

Oyster River Cooperative School Board Special Meeting Minutes DRAFT
June 27, 2011

Present: Jocelyn O'Quinn, Henry Brackett, Ann Wright, Ann Lane, Jim Kach, Krista Butts

Also Present: Danielle Bolduc, Sue Caswell, Meredith Nadeau, Howard Colter, Todd Allen, Jay Richard, Mike McCann, Dennis Harrington, Kris Gallo, Laurie Grant
(10 visitors were also present)

Henry Brackett called the meeting to order at 10:05

Discussion: SAU Administrative Model

The Board and Superintendent Colter discussed the current SAU administrative model that includes 2 directors of instruction and the future of this structure given the need to fill the current opening with an interim or permanent candidate. So far, Supt. Colter has received 10 applicants to fill Meredith Nadeau's position.

Krista Butts made a motion, seconded by Ann Lane, to lay this question on the table. This motion, Krista explained, was made because she does not believe this discussion can be fruitful and the future interim superintendent will be unlikely to make any changes to the structure without knowing our district.

Supt. Colter questioned whether this motion addresses a multiyear contract and Krista replied that it does not address that, it simply lays the motion on the table and clarified that it supports moving forward with the current model.

Ann Wright agreed that we should move forward with the existing model.

Jim Kach believes that the model should be discussed at a later date.

The motion passed 5-1 with Ann Wright voting against.

Supt. Colter commented that it would be unfortunate if the district moves forward with the hire and then has a discussion about the future of the model. So he is going to put the search committee on hold until the Board has that discussion.

Krista withdrew her motion. She discussed how her motion was intended to move forward with hiring of the position as soon as possible, while avoiding the Board discussing the current structure which in her view would be micromanagement.

Ann Wright commented that's why she wanted the item on the agenda so the Board can direct the Superintendent on how to proceed.

Supt. Colter reported that he has identified someone well qualified to help with this job temporarily and we'll need a meeting soon to appoint this person.

Ann Lane mentioned that she is concerned about this agenda item as it is not the role of the Board to discuss this model.

Jocelyn O'Quinn commented that she supported the motion because she supports the model now, but can't predict the future, it is the new superintendent's job to determine that.

Jim Kach commented that he believes the district needs a new model going forward.

Henry Brackett encouraged Supt. Colter to move forward with the hiring.

Supt. Colter expressed concern about moving the committee forward without assurances about the future.

Krista Butts made a motion, seconded by Ann Wright, to support a 2 year contract for the position of Director of Instruction.

Jocelyn O'Quinn supports this motion because it would fill the role but not attempt to predict an uncertain future.

Jim Kach commented that he does not support multi-year contracts for administrators and Ann Lane agreed.

Krista Butts believes that a new superintendent would conduct due diligence before making any changes to the structure and this motion supports that. Ann Wright agreed with Krista.

Henry Brackett commented that the permanent Superintendent should make the decision the future of the district.

The motion passed 4-2 with Jim Kach and Ann Lane opposed.

The Board and Supt. Colter then discussed the interim process, and the need to have a person in place as soon as possible as an acting superintendent and then hire the interim as soon as possible.

Henry Brackett updated the Board on the process to date, the interim interviews are continuing over the week and he hopes to have final candidates for a public interview next week and an announcement about that meeting is forthcoming.

Henry Brackett made a motion to move into non-public session citing RSA91-A:3 II (b), seconded by Jim Kach.

The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote (6 Aye, 0 Nay).

The Board returned to public session at 11:45. Krista Butts made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ann Lane, with the motion passing 6-0.