

MINUTES

**Addison Central School District
ACSD Board
Board Meeting
Monday, August 12, 2019, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
208 Charles Avenue, Middlebury, VT**

In Attendance

Amy McGlashan; Betty Kafumbe; Davina Desmarais; James Malcolm; Jennifer Nuceder; Lorraine Morse; Margaret "Peg" Martin; Mary Cullinane; Mary Gill; Peter Conlon; Suzanne Buck; Victoria Jette

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Peter Conlon, Chair.

1. Introductions - Board Members, Administrators, and Staff

Administration: Peter Burrows, Brittany Gilman, Caitlin Steele, Vicki Wells

2. Public comment

Millard Cox from Ripton - Have we voted on the 6th grade proposal to move them to MUMS? It is on the agenda. Joanna Doria from Ripton - Hope is to sustain its involvement. How do we see the public engagement moving forward?

Steve Kasch from Ripton - Looks forward to seeing roles that individual schools can play and be part of the process.

B. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of July 29, 2019

Appreciated the effort to assign comments to names and thank you. Looks like a play. Jen Nuceder would like to clarify something that she would like to have said. Keep MUMS and MUHS in mind but not as the centerpiece of the bonding.

Motion to approve the minutes. Desmarais abstained.

Move: James Malcolm Second: Amy McGlashan Status: Passed

C. Approve ACSD Bills

August 5, 2019 = General Account \$189,267.04; Payroll \$235,397.09 = \$424,664.13

August 12, 2019 = General Account \$169,285.01; Payroll \$30,967.24 = \$200,252.31

Move: James Malcolm Second: Victoria Jette Status: Passed

D. Report of the Superintendent

Administrative retreat last week and welcomed four new leaders to the district. Able to dig deeper and think about the big rocks that they will be working on. This year will be a critical year for finishing goals. Starting a new superintendent evaluation system and it will be finalized shortly. MYP and PYP will be approved this year. MYP by the middle of the year, and PYP by the end of the year. The business office received FY 2019 report back from the state and it was noted that this year they had the least amount of findings in many years. Welcome back is next week (8/21) starting at 8 AM.

E. Report of the Board

1. Action: Award Propane Bid

Brittany Gilman spoke about the rebidding process. It went back out to bid with more stringent requirements. Copy of contracts, certification of insurance. Received three bids back this year. Fyles Brothers does their own service vs. the other quote. It was her recommendation to go with Fyles. Motion to award the Propane bid to Fyles Brothers for the \$1.22 for the 2019-2020 School year. Fyles has had the contract since 1985.

Move: James Malcolm Second: Mary Gill Status: Passed

2. Discussion: Facilities Master Plan

The executive committee decided that as we move along with what we wish to include in the Facilities Master Plan we need to vote to add them to the plan. The Facilities Master Plan and the 6th-grade movement issue became very intertwined several years ago. It was seen as an opportunity to provide more academic alignment and opportunities for all students. The administration was asked to take a deeper dive to plan moving the 6th grade. Those that studied the issue came up with the conclusion that it made sense academically to create a three-grade middle school. However, when the report came back through the superintendent, the report and the academic piece made sense but it was a decision that would affect all schools. So it was decided that we look at the 6th-grade move in the context of all schools, academics, etc.

a. Action: Master Plan Recommendation on Capacity Study

The capacity study was to look at all schools? MUMS and High school are all set.

Chip Malcolm - if you remove one grade from each elementary school that really frees up a lot of space. What are we going to get out of the capacity study?

Dr. Burrows - the buildings really need a lot of work. So part of the study is looking at modeling transportation - what does this really mean, what conditions are our buildings really in. The capacity study would give us more information and how many students.

Amy McGlashan - the capacity would allow us to understand the utilization of the buildings, transportation etc.

Bruce MacIntire - a better word might be a feasibility study as you are looking for more information than how many students can be housed in each building.

Peter Conlon - utilization, capacity, will be in the description in the facility master plan.

