

Isle au Haut School Board
Minutes of December 27, 2023

Members Present: Rita MacWilliam, Chair, Mike Fedosh, Sharen Wilson, Kathie Fiveash, Patricia Barter

Staff Members Present: Dan Ross, Superintendent; Marcela Carroll, teacher

Citizens: Peggi Stevens, Selectboard; Ellen Fedosh; Alvah MacWilliam

The meeting was called to order at 6:04

Adjustments to the Agenda: Action Items – Policy Distribution; Meeting Dates
Phone numbers and addresses of members

Minutes of November 21 approved Sharen/Kathie 4-0 with 1 abstention

Citizen Comments: Peggi – Selectboard members will alternate attending school board meetings

Teacher Report

- Ideas for PE after swim classes end: winter outdoor activities; bowling; climbing gym twice a month; community member to lead ball skills/gymnastics/games in Town Hall gym; Dan will contact Jane O'Connor, PE teacher in Deer Isle to have students join a class in Deer Isle – she will contact Marcela
- Ski trip discussion – Marcela will continue to look for a contact at Sugarloaf about student lessons; Peggi will contact Crystal to see if she has any suggestions; MOTION: “The Board approves the ski trip authorizing the Superintendent to use up to \$5000 from the Pie Account.” Kathie/Sharen 5-0 Dan and Marcela will work out the details
- Music Invoice – Pie money will cover the invoice for Mabel Ellis

Superintendent's Report

- Art teacher – Dan and Marcela are working together on finding a candidate for the art position

- Financials – table until January meeting; Question about the roofing project – the job is complete
- Gutters – SU76 workers came out and put up viable gutters and getting quotes for replacement parts to complete the job

Discussion Items:

- Policy review – 1st reading of Policy BCB – Board member conflict of interest. Second reading will be at the January Board meeting
- Board Communications – The Board should not conduct business over the internet. The internet is used to share information. Board members should not share emails from the board email outside of the board because the intent may get misinterpreted or information may not be complete. If Board members have concerns or questions they should contact the Board Chair and/or Dan Ross, Superintendent. Dan is always available to Board members.

Action Items:

- Teacher Interview Committee
 - Dan shared information from Maine School Management about new regulations in the hiring process. Board members are not part of the interview committee.
 - Due to the Island circumstances, the recommended interview committee led by the principal and including teachers as well as parents and community members is not applicable.
 - Dan looks to the Board Chair to organize the committee instead of a principal.
 - Dan will be an acting member of the committee.
 - Steps to be taken:
 - Choose a committee
 - The SU76 office will develop a file of candidates and their material that will be available only to committee members. These files cannot be taken home or shared.
 - At the initial meeting, Dan will review the duties of the committee including confidentiality. Members will review and

discuss the candidates and decide who should go on to the next level of consideration.

- The committee will decide on the format of the meeting with candidates. One recommendation is to have the candidates prepare a 10-15 minute presentation to present themselves as a candidate for the teaching position. They can be done over Zoom. No formal questions will be used at this time.
- After the presentations, the Committee will then decide who will have a formal interview.
- The Committee, including Dan, will determine the logistics of this interview including teaching a lesson, formal questions and set up a Community Time to meet the candidates. Abigail Hiltz will be asked to chair the community input session.
- The committee using lesson and interview and community input will recommend to the school board a candidate. The committee may also decide to continue the search.
- The school board recommends a candidate to the superintendent.

- Committee Members

- After input from the Board and Peggi the following people have been chosen: Dan Ross, superintendent; Rita MacWilliam, board chair; Tricia Barter, board member and parent; Kyle Devereux, selectboard member and parent; Rachel Clark, parent, Paula Greaterex, educator. The Board will post to the community a request for anyone who would like to serve. Community members will contact either Rita or Dan by Jan. 2. Rita and Dan will review requests and select a 7th member. Rita will contact individuals on this list to ask them to serve. Dan, Rita, Tricia and Kyle have already accepted membership.

- Policy Distribution

- Kathie and Rita will meet the first week in January to discuss how to distribute policies to Board members. Board members available at this time to review policies are Kathie, Sharen, Mike and Rita.

- Custodian
 - The current custodian, Laura Devereux has resigned and a replacement has been found. Dan is working out the transition with all parties and will inform the Board when the process is complete.

- Board Members and Dan will share their phone numbers with Board Members.

- Meeting Dates: Monday, January 22 at 6pm; Monday, February 26 at 6pm; and Monday, March 18 at 6pm.

Motion to Adjourn Sharen/Tricia. The meeting adjourned at 8:11.

Respectfully submitted, Rita G. MacWilliam