

## Sharon Center School Board of Education

January 8, 2024 Minutes

A hybrid meeting of the Sharon Center School Board of Education was held on Monday, January 8, 2024 in the Library of Sharon Center School.

In attendance were Board members: Anne Vance, Philip O'Reilly, Nancy Hegy Martin, Plamen Petkov, and Kathleen Visconti.

Others in attendance: Lisa Carter, Superintendent; Carol Flaton; Lynn Mattoon; and Cindy Webb, Board Clerk.

Attendance via Google: Carol Tomkalski, Principal: Meghan Flanagan, Brian Ziegler and Heather Socci.

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

**Motion** made by Nancy Hegy Martin/2<sup>nd</sup> by Plamen Petkov to take the agenda as amended with tabling Item 8 - Day Care Request.

**Motion** made by Philip O'Reilly/2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy Hegy Martin to approve consent agenda. Discussion - Nancy Hegy Martin asked that old reports be removed from agendas. Philip O'Reilly had questions regarding the cash report and about adding another column to show where the report stood at this time last year. Motion carried with 4 yes votes (Anne Vance, Philip O'Reilly, Nancy Hegy Martin and Kathleen Visconti), 0 no votes (and one abstention (Plamen Petkov)).

Public Comment: none

Written Communication: Principal Tomkalski read a letter of resignation from Lilly Barnett, Art Teacher. The Board accepted her resignation with great regret.

Principal Tomkalski read a letter from Carrie Olsen, Sharon Day Care Director regarding an employee who had left their employment and their son is attending Sharon Center School. A letter from the parent is needed to request their son to attend Sharon Center School for the remainder of the school year.

Philip O'Reilly asked that all written communication be acknowledged by the Board. The Board acknowledged receipt of an email on December 12, 2023 from Meghan Flanagan.

Heat Pump Project: Brian Ziegler from RZ Design Associates gave an overview of the heat pumps and answered questions from the Board. Sav Mor is going to bring in a specialist regarding the pumps. Board recommended tabling this item until there is more information.

The Principal and Superintendent reviewed their written reports and answered questions from the Board. The Superintendent reviewed the Assistant Superintendent's report.

The Community Relations Committee met but decided to include a discussion at the Board Retreat.

Board Retreat: The purpose of the Board Retreat will be goal setting and the basic responsibilities of the Board of Education. Tentative date set for Saturday, January 27 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM with the agenda being to set goals, set sub committee goals and measurable assessments for the end of the year. Superintendent Carter recommended asking Jonathan Costa to facilitate and Shipman Goodwin to come in to discuss legal responsibilities. Meeting is open to the public.

Public Comment: Lynn Mattoon asked what the proposal for the heat pumps was and Superintendent Carter directed her to reach out to Carol Tomkalski. Carol Flaton asked that the Board do a full financial analysis of the heat pumps before the proposal is brought to the Board of Finance. She attended a CCM Meeting and asked the Board to get clarification of the role of the Board of Education. Meghan Flanagan asked that the Board consider a third party, not the Region 1 attorney Shipman and Goodwin to provide guidance to the Board as to their legal responsibilities to the taxpayers.

Motion made by Philip O'Reilly/2nd by Nancy Hegy Martin to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Webb  
Board Clerk