

MINUTES

**Addison Central School District
ACSD Board
Board Meeting
Monday, May 8, 2023, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
130 School Road, Shoreham 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.

In-Person Attendance

Barbara Wilson; Brian Bauer; Ellen Whelan-Wuest; James Malcolm; Jamie McCallum; Joanna Doria; Lindsey Hescocock; Mary Heather Noble; Steve Orzech; Suzanne Buck

Remote Attendance

Ellie Romp; Jason Chance; Tricia Allen

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88694621677>

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching A Quorum

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. Barb Wilson opened the meeting by reading the ACSD Mission and Vision Statements.

1. Introductions - Board Members, Administrators and Staff

ACSD Administrators and staff present: Will Hatch, Director of Technology; Nicole Carter, Director of Equity and Student Services; Caitlin Steele, MUHS Principal; Matt Corrente, Director of Finance and Operations; Heather Crowley, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent; Andy Johnson, Principal of Shoreham Elementary School; Jennifer Muskopf, Classroom teacher at Shoreham Elementary School

2. Public Comment

Tanya Scuteri of Shoreham made a statement to acknowledge the work of the 5th graders in their IB exhibition projects, and gave a special shout out to Zylar, whose project was about Gender Equality and Prevention of Domestic Violence. They are unable to be here tonight because they're leading a self-defense class at CSAC.

B. Discussion: Shoreham School Presentation

Jennifer Muskopf introduced a few 5th graders, and provided an overview of the culmination project their grade has been working on. Students were put into groups and chose a project tied to a UN Sustainability Goal. Students created their own lines of inquiry generally structures around identifying a problem, researching what is being done to solve the problem, and then tying the broader issue to the local community by interviewing a community mentor whose work centers around this issue. The students then gave a presentation of their project, which focused on Food Insecurity in Vermont.

Principal Andy Johnson took the opportunity to thank the students and especially Ms. Jenn for all her working into making the inquiry-based projects and student exhibitions successful.

C. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of: 3/27, 3/31, 4/6, 4/10, 4/11, 4/13, 4/18, 4/19, 4/24, 5/3

Barb Wilson noted that the minutes from the 3/27 and 3/31 had already been approved at a prior

Board meeting, so the Board only needed to approve the minutes from meetings of 4/6, 4/10,

4/11, 4/13, 4/18, 4/19, and 4/24 (most of these involved special board meetings for superintendent interview activities). The minutes from the 5/3 board meeting were not included in meeting materials, so those minutes will be approved at a later Board meeting.

Mary Heather Noble requested that the motion for approval of the minutes bundle the dates together since they are mostly recordings of the Board going into Executive Session for personnel/Superintendent search and interview activities -- this is easier for her to record in Boardpaq.

There was some discussion about how those board members who missed one or more of those meetings should vote or abstain. Consensus was to vote on them as a bundle.

Jamie McCallum abstained.

Motion to approve the minutes of 4/6, 4/10, 4/11, 4/13, 4/18, 4/19, and 4/24 regular and special board meetings.

Move: James Malcolm Second: Joanna Doria Status: Passed

D. Approve ACSD Bills

James Malcolm reported 2 sets of bills:

The first set was read & reviewed by James Malcolm and Jason Chance on 4/17/2023.

General Fund: \$446,841.87

Transportation for Mary Hogan School:
\$3,850.63 Payroll: \$881,490.17

The second set was read & reviewed by James Malcolm and Jason Chance on 5/1/2023.

General Fund: \$915,037.30 (mostly VEHI Health expenses and \$125K in transportation) Additional Transportation Bill: \$368.50 Payroll: \$902,596.20

Motion to approve payment of the ACSD Bills as presented.

Move: James Malcolm Second: Suzanne Buck Status: Passed

E. Report of the Superintendent

Barb Wilson reported that Peter Burrows is home with COVID, so she provided a quick summary of what he had hoped to share:

End of year events include Teacher Appreciation activities this week, elementary school field trips and outings, including 5th-graders at Keewaydin Environmental Education Center. MUMS had a dance last Friday for 6th & 7th graders, and will host an 8th grade dance this Friday 5/12. MUHS prom is this Saturday 5/13. The promotion days for rising 6th graders and 9th graders are in May and June, respectively and MUHS graduation is June 10th.

Other highlights include the end-of-year exhibitions of IB PYP and MYP culmination projects for

5th grade and 10th grade -- Barb read a list of several projects and outreach/advocacy work ACSD students have done under this assignment. Examples included learning sign language, mental health advocacy in school, building a school-wide chicken coop, Green-Up Day activities, leading petitions for Gender Equality, Clothing Swaps, and other social service projects. Finally, the first IB Newsletter has been sent to ACSD families, with the hope of providing additional information about the IB structure, and efforts that the District is initiating to survey

students, teachers and families to evaluate the effectiveness of the IB program for ACSD students.