Victoria Jette - do we still all feel the same about what equity is?

Jen Nuceder - last summer we spoke about what the administrator's version of a definition of equity and we felt that we could go along with this. Can we revisit the definition of equity?

Peter Burrows - The administrator's statement on equity is, "ACSD will ensure the allocation of resources as necessary to establish a foundation of instructional experiences and learning opportunities so all students can become principled, knowledgeable and caring citizens".

Peter Conlon requesting a motion.

Motion to fund and conduct a one-year Comprehensive Study to be included in our Facilities Master Plan with recommendations on design, capacity, utilization and potential operational considerations ensuring alignment to our vision of equity.

Move: Mary Cullinane Second: Jennifer Nuceder Status: Passed

b. Action: Master Plan Recommendation on Grade Configuration

Question if we vote on placing items into the facilities master plan, in actuality we could vote down the facilities plan. The future holds many unknowns. Dr. Burrows introduced the MUMS staff and noted that the movement of 6th grade to MUMS would be created for what works for the students. MYP and PYP design teams unanimously agreed to move the 6th grade to MUMS, however, they did not say when or how. By moving all 6th grade to MUMS they all have the same equitable academic practices. There were two models put forth; one being a self-contained 6th grade and they would be in a 6th-grade group, the 7th and 8th graders would continue to loop. A second option was to move away from looping and making the 6th-grade team, a 7th-grade team and an 8th-grade team. If approved they would start the year by building a team to fully flesh out how each proposal would look like and what would give the students the best educational opportunity. They would hope to have a model by the end of fall, but staffing etc, would take more time. Do we know that the implementation would be 2020 or 2021 school year? Two years means that you are pushing the change out, but two years allows people to adjust more readily. Two

would make more sense. Would the timeline be included in the facilities master plan?

Two years would be the greatest cause for celebration. Need to make sure that the 6th graders joining MUMS would allow for a more thoughtful and creative celebration. In 2 years you are really just developing the schedule, taking care of licensing, etc. But it also allows for 6th grade to visit and to experience the MUMS environment. The two-year period would allow for this careful planning. Logistics thinking about what the process is for a 6th-grade teacher who might like to stay in elementary school where others may want to move up.

Cannot leave it to open, if we leave a guidepost of two years it will make us do things right. Nailing the timeline down now will help with communication to the communication.

Motion to include the movement of the 6th grade to MUMS by the fall of 2021 with details to be flushed out by the board and placed into the Facilities Master Plan.

Move: Victoria Jette Second: Amy McGlashan Status: Passed

c. Discussion: Development of FMP FAQ

FAQ's - place the questions that people keep asking and an answer to each question. A) place the questions on the website and B) a small group to come up with the answers to the questions. Trying to keep the group small. It was suggested that Jen Nuceder, Mary Cullinane, Peter Conlon, and Dr. Burrows will be the group to answer questions. It would allow the board to have a place to hold answers. It also allows the board to say that they don't know or that they don't know the answer. Jen - would this be housed on the ACSD Facilities Master Plan tab. Dr. Steele has been very generous with her time to keep things posted. Does not want to add more work to people's everyday work. Allow a way for people to post questions.

Having the press tell the general public how to find this section to see if they can get answers to their questions. Target families that do not have email or computer usage at home. Do we have a way to find out how many people actually check into the computer web site?

3. ACSD Board Retreat Planning

Board retreat has been moved from the 19th to the 26th. David Epstein will be joining us about capacity, etc. 5 to 9 pm. Small group conversations, etc. Not a time to take any action. Agenda committee will get together next week and set the agenda for the meeting. Location is to be determined. Food will be arranged.

Email Peter Conlon with any thoughts about what we should discuss.

F. Other

How can we engage members of the community and bring them into the process? We are following the steps that we laid out in the Master Plan work but are slightly behind.

G. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Buck, Recorder

Subject to Board Approval

Move: Victoria Jette Second: Mary Gill Status: Passed