MINUTES

Addison Central School District
Communications and Engagement Committee
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
49 Charles Avenue, Middlebury VT

ACSD District Vision and Mission

OUR VISION
Our vision is for all ACSD students to reach their full learning potential, have a sense of belonging in our schools, and enrich our community and the communities where they live in the future.

OUR MISSION
Our mission is to provide high-quality, equitable, and varied learning environments that inspire a passion for learning and growth among our students.

In Attendance
Mary Heather Noble; Tricia Allen

Not In Attendance
Ellie Romp

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum Meeting called to order at 4:38 p.m.

B. Introductions: Board Members, Administrators and Staff

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

C. Public Comment - Agenda Items No public comment.

D. Recommendation to Approve the Minutes of September 6, 2022 Motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2023.

   Move: Tricia Allen Second: Mary Heather Noble Status: Passed

E. Committee Discussion:

   1. ACSD Voicemails

      Mary Heather Noble reported that she has been checking the Board voicemails on a weekly basis -- every Monday. Since the last Committee meeting, there was only one message -- it was a reporter from VT Digger looking to contact the Board Chair to discuss the issues around Esther Charlestin's Op-Ed about

racism at MUMS. Mary Heather notified Barb, and found out that Barb had already talked to the reporter. She last check message on Monday, October 9th, and there were no new messages.

2. Website Updates for FMP Page

Mary Heather Noble, Tricia Allen, and Emily Blistein reviewed some of the remaining website updates that had not yet been made, including revisions to the "About the Board" page and the "Policies and Procedures" page. Mary Heather also shared some feedback that the Facilities Committee provided about organizing the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) page -they would like to see this content accessible from the Facilities Committee portion of the Board Committee page, so that people can find all of the FMP information and artifacts in a more logical spot. The Facilities Committee would prefer to have these presented as links to separate pages, rather than having them embedded within the Facilities portion of the Board Committees page (nobody wants to obstruct the information for the other committees). Emily mentioned trying to restrain from creating too many su-pages, because that creates a challenging issue with webpage maintenance, but she said she would attempt to organize it better.

Mary Heather said the C&E Committee needed to make some revisions to the introduction section of the FMP page, and also needed to update the FAQ's section. The Facilities Committee would like to keep all of this content accessible, but all agreed that the material should be updated to be relevant. The C&E Committee will make some edits to those parts of the FMP page before asking Emily to update and move links to the Facilities Committee description.

3. Autumn 2023 Board Update

Mary Heather and Tricia reviewed the Committee Updates portion of the draft Autumn 2023
Board Update letter. Mary Heather is still waiting for Barb Wilson's introduction to the update
-- the C&E Committee is in agreement that the intro should welcome Dr. Tim Williams as the
Interim Superintendent, provide the timeline for the final superintendent search, and acknowledge the recent conversations in the community around equity, racism, and student behavior challenges at both Mary Hogan and MUMS. This acknowledgment is important. The intro can communicate that the Board is listening, and is working to incorporate these concerns into the Strategic Plan.

Mary Heather will share the revised draft with the group again after receiving the Chair's intro, and then share with the full Board prior to distribution.

F. Other Business

Mary Heather outlined upcoming work over the next few months:

- Communications & Engagement around the Superintendent Search,
- Planning for a public outreach/meeting this winter as part of Budget planning conversations,- Connecting with the Friends of groups to offer listening and Q&A sessions at their meetings during the winter,

Tricia Allen also mentioned the possibility of encouraging Board members to attend other school and community events -- the C&E Committee can announce some upcoming events at the next Board meeting. Tricia also suggested having the Board do a coordinated gesture of gratitude for educators prior to the Thanksgiving Break. Mary Heather agreed -- and will mention during the Committee Updates part of the next Board meeting.

G. Public Comment - Any Topic

No public comment.

H. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Heather Noble, recorder

Motion to adjourn.

Move: Mary Heather Noble Second: Tricia Allen 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.