

## Joint School Committee Meeting

September 18, 2013

### Present for the Committees:

Region: John O'Reilly, Ed Brookshire, Cheryl Codair, Ed Lewis, Jon Porteus Jayne Fowler, Sue Skidmore

Brewster: Trish Hill, Brenda Cazeault, Donna Kalinick

Eastham: Ann Crozier, Mary Lou Sette, Laura Freeman, Amy Handel

Orleans: Ed Rohmer, Eric Ehnstrom

Wellfleet: Terri Frazier, Jan Plaue, Mort Inger, Betsy Pontius, Jill Putnam

### Present for the Administration:

Dr. Hoffmann, Keith Gauley, Ann Caretti, Tom Conrad, Diane Carreiro, Scotti Finnegan

### Call to Order

Dr. Hoffmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and nominations were accepted for the Chair of the Joint Committee. On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Jon Porteus, it was voted 20 yeas, 1 abstention (Ed Lewis) to appoint Jan Plaue as Chair of the Joint School Committee.

Jan Plaue then asked for nominations for the Chair of Union 54. Mort Inger nominated David Telman and there was no second. Hearing no other nominations, this was tabled until the October meeting.

Jan Plaue asked for nominations for the Vice Chair of the Joint Committee. On a motion by Laura Freeman, seconded by Brenda Cazeault, it was voted unanimously, 21 yeas, to appoint John O'Reilly to the position of Vice Chair to the Joint School Committee.

The detailed agenda was reviewed and the Chair asked the committees to discuss the possibility of having the Chairs be a subcommittee to review the Superintendent for his mid-cycle review, once they had gathered evaluations from their committees. Discussion ensued.

On a motion by Eric Ehnstrom, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted, 20 yeas, 1 nay (Ed Brookshire) NOT to form a subcommittee of the chairs at this time.

After further discussion, the Chair indicated the Superintendent's evaluation will be completed the same way as last year unless someone comes up with a better way to simplify it. Chair Plaue reminded the committee that the Superintendent's evaluation was discussed in May and in July with Mike Gradone giving a presentation about streamlining the process.

Dr. Hoffmann indicated that minutes and notes in May, as well as the summer meeting, suggested limiting the number of goals from 2-4, instead of 7 like last year. Mr. Gradone also suggested the committee have measureable goals and a feedback mechanism from parents and teachers. (this could be exit slips, surveys, etc.) It was also suggested that the number of elements be limited. Dr. Hoffmann decided to

keep with the 12 elements but changed a couple to comply with suggestions made by the committee in the last evaluation.

The Superintendent presented and reviewed the 10 elements for the evaluation which included:

Standard 1 – Instructional Leadership

I-A-1. Standards-Based Unit Design

I-C-2. Adjustment to Practice

I-D-1. Educator Goals

Standard II – Management and Operations

II-A-3. Student Safety, Health, and Social and Emotional Needs,

II-B-2. Induction, Professional Development, and Career Growth Strategies

II-E-1. Fiscal systems

Standard III – Family and Community Engagement

III-A-1. Family Engagement

III-A-2. Community and Business Engagement

III-C-1. Two-Way Communication

Standard IV – Family and Community Engagement

IV-A-1 Commitment to High Standards

IV-C-1 - Communication Skills

IV-F-3 Consensus Building

Member discussion ensued highlighting the need for a survey. The committee would also like to see the questions before they go out to parents and staff. It was suggested that in the future a bulleted list of elements be brought so that members could decide if they wanted something other than what was submitted.

Motion: On a motion by John O'Reilly, seconded by Ed Brookshire, it was voted 7 yeas, 0 nays, to accept the 12 Elements as presented.

Union 54 members voted to accept the 12 elements as presented. (Brewster – 3 yeas, Orleans – 1 yeas, 1 abstention, Ed Rohmer, Eastham – 3 yeas, Wellfleet – 3 yeas.

Discussion regarding ways to poll the population ensued. Jill Putnam suggested using NAEYC surveys that Nauset used years ago. It was also noted that Eddy School Council does a survey each year, and/or using an objective company to manage the survey. Betsy Pontius suggested that less is more and the committee should focus on working on some pieces of evidence. (common assessments, survey) It was suggested a simple survey with 8-10 questions would be best.

Chair Plaué suggested that members come back with something at the October Joint Meeting or work on this at individual school committee meetings. (decide which things are meaningful to school committee). Mr. Ehnstrom applauded Dr. Hoffmann for embracing the process even though it is daunting. Members shared their support of using a survey with 8 – 10 questions and would like to know the questions before the survey is disseminated. Dr. Hoffmann suggested using “School Wires” where you can purchase their survey for \$1,000. Ann Crozier asked that a paper document be given out as not everyone has a computer.

The Superintendent reviewed his goals as well as his action steps. Goals are listed below.

#### Professional Practice Goal

The Superintendent will provide leadership, resources and support to administrators and teachers in order to promote family, community, and school committee engagement in the schools. By May 2014, 75% of respondents (parents, community organizations, and school committee members) will report that they feel welcomed, well informed, and involved in their child’s education or school/district as measured by documentation of outreach efforts and production of informational materials as well as analysis of data collected from parents, community organizations, and school committee members through surveys and focus groups. (*Action: run workshop on Professional Development Day – Six Ways to involve parents with their children and measure that*)

#### Student Learning Goal #1

In conjunction with the piloting of District Determined Measures of student learning required by DESE in 2013-14, we will increase the percentage of students in Grade 2 across the District who are at or above grade level in mathematics as measured by Nauset’s Common Math Assessment and a Criterion Referenced Assessment from a commercial vendor. Pre and post student assessments and student work samples will be collected and analyzed. (*It was suggested Smart Goals be used as they can be measured. Collecting baseline data to see if students’ skills are improving from October to January to June. Piloting a commercial assessment to compare to the Nauset Common Assessment.*)

#### Student Learning Goal #2

By May of 2014, the incidence of disciplinary action for bullying related issues for students in Grades 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 will decline by 20% as measured by disciplinary referrals and administrator/teacher feedback on a survey. (*Using the DESE reporting, analyze the number of bullying incidences and get them to decline using programs like “Character Education and Calmer Choice.”*)

#### District Improvement Goal

By January 2014, a District-wide Technology Plan will be written and approved the School Committees. The Tech Plan will articulate the vision, goals, action steps, and resources needed to increase and enhance the use of technology as a tool of teaching, learning, communication, and data management. The quality and viability of the plan will be evaluated through input and feedback from administrators, teachers, staff, and school committee and community members. (*Include a PreK to Gr. 5 piece. Dr. Hoffmann noted the Region has contracted a firm to come and assess the Region technology which will be reported out in*)

*October.*) Trish Hill suggested that specific language relative to financial sustainability be included in the plan.

Dr. Hoffmann explained that the curriculum will be unified K-12, as is with all curriculums.

Motion: On a motion by John O'Reilly, seconded by Mort Inger, it was voted unanimously to accept the four goals as written with the several suggestions that were noted, namely, financial sustainability, unified vision, and reflect what you are doing. The Superintendent will re-write.

Chair Plaue indicated this should be an on-going event at individual school committee meetings and that if members have an idea, they should email the Superintendent. She suggested we tweak things as the Superintendent tweaks things. She reminded everyone that they should not feel that they cannot make comments and suggestions this meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Sue Skidmore, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann M. Tefft*

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