

AGENDA



**Addison Central School District
Communications and Engagement Committee
Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 9, 2023, 9:00 am - 10:00 am
49 Charles Avenue, Middlebury VT & Virtual Connection**

ACSD District Vision and Mission

OUR VISION

All students will reach their full academic potential and be prepared for success as engaged citizens.

OUR MISSION

To provide an innovative, rigorous, and supportive educational community that inspires a passion for learning and cultivates empathy and responsibility.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Link to join Webinar

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88125919678>

- A. Call to Order Upon Reaching A Quorum
- B. Introductions: Board Member, Administrators and Staff
- C. Approve the Agenda
- D. Public Comment
- E. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of January 12, 2023
- F. Committee Discussion:
 - 1. Engagement with ACSD "Friends of" School Groups
- G. Communications around Superintendent Search
- H. Other Business
- I. Adjournment

***Public Comment Guidelines:**

Public comments are encouraged and welcome at each regular board meeting during the period designated for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. Citizens will be called to make their statement by the board chair. Public comments regarding personnel, students or legal matters will not be heard by the Board.

MINUTES



**Addison Central School District
Communications and Engagement Committee
Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 12, 2023, 9:00 am - 10:00 am
208 Charles Avenue, Middlebury VT & Virtual Connection**

In-Person Attendance

Joanna Doria; Lindsey Hescok; Mary Heather Noble

Remote Attendance

Mary Gill

Not In Attendance

Brian Bauer

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Link to join Webinar

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81357888828>

1. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum

Meeting called to order at 9:15 a.m.

2. Introductions - Board Members, Administrators and Staff

Emily Blistein, ACSD Director of Communications and Engagement also present.

3. Approve the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Move: Joanna Doria Second: Mary Gill Status: Passed

4. Public Comment

No public comment.

5. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of December 15, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes of December 15, 2022.

Move: Joanna Doria Second: Lindsey Hescok Status: Passed

6. Committee Discussion:

a. Board Voicemail Messages

Mary Heather Noble shared that she has been checking the Board voicemail every Monday and also checked them on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. There have been no new messages since the last meeting.

b. Feedback from Community Conversations on Strategic Plan

Mary Heather Noble shared the latest feedback from the Strategic Plan Community Conversations and Feedback Form. The task before the committee is to compile everything to be able to share with both the full Board and the Strategic Planning Action Team.

Mary Heather asked how the group would like to organize/present it -- she is envisioning a document that could also be posted online, and wants to make sure that both the Board and the Action Team can see when questions or concerns are expressed multiple times, as this is often an indicator of a problem or miscommunication. She also asked for help from the group to get the task done. Joanna Doria volunteered to compile all the materials, starting with the Google document that Mary Heather shared from the feedback provided during the virtual Community Conversation on December 7th. The group discussed organizing the feedback and Q&A's into a few buckets: Verbal feedback during community conversations; feedback form survey responses; emailed feedback; and written paper feedback. Mary Heather will also check recent Board meeting minutes to look for any comments made about the Strategic Planning process and goals. Joanna's goal is to compile the materials by January 19th so the document is ready for the Action Team's first meeting on January 23rd.

Emily Blistein suggested creating a standing Strategic Plan Q&A document to maintain on the Board's website. She also asked about where to direct people who have additional feedback, now that the Action Team is moving forward with its planning. The group agreed to have the Action Team handle questions in this phase of the strategic planning, though any questions or suggestions re: engagement can still be directed to this committee.

Emily also asked about incorporating Chris Kramer's FOIA request into this summary -- Joanna suggested further organizing the feedback summary chronologically so this request can be memorialized in the summary. Mary Heather noted that it seemed to be focused on how exactly the Action Team was selected. Emily noted that she will also share her update summary from Monday's Board meeting to illustrate how members of the Action Team were selected.

c. Quarterly Board Update

Committee members reviewed and provided feedback on the draft board update document. Mary Heather Noble said that she was still waiting for the Board Chair introduction section from Victoria, but expects to get that later today.

Lindsey Hescock said that she would like to see reference to Peter Burrows's announcement about looking for another position and an upcoming Superintendent Search. Mary Heather said that she would advise Victoria to incorporate that into the introduction. Lindsey also said that she was glad to see the work of the Negotiations Committee to resolve the issue of Michele Steele's request for paid sabbatical leave. The Board has received so many emails and comments about this -- it's important for people to see this response.

Lindsey and Mary Gill noted the need to include the most recent policy action that was postponed from the last Board Meeting -- E1 Title 1 Part A Public Involvement Policy. Mary Heather agreed -- it will likely be approved before this update goes out.

The committee discussed needing to include information on Peter Conlon's vacated Board position, so interested people can express their intent to be considered for the

appointment. There were questions about the timeline and process to determine a deadline for letters of intent -- Mary Heather will ask Victoria about the details so the information in the Board Update is current and accurate. The current plan is to have the Board meet and interview candidates at the January 23, 2023 meeting, deliberate in executive session, and then return to open session to hold a vote.

Emily Blistein said she can post the announcement in the District's Friday newsletter for the Cornwall Elementary School. Mary Heather also mentioned that we should ask Peter Conlon to post the vacancy announcement in the Cornwall Front Porch Forum section. Mary Heather will create an announcement for both Peter and Emily to share.

7. Other Business

Mary Heather said that she would like the next committee meeting to focus on getting the group on the schedules of ACSD's various "Friends of" parent groups to establish a routine of less formal engagement with our schools. She asked for assistance in reaching out to the contact people to initiate that process -- Mary Gill stepped up and said she would write and email to introduce the committee and request time in one of their meetings. She will share with the committee prior to sending.

Lindsey mentioned an opportunity to connect with ACSD's senior community -- all of the area retirement communities have event calendars that the C&E Committee can use to post upcoming engagement events. We can also aim to send Board Updates for their community leadership to share among residents, since many of them volunteer in our schools or were former employees.

The next committee meeting will be scheduled for February 9, 2023 from 9-10 am. Focus will be on informal engagement with parent groups.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Motion to adjourn.

Move: Joanna Doria Second: Mary Gill Status: Passed

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