Steve Orzech reminded the Board to please make an effort to attend the MUHS graduation if their schedules allow. Mary Heather Noble and James Malcolm agreed, and also noted the inclusion of Board members in the MUHS Awards ceremony on June 9th. James explained the tradition of the School Board and ACSD Administration leading the entire MUHS student body past Mary Hogan School students into the Memorial Sports Center for the awards ceremony. This is also another great opportunity to show support as a Board member. Barb Wilson requested that Heather Crowley summarize the events and activities related to graduation and share them with Board members.

Mary Heather Noble mentioned the 10th grade project exhibition last week and how well attended it was -- the event is a great showcase of the wide variety of student interests, and suggested that it somehow be recorded and shared on the website for those community members who can't take time off of work to attend.

Caitlin Steele mentioned that Kurt Broderson of MCTV recorded the event and that the recording can be shared. She also acknowledged that if Board members can't make it to graduation, please rsvp 'no' on the invitation so those seats can be given to other people in the community.

1. Professional Appointments

In Peter's absence, Caitlin Steele introduced Courtney Krahn as ACSD's new Director of Teaching and Learning to fill her vacancy next year. Courtney is returning to ACSD after only a year as an Assistant Principal at Charlotte K-8 school. She spent many years teaching at MUMS, then served as a MYP curriculum coordinator for the IB program here in ACSD. She is very well-liked and respected among her peers -- everyone is extremely pleased to have her return. Courtney Krahn said a few words about her experience and expressed her excitement about returning to ACSD for this opportunity.

Motion to approve the Professional Appointments for the '23-'24 academic year as presented.

Move: Suzanne Buck Second: Steve Orzech Status: Passed

F. Report of the Board

1. May 9th Board Training

Barb Wilson reminded Board members of the Board training scheduled for 5/9/2023 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Dinner is included. She asked Board members to complete the rubric for the board training to provide their perspectives on how the Board is doing. She also reminded members to read the sections of The Governance Core book that will be referenced in the training.

2. Interim Superintendent Search Update

Mary Heather Noble provided a brief update on the Interim Superintendent Search. The last she checked there were 8 applicants, 4 of whom currently have Superintendent Certification here in Vermont. However, John Gratto sent an email just before this meeting, so there may be a few more. She has forwarded the materials to the Ad Hoc Search Committee for their review.

The Search Committee includes Suzanne Buck (Chair), Steve Orzech, Joanna Doria, and

Jason Chance from the Board. The ACSD administrators on the committee will include Nicole Carter and Heather Raabe, and the ACSD teacher who volunteered is Megan Sears, a classroom teacher from Mary Hogan School.

Suzanne Buck reported that the committee will be meeting in person on Wednesday, 5/10 from 4-5 pm. She expressed concern that she has already heard rumors about who is being considered for the position, so she strongly cautioned committee members to keep the search process confidential.

G. Other

Barb Wilson asked Committee Chairs to provide a quick update on their Committees.

Steve Orzech reported that the Negotiations Committee has met, and that the process is underway.

James Malcolm reported that the Finance Committee has also met to review the 3rd Quarter report. It appears that the District is on track to have a \$1 Million fund balance. Matt Corrente prepared a report that is included in the meeting materials if anyone wishes to see it.

Suzanne Buck reported that the Policy Committee met and needs to coordinate with Caitlin to identify priority policies for review. The Committee is also looking at revisiting Policy E-1 Parental Family Engagement so all members have a clear understanding, and D-3 regarding responsible computer/internet use. They are also following potential gun control legislations to see how that might impact/result in new policy.

Mary Heather Noble reported that the communications around the Interim Superintendent Search has been mostly handled by her, Barb and Emily, and that the Communications & Engagement Committee is finishing a quarterly Board Update to issue now that the process for selecting an Interim Superintendent has been established. She is hoping to get that completed/ready for distribution this week. Next they will be working with Emily to review the Board-related content on the website for accuracy to make sure that everything is up-to-date. The District will be launching its new website in June, so the Committee is aiming to spend the next month working on updating that material.

Jason Chance asked about all the reports and other supporting documents and materials related to the Facilities Master Planning process. Mary Heather acknowledged the importance of maintaining access to those artifacts from the process, and that the C&E Committee will need to coordinate with Emily and the Facilities Committee to make sure how the information is filed/presented on the website makes sense.

Jason Chance also reported that the Facilities Committee has been working on developing a strategy for what it can reasonably accomplish in 2024 under an Interim Superintendent -- what can be taken on and what might need to wait in terms of bond development, etc. The Committee has also been receiving regular updates on the MUHS Kitchen renovation -- which is on-track for completion before the fall.

Finally, Suzanne Buck brought up the SEPAC-sponsored event on May 10th about Act 173 and how the changes to special education in Vermont will affect ACSD families. Childcare will be provided -- led by a paraprofessional teacher, and supported by volunteer MUHS students. The presentation part of the program will be recorded on Google Meet.

H. Executive Session: Interim Superintendent Search - Personnel 1 VSA 313 (a)
(3) Not needed.

I. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Heather Noble,
Board Clerk

Motion to adjourn.

Move: Suzanne Buck Second: Joanna Doria Status: Passed

*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.