volunteers to help coach were not allowed. This was understood to be a common practice to help keep clear lines about who is the coach and minimize confusion and pressure for athletes. As we understand it, that is still the standard process or rule for Vinalhaven.

One person asked if there will be an update on school bus driver situation.

#### 5. Student Leadership Report – Tim Farrelly and Ben Burgess

Students appointed officers for the first time - Corey Lazaro -Secretary, Hannah Newton - VP, Tim Farrelly -President.

Spirit week in the works

Senior Group went to DC trip and shared highlights

HS College trip included Bangor, UMO, EMCC, UNE, USM and some other schools.

More will be presented next month at the December Board meeting.

#### 6. School Leaders Report

Blake shared pre-k 5 work on family and community engagement goal and shared a copy of their newsletter, including highlights about what students felt were their favorite from each grade, and the literacy teacher shared ideas that parents can do to help students at home with literacy skills, she also shared the agenda of skits from assembly last Friday.

Bryan shared that MJ Augusto and Dreyenn Osgood were nominated for the MPA All Star Team. Successful parent teacher conferences just wrapped up, practices for play A Christmas Carole is in full swing, and have been reviewing credit status checks toward HS graduation for this year's senior class to ensure students have as much time as possible to navigate any issues.

#### 7. New Business

Action item: Senior Trip Approval (Megan Day parent volunteer sharing summary and Ben and Tim presented a video about San Antonio, Texas they are planning for April 17-April 25 for 9 students and 2 chaperones, river walk, and historical sites. Activities like visits to the Alamo, Museums of Arts, Guinness World Records Museum, Caverns, ziplining, zoo, Corpus Christi beach, a national historical park, are some options they hope to set up.

#### **Motion C Clapham/second R Noyes to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Action item: ~Approval of appointments for stipend staff

Graduation Coordinator \$500, split as follows:

- Carolyn Augusto \$200
- Bianca Barroso \$200

- Jennifer Feezor \$100

**Motion Rachel Noyes/second L Lazaro to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Winter Coaches

- Lil Saul \$1150- MS Girls Basketball
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**Motion Rachel Noyes/second C Clapham to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

- Bruce Philip \$1050 – MS Boys Basketball

**Tabled to next meeting, when Sandy Nelson can be present.**

Action item: French trip (Susan Philbrook explained that they want to go to Paris and Normandy, expect about 15 to go in June right after school ends)

**Motion R Jones/second A McCarthy to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Action item: Approval of WIF Committee members for 19-20 school year

Kate Elmes  
Mark Jackson  
Carol Thompson  
Sue Radley

**Motion C Clapham/second R Jones to adopt (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Discussion item: Lice procedures (this is not a school board level policy)

Action item: First Read of following policy amendments  
due to legislative changes 9/19/19:

- VH-AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- VH-AC-R Grievance Procedure for Persons with Disabilities
- VH-ACA Gender Neutral Language
- VH-ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
- VH-ACAA-R Student Discrimination and  
Harassment Complaint Procedure
- VH-ACAB Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees
- VH-ACAB-R Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint  
Procedure
- VH-ACAD Hazing
- VH-JICK Bullying

**Motion for consent agenda approval of all policies listed above as a first reading  
A McCarthy/second L Lazaro to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Action item: ~Set date for next regular meeting (Wed Dec 18)  
Dec 4 at 5:30 will be a special meeting for executive session  
and approval of winter coaches.

Discussion item: Superintendent evaluation

Action to modify (as a first read) item D of Policy CBI-VH to state -

- “2. The Board will seek written assessments using an evaluation form and standards from (5) five randomly chosen school employees.
3. The Chair will develop a summary evaluation from *Board* members’ written opinions as well as summaries from the randomly selected District employees. “

**R Jones/second R Noyes to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

Action to adopt the new evaluation questions to be posted as a procedural document.

**A McCarthy/second C Clapham to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

#### 8. Old Business

Discussion item: Code of Conduct JIC-VH

A grid showing each offense under the levels for review was shared.

Action item: Second Read of Amendment to Facilities Use policy KF

**Motion R Noyes/second L Lazaro to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0)**

#### 9. Superintendent Report

The school bus needs \$1300 in repair in order to be put back on the road. In addition, we currently do not have any driver candidates who have completed the medical and background clearances, employment application, and shown proof of bus license.

Enjoyed and appreciate the work teachers put into enhancing classroom instruction with special guest such as the Telling Room, library visit by the comic book author, and other visiting artists to inspire our students. Our students were very engaged during my visits to these classes.

Jess Woods proctored the ASVAB test for 20 students and there a plans to integrate these results into career exploration and planning activities.

We continue to review the Code of Conduct and shared a grid of each category and the progression across levels of consequences. A list of supportive level 1 responses has also been developed and shared with staff.

More than 11 DOE required reports were completed which take many hours of work at all levels to complete and verify data for each.

Hundreds of pages of documents are due this week for the ESEA Title Grant audit.

The Priority Team has met and are making plans to use and share the data from the surveys conducted last spring as well as to pursue goals and requirements based on our status with the DOE between the last cycle of priority school identification and the new cycle beginning next year. We will be contacted by the DOE soon if we are

identified in the next cycle as a Tier 3 school based on the screening criteria.

We have been working daily as a team to reduce significant repeated behavior issues in the MS level, and will be improving our RTI and SAT systems and record keeping.

A huge thank you to the community for helping make the book fair so successful. The most money ever has been earned this time. Huge kudos to Susie and all the other staff and students who volunteered their time and energy to help.

Our staff collaborations are also focused on how to build trust, spheres of influence, and collaboration on behavior expectations, management and responses. Parallels are drawn when skills or research can be shared with students so they learn self-awareness and emotional regulation strategies as well.

Facilities update included door install completion with some minor corrections made by the very responsive vendor, key pad installation is on hold due to style of door unexpected incompatibility. The roofing vendor did a very good job with preventive maintenance. A propane issue after Alan changed the tanks warranted service including a change to the regulators and switch over to autofill. The prior issues should be alleviated. If there are any discharges of the smell in the future, we will call 911 and evacuate.

Reading at Carver's Cemetery to the children for Island Readers & Writers was very enjoyable. The Widow Island Fund Awards have been published. We are fortunate to have so many organizations and volunteers support the children of Vinalhaven.

10. Other (none)

11. Executive Session (1 MRSA, Sec 405(6)(A))

**Motion to enter session as stated at 8:11\_ R Jones/second L Lazaro to approve (Vote passed 5-0-0), came out of executive session at 8:57**

12. Adjournment at 8:58