

Dorset Board of School Directors
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
The Dorset School, Dorset, Vermont

In Attendance: Judy Adams – Assistant Superintendent, Jennifer Allen, David Chandler – Board Chair, Dan French – BRSU Superintendent, Vickie Haskins, Rosanna Moran – TDS Principal, Jim Salsgiver

Absent: Bob Allen

Audience: None

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 8:48 PM by Chairperson David Chandler.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to accept the minutes of the September 27, 2011 Board meeting was made by Jim Salsgiver. Motion seconded by Vickie Haskins. All were in favor of approving the minutes, motion carried.

3. Report of the Superintendent of Schools

a) Discussion/Action – Tuition Requests – Superintendent French presented the Board with a list of Secondary Tuition requests, which he recommended be approved. Ms. Haskins asked if any of the students requesting tuition are new to the district. Mr. French went through the list of seven requests and reported that one student has recently moved to Dorset from Red Hook, NY, and the others are not new to the district.

A motion to approve the Secondary Tuition requests for 2011 - 2012 was made by Vickie Haskins. Motion seconded by Jim Salsgiver. All were in favor, motion carried.

b) Discussion – Ends Policy Process – The Board discussed the success of the evening's Ends forum with the community. Ms. Allen volunteered to transcribe the data from the large pieces of paper that were on the tables and compile it in a document that can be shared amongst the Board members on Google Docs. Mr. French suggested that the Board may want to form a sub-committee to review and analyze the data. Mr. Salsgiver offered to draft a thank you note to the participants of the forum, as well as compile the collected email addresses. Mr. Chandler suggested that the Board get a story in the Manchester Journal including information about the forum, process and showing the blog address, in order to keep people involved and informed.

Mr. French recommended that the Board come up with a timeline including tasks, and said that the Town Meeting in March will be a great opportunity to present the analysis to the community.

Ms. Allen reported that she heard a couple of forum participants ask where the teachers were. Mr. Chandler replied that this needs to be addressed up front and the community needs to know that the teachers are working on this process as well in different forums and they were purposefully not at the community forum.

Mr. Chandler suggested other events – one held in the afternoon, which might be more accommodating for parents and one in which the students can provide input.

4. Report of the Principal

Ms. Moran shared a hard copy of her Principal's Report, as follows:

Mr. Salsgiver reported that the Recreational Facilities Committee's grant application is in, however, due to Tropical Storm Irene, the application timeframe was extended to allow submissions for flood relief. The decision will be announced at the end of December 2011.

Mr. Chandler reported that he has met several times with Ms. Moran to check in and be sure she is having a smooth transition. Since he doesn't currently have students at TDS, this is the best way to keep his finger on the pulse of the school.

Ms. Allen asked Ms. Moran how the new system for lunch and milk money is affecting Ms. Mosby in the kitchen. Ms. Moran replied that since Ms. Ferson left several years ago, there has not really been a clear communication between the office and kitchen about how many lunches need to be made based on lunch money collected, so there has been no effect on the program from the new system being implemented.

5. Employment: Appointments/Resignations

a) Discussion – Hiring Update – Mr. French reported that a new paraprofessional, Deborah Christmas, has been hired.

6. Directors' Orders and Financial Statements

Reviewed and signed by Board members and returned to Superintendent French.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

Chairperson David Chandler adjourned the meeting at 9:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Renee Bornstein

Dorset Tech Upgrades

Network

2 HP ProCurve 40-port switches (@1500)	\$3,000
Security appliance to handle fiber connection	\$2,500
2 NAS storage devices to replace file server (@800)	\$1,600
New wireless routers (@100)	<u>\$1,000</u>
	\$8,100

Much of this is essential hardware to support the increased bandwidth from the fiber. At the same time, I would recommend removing the current directory server and not run directory services at all. Internal file storage would be handled by the NAS devices. DNS and DHCP would be handled by the security appliance. A spare workstation could be setup to handle centralized anti-virus deployment for Windows workstations.

