

Superintendent Search Workshop – October 25, 2011

ORHS – Room C124 5:00pm

Attendees:

Henry Brackett	Jim Kach	Lee Levesque
Jocelyn O'Quinn	Krista Butts	Ken DeBenedictis - NESDEC
Megan Turnbull	Ann Lane	Ann Wright

Public Attendees:

Kenny Rotner, John Collins, Stephanie Adams, Jennifer Rief, JoAnn Portalupi

Call to Order 3:05pm

Ken went over the agenda for the meeting.

Jocelyn began reviewing the announcement that she and Megan drafted. Megan reviewed the paragraph that she added (paragraphs 5 and 6.) Ann Lane gave some suggestions as to additional modifications. The Board agreed on the letter moving forward with modifications. Ken asked Krista to send the modified version to him ASAP so th.at it can go out by the weeks end.

At 3:21pm Ann Wright joined the meeting

Ken then asked the Board to look at the advertisement. Ken stated that the announcement is intended to provide a lot of information while the ad is only intended to catch people's attention. It is intended to be a lot shorter and succinct. We decided to modify the third paragraph to include wording more representative of what was included in the announcement. The Board agreed on the ad as modified.

Ken then asked to speak about the community focus groups. The Board spoke about having School Board, Administrators, Teachers/Support Staff, Government and Business Leaders, Parents of School Age Children, Residents/Community Groups, Students. We agreed to move forward with these seven groups. Ken agreed to provide ORCSD with 7 focus groups at no additional charge. Ken also said that he could make an email address available for town officials that may have conflict with the time or date of the process will begin 11/7. The proposed dates and times are: 11/14 @1:00pm – Students; 11/14 @ 3:30pm – Professional and Support Staff; 11/14 @ 6:00pm – School Board; 11/8 @ 6:30pm – Residents and Community; 11/8 @ 4:00pm - Government and Business Leaders ; 11/10 @ 6:30pm Parents of School Aged Children; 11/10 @ 3:30pm – Administration; Ken then administered the copy of the draft press release. It was agreed that the Communication Committee would meet to draft the focus group letters and press release.

Ken then asked the Board to consider the Screening Committee Composition. Ken recommended that we have 2 School Board members, 2 Professional Group/teachers Members, 2 principals (1 primary and 1 secondary), 2 Community Residents, 3 Town Leaders, 2 students, 1 central school admin, 2 business leaders.)

Krista Butts exited the meeting at 4:50pm

Megan suggested the following composition of 9; 2 school board, 2 teachers, 1 student, 1 principal, 1 residents And 2 parents

Jocelyn questioned the value of parallel committees

Ann L. suggested the following composition of 11; 2 community, 3 parents, 1 admin/principal, 2 teachers, 2 board and 1 student; community member to be senior/retiree & parent of non-school age; parent members should represent grades K/1, 4/5 and 9/10 grades.

Leon asked for clarification of the purpose of the screening committee. Ken answered that the screening committee moves candidates forward. Leon asked what makes a good screening committee? Ken said: Represents community; People should have a vested interest in what is good for kids; Bring experience to the process. Ken suggested that we could ask groups to submit own or ask for letters of interest. (stating what they bring forward)

Ken says he has heard from the board during the meeting the following compositions:

2 School Board

1 or 2 Staff

0-3 town leaders

1 or 2 principal

None for business

1to3 community or parents or not w/ or in school yet

1to2 students

Town residents?

Board should wrap up defining the screening committee composition by mid November, no need to decide tonight

Think through what numbers from each group do you want to bring forward-work for next meeting.

Then will need to decide how we will communicate with these groups.

Megan suggests that all nominated individuals will be submitted to, voted on and ratified by the board. Ken agreed.

Ken said that all screening committee members should expect an intense week of work- 16-18 hours, with multiple meetings.

Jocelyn asked what skills make a person best able to do the job. Ken agreed to write up a commitment expectation and desired skill set.

Megan had a question on process. Status and progress- community would benefit from periodic snap shots on the progress of the process. Provide reassurance/snap shot view for the community. Ken said that he would be limited by confidentiality, however would be providing progress updates.

Ken said the Timeline Calendar would be made available on website and hardcopy would be available. Expected the board to make screening decisions by mid November.

On November 14th following SB focus committee meeting, the board will discuss the screening committee (7:30pm)

Megan recommends no more than 11 people to form screening committee. Ann L. & Jocelyn agreed.

Jim Kach and Ann Wright left at 5:10

Motion to adjourn by Megan seconded by Jocelyn at 5:15pm. 4-0 approval (MT, JO, AL, HB)

Respectfully submitted by Krista Butts and Ann Lane