

Special Board Meeting of January 10, 2017

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Whitehall School District 4, 47 and 2 of Madison and Jefferson Counties was held on January 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Whitehall Middle School Library.

Board Members:

Michelle LaFontaine
Gina Ossello-Vice-Chair
Angie Davis
Sue Pullman
Paul Shaw

Administrators:

John T. Sullivan - Superintendent
Patti Drake, District Clerk

Visitors: Jack Smith and Britt McLean

AGENDA

ITEM:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chair, Michelle LaFontaine

Flag Salute

Approval of Agenda

Gina Ossello made a motion to approve the agenda.
Angie Davis seconded the motion.
In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, Gina Ossello, Angie Davis, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw
Opposed: None
Motion carried

Visitors

The visitors were welcomed to the meeting and were told that a public comment period for matters of a general nature would be held later in the meeting.

Public Comment

None

Superintendent Evaluation

Michelle LaFontaine compiled a summary of the evaluations that were filled out by board members.

1. General – scored all 1's and 2's. Some of the comments that meetings are conducted in a professional manner with respect to everyone. Mr. Sullivan works hard to keep improving himself and the District. He recognizes the needs of the school and promptly addresses them with the board. He is great to work with and our school has not run this efficient or effective in many years.
2. Policy – scored all 1's. This is done in an exemplarily manner. He keeps does a good job in keeping the board updated on policies. They think it is beneficial to review each section of the policies.
3. Meetings – scored all 1's. The board is informed ahead of time. Mr. Sullivan keeps in contact on a regular basis with the board. We need to have people stand at the podium to be more formal.

4. Budget – scored all 1’s. The board is pleased with the budget and with what we were able to purchase, it shows that we have someone qualified at the helm. He has done a great job in finding money. The multi-district agreement was a fantastic idea. He does an excellent job on knowing where our shortfalls may happen and where we can get money to supplement from.

5. Instruction – scored all 1’s. The board believes he has a good working relationship with administrators, and that he values all staff members. He is always looking for ways to better the District. Teachers are pleased with the early out trainings.

6. Personal – scored 1’s and 2’s. Mr. Sullivan is an inspiration to the staff and always seeks the best solution for all staff. He has handled tough situations with grace, patience and perseverance. The board appreciates the weekly updates.

Scored one 3 on #7 Delegates to staff as appropriate. He needs to delegate some of the duties instead of doing them himself.

7. Community Relations – scored all 1’s. He does a great job with public relations. He stays well informed with the economic changes in the community. The board is hearing many positive comments from the community about the school.

8. Labor Relations – scored all 1’s. There were no comments.

9. Student Services – scored all 1’s. Enjoy seeing him with the little kids. He is always looking for to make sure the students are in a safe environment.

10. Facilities/Transportation/Food Services – scored 1’s and 2’s. The facility looks better each year; the lunch program has improved but there still is room to improve. He needs to delegate some of the extra duties he does. Working well with Harlow’s.

11. Superintendent as instructional leader – scored 1, 2, 3, 4.

#2 Listens well to opposing viewpoints – sometimes you have already made up your mind. The board feels that sometimes he worries too much about public perception and doesn’t want to upset the apple cart and he takes it to personal. They believe he trusts the board, but doesn’t always hear what they are saying if it’s a possible conflict.

Scored 3’s and 4’s on #12 – Takes time for personal health and well-being. He needs to take some time off.

Michelle also commented that he is a great person, he has earned much respect and is a great leader.

ACTION ITEMS:

Renew/Non-Renew of Superintendent Contract

Gina Ossello made a motion to renew Mr. Sullivan’s contract. Sue Pullman seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, Gina Ossello, Angie Davis, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Sue Pullman made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Gina Ossello seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, Gina Ossello, Angie Davis, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Signed:

ATTEST:

Chairman

Clerk