

Union Board of Education

Union, CT 06076

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Union School Library

Also via Zoom

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Andrea Estell.

Attending: A. Estell, A. Blank, R. Fischetti, E. Fournier, J. Garden, J. Kavanagh
Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary
Others Attending: L. Demurjian, V. LaMonica

Approval of Minutes

A. Estell made a motion to approve the minutes from April 13, 2022. Seconded by E. Fournier. R. Fischetti abstained. Remaining members unanimously approved.

Individuals to be heard-none.

Communications-none.

Administrative Reports and Activities Summary

a. Superintendent and Principal's report-Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported that SBAC testing is underway for grades 3-8. Testing concludes next week. The State Department unveiled their model curriculum for grades 6-8 in math and financial literacy. Lower level models to come later this year. Sup./Prin. Jackopsic gave a shout out to grades 7 and 8 for raising ~\$350.00 for the tag sale they held last weekend. Recently he made an inquiry regarding the process used to appoint representatives for Rockville Vo-Ag. We will be renewing our contract with our current cleaning company. They will continue with current rates until February 2023. Upcoming events at the school include: a field trip to Boston for grades 7 and 8, SEL Leadership recognition, Spring Showcase, Field Day, a field trip to Mystic Seaport/Mystic Aquarium, a fishing field trip to Bigelow State Park. Interdistrict grants continue in grades 3 and 4 and middle school.

b. Staff report- Mr. LaMonica reported that he is pleased with staff support and that it has been a great year. His Learning Leadership collaboration with P.E. teacher, Mrs. Pitruzzello has gone well. He is also collaborating with Art teacher Mrs. Hull on the Spring Showcase on May 26. Student artwork will be on display as well as student musical performances. The Saltmarsh Opera Company recently visited the middle school students to prepare them for their upcoming visit to the opera next Tuesday.

Committee Reports

a. Curriculum- none.

b. Communication- none.

c. Transportation- none.

d. Personnel- none.

e. Building- Electrician has been in to migrate lighting in the school to LED lights. Exploring possibility of installing LED lighting in the gym. Currently getting quotes for a lift to change lights. Possibility of anti-sludge treatment in oil tank discussed.

f. EASTCONN- will be holding their annual meeting later this month.

Financial Report

a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.

b. 2021-2022 Board of Ed Budget- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported that we are still in the black with 7 weeks left in the fiscal year. He listed possibilities where the money could be spent including: lighting in the gym, indoor air quality testing, installing a loudspeaker outside, additional security cameras, replacing broken smartboards, sealing the parking lot, laptops, preschool equipment, playground equipment, lunch tables. Adjustments are being made on the Title IV grant. New access points should arrive by June.

c. 2022-2023 Board of Ed Spending Plan- the Town Budget has passed. We received the CT Partnership rates for the coming year.

Old Business

a. Tuition Students- BOE members reviewed handouts of sample policies. Sup./Prin. Jackopsic reported notes from the Advisory Group meeting. They discussed marketing, sibling discount and features such as project based learning and individualized learning plans. The Board will continue discussions in future meetings.

b. Preschool Structure- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic made a recommendation and asked Board members to approve a one year pilot program to accept 3 & 4-year olds for Preschool and a combined K-2 classroom for the 22-23 school year. A. Estell made a motion for a one-year pilot program to expand the preschool to ages 3 to 4 and adjust the kindergarten, first and second grade classroom structure for the 22-23 school year. J. Garden seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 2 abstaining.

New Business

a. Memorials- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic met with two families of former Union students who lost their children to design a memorial. A stone wall with blue stone engravings will be built in their honor at the school. He made a recommendation to the Board to have the structure built. E. Fournier made a motion to build a memorial wall for Wesley Woronecki and Dustin Hurd at the school. A. Blank seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

Individuals to be heard- none.

Adjournment

Motion by to adjourn at 8:46 pm. by A. Estell. J. Kavanagh seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.