Teacher Laptops

Business class Windows 7 laptops (@500)	\$11,000
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Purchased in FY2012 from current funds.

1:1 for Students

Linux netbooks or Chromebooks w/case (@400) grades 5-8	\$35,000
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Go with free a OS to reduce price. Also no AV costs. Standardize office suite on LibreOffice and Google Docs to eliminate MS license fees.

DANBY
DORSET
MANCHESTER
MT. TABOR

BENNINGTON-RUTLAND SUPERVISORY UNION

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PAWLET
RUPERT
SUNDERLAND
UNION DISTRICT #23
UNION DISTRICT #47

TO: Dorset School Board
FROM: Daniel M. French, Superintendent
SUBJECT: Tuition Requests for the 2011-2012 School Year
MEETING DATE: November 22, 2011

We have received the following secondary tuition requests. I recommend you approve these requests.

STUDENT	TO ATTEND	REQUESTER	ADDRESS	PREVIOUS SCHOOL
Buckley, Henry	BBA	Sara Buckley	3518 Route 30	Rye HS, Rye, NY
Cole, Britney	BBA	Mary Lou Colvin	336 Kirby Hollow Rd.	BBA
Corvino, Cara	BBA	Michael Corvino	811 Dorset West Rd.	BBA
Coulter, Valerie	BBA	Tammy Coulter	365 Mad Tom Rd.	BBA
Emerson, Christina	BBA	Scot Emerson	249 Benedict Rd.	BBA
Hansen, Lucas	BBA	Michelle Hansen	2598 Route 30	BBA
Hansen, Jesse	BBA	Michelle Hansen	2598 Route 30	BBA
Hathaway, Ryder	BBA	Hathaway, James	2844 Route 30	BBA
Heaton, Adam	BBA	Don/Patricia Heaton	2677 Route 30	Northfield Mt Hermon
Limoges, Shannon	BBA	Linda Limoges	83B Culver Ln.	BBA
Plitt, Russell	BBA	Monica Datz	488 West Branch Dr.	BBA
Stannard, James	BBA	Sheri Stannard	1836 Dorset West Rd.	BBA

Enrollment as of November 16, 2011—165

Information and Activities:

- NECAPS were packed up and sent back on October 26th.
- The Dorset Teacher Association's Electronic Recycling on Saturday, October 29th netted 1850.00 which will be donated to the school technology fund.
- We have placed an order for laptop computers for the teachers. Dan is working with us on a plan for the infrastructure of the school so that we can support whatever technology we need.
- Our Family Movie Night, sponsored by the DPV was very well attended. We had a bonfire and many great casseroles, soups and chili for snacks.
- We had a lot of positive feedback from parents at the resurrection of our Halloween Parade. We followed the parade with cider and donuts in the gym.
- Wednesday, November 16 was our annual Thanksgiving Celebration. We had over 200 parents attend. The food was delicious, and we had an opportunity to showcase some of the produce from our own school garden!
- I accompanied our eighth graders to BBA on Tuesday, November 8th
- Our Haiku website is now live, but definitely a work in progress. We are also working on implementing Jupiter for report cards. This is a learning curve for the teachers, but they are approaching it proactively, and seeing some positive possibilities of the combination of the two systems.

Personnel:

During the past month we have hired the following staff members:

Deborah Christmas—special education paraprofessional, first and third grades

Charlie Martelle—full time night custodian

Dylan Parker—Boys' Basketball Coach

Professional Development:

On November 1, the teachers on the Grade 4-6 team attended a Response to Intervention workshop at the Reading Institute in Williamstown, MA. It was excellent, and we will be utilizing ideas from it as we approach our scheduling for next year.

For three days in January and three in March, our K-3 teachers will attend a course on Leveled Literacy Interventions. We are also looking to increase the number of leveled textbooks in our bookroom.