

Farmington River Regional School District

School Committee Meeting

Meeting #433

Farmington River Elementary School Library
Monday, June 26th, 2023
7:00 PM

Special Meeting

MINUTES

Masks Optional
Call in number to listen only; community participation requires being in person.
Phone number: 605-313-5711 Access code - 7622376

Members Present: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, Carl Nett

Also Present: Eric Jesner (via Zoom), Robert Putnam, Caroline Stamm

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Denise Hardie
 - A. **Roll Call:** Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, Carl Nett
- II. **Public Comment:**
 - A. There were no public comments at this time.
- III. **Acceptance of Minutes:**
 - Meeting #433 from June 5th, 2023
 - A. Carl Nett motioned to accept the minutes from meeting #433.
 - B. Phil Magovern seconded the motion.
 - C. **VOTE:** Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to accept the minutes from meeting #433.
- IV. **July Meeting Date**
 - A. The next School Committee meeting is currently scheduled for July 3rd. There was interest in moving the meeting to later in the month due to close proximity to this meeting and the 4th of July holiday. Historically, there has yet to be a meeting in July.
 - B. Carol Lombardo motioned to change the next meeting date to July 10th, 2023.
 1. Deb Fogel seconded the motion.
 - C. Carl Nett motioned to change the next meeting date to July 17th. There was no second.
 - D. **VOTE to change the July meeting to July 10th, 2023:** Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to change the date of the July meeting to July 10th.
- V. **Subcommittees:**
 - Assignment of Subcommittees
 - Assignment of Subcommittee Chairs
 - Overview of Duties
 - A. Denise Hardie distributed the Subcommittee assignments. The Committee discussed a few changes to the assignments and next steps for the Subcommittees.
 1. SCHEDULING MEETINGS:

- a) The Subcommittees shall meet quarterly at a minimum, though other meetings can be scheduled on a project-based need.
- b) The initial Subcommittee meeting shall include the Superintendent. The Superintendent's attendance in subsequent meetings is optional unless the Subcommittee requests the Superintendent to be present.
- c) The Subcommittee agenda and minutes should be posted on the website and with each town.

2. IDENTIFYING CHAIRS:

- a) POLICY: Denise Hardie volunteered as Chair of the Policy Subcommittee.
- b) FINANCE: Phil Magovern volunteered as Chair of the Finance Subcommittee
- c) BUILDING/FACILITIES: Douglas Miner volunteered as Chair of the Building/Facilities Subcommittee.

- B. The RAAC is not a Subcommittee - it is an advisory committee. The RAAC has not had any formal meetings yet.
 - 1. Denise Hardie will follow up with John Sylbert, Chair of the RAAC, to discuss what the RAAC is tasked to do and how to proceed.
- C. The Committee discussed the importance of the Finance committee and bringing TMS up to speed.
 - 1. TMS will be present on campus on Wednesday, 6/28, to meet with Rob, Eric, and Paula before they depart from the district.
 - 2. TMS made a proposal to temporarily cover some of Paula's job duties, which will allow the District more time to fill the vacancy.
- D. The Committee discussed the impact of the policy handbook on our middle and high school students, who are also required to follow the policy handbook of their respective schools.

VI. School Committee Summer Retreat:

- A. Denise Hardie brought up the idea of having a School Committee Summer Retreat hosted at her home to allow the Committee to discuss how they do business, their processes, how they work together, etc. Since this is a public meeting, their agenda/minutes must be public.

VII. MASC/MASS Joint Conference:

- A. MASC/MASS Joint Conference is a yearly joint conference with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. It is held this year from November 8th - 10th in Hyaniss.
- B. Denise Hardie spoke with the District's representative and was able to coordinate sponsoring a few Committee members to attend.

VIII. 2023 - 2024 School Calendar:

- The School Committee will vote to accept the 2023 - 2024 School Calendar

- A. VOTE to change Christmas Break to December Break:
 - 1. Carl Nett motioned to change "Christmas Break" to "December Break"
 - 2. Denise Hardie & Melissa Bye seconded the motion
 - 3. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to change "Christmas Break" to "December Break" on the 23-24 School Calendar.
- B. The Committee discussed listing Good Friday and other Faith-Based holidays on the calendar and decided that only the holidays that affect attendance in school should be listed. Other holidays will be recognized in another way.
- C. VOTE to accept the 2023 - 2024 School Calendar (as ratified):

1. Carol Lombardo motioned to accept the 2023 - 2024 School Calendar (as ratified).
2. Deb Fogel & Douglas Miner seconded the motion.
3. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to accept the 2023-2024 School Calendar (as ratified above).

IX. Superintendent's Work Agreement:

- Review Superintendent's Work Agreement

- The School Committee will vote to accept the Superintendent's Work Agreement

A. VOTE to accept the Superintendent's Work Agreement:

1. Carl Nett motioned to accept the Superintendent's Work Agreement
2. Carol Lombardo Seconded the motion.

B. The School Committee discussed any changes to the Superintendent's Work Agreement:

1. Dupere, the Committee's law office on retainer, is still working to review the contract.
2. Vacation days vs. contracted working days
3. Professional Development

C. VOTE to amend the number of contracted working days from 94 to 100

1. Carl Nett motioned to amend the number of contracted working days from 94 to 100.
2. Phil Magovern seconded the motion.
3. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to amend the number of working days from 94 to 100 in all applicable sections (sections 5, 7, & 8)

D. VOTE to strike the last sentence in section 10: "Total reimbursement..."

1. Carl Nett motioned to strike the last sentence of section 10: "Total reimbursement for superintendent travel shall not exceed \$XX in a fiscal year."
2. Phil Magovern seconded the motion.
3. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to strike the last sentence of section 10: "Total reimbursement for superintendent travel shall not exceed \$XX in a fiscal year."

E. VOTE to approve the Superintendent's Work Agreement with the amended changes:

1. Carl Nett motioned to approve the Superintendent's Work Agreement with the amended changes to Sections 5, 6, 8, and 10 (as listed above).
2. Carol Lombardo seconded the motion.
3. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to approve the Superintendent's Work Agreement with the amended changes to Sections 5, 6, 8, and 10 (as listed above).

X. Executive Session:

- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares

- A. Deb Fogel motioned to enter into the executive session at 7:59 PM.
- B. Carl Nett seconded the motion.
- C. Roll Call: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, Carl Nett

XI. FRREA Contracts:

- The School Committee will vote to accept the FRREA Contract

- A. Phil Magovern motioned to ratify the FRREA/ESP Contracts with the agreed clarification of the COVID payment and the ESP Article 8 on the working year start date.
- B. Deb Fogel seconded the motion.
- C. VOTE: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, and Carl Nett were in favor. There were no objections, and the motion passed to accept the FRREA/ESP Contracts with the amended changes to the COVID payment and the ESP Article 8.

XII. Other items for discussion not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours before the meeting

- A. BHRSD Tuition Agreement:
 - 1. Carl Nett would like to review the contract we have received from BHRSD and would also like the District's lawyer to review the contract before signing it.
- B. Transportation:
 - 1. Rob is gathering information from BHRSD and LMHS to have a more comprehensive contact information database moving forward.
- C. The School Committee would like to thank Rob Putnam for all he has done for this School Committee as he departs from the district at the end of this month.

XIII. Agenda Items for July 2023 School Committee Meeting

- A. No agendas to add at this time.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn:

- A. Douglas Miner made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM
- B. Carol Lombardo seconded the motion.
- C. Vote - Roll Call: Melissa Bye, Deb Fogel, Denise Hardie, Carol Lombardo, Phil Magovern, Douglas Miner, Carl Nett

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Stamm