

Croydon School District

School Board Meeting Minutes: 16 Nov 2021

- A. Call to Order at 6:40: Jody Underwood
- B. Roll Call: Jody Underwood, Aaron McKeon, Tom Moore
- C. Public Forum 1
 - 1. Two members of the public were present
 - 2. Discussed new picnic tables donated by the public
- D. Changes or Additions to the Agenda
 - 1. Russell will arrive at 7:30 so discussion items may go out of order
- E. Approval of Minutes from October 12
 - 1. Tom motioned to approve the minutes, Jody seconded, passed 3-0
- F. Personnel
 - 1. None
- G. Reports
 - 1. Superintendent's Report
 - i. No updates on transportation; still searching for a driver
 - ii. Frank spoke to the Commissioner about getting a waiver regarding transportation RSA's, but would not put anything in writing
 - iii. Frank felt DOE inspection went very well
 - iv. Three days were remote during the week of 11/8 due to a positive COVID test
 - v. Professional development happened on 11/12
 - vi. Frank met with Beth to begin discussions around budgeting for next year
 - vii. Frank commented the labor market is very competitive at the moment
 - viii. Adequacy money will go down next year due to a change in the calculation method; this year's aggregate adequacy was \$\$xxx
 - ix. There were two topics that may be discussed during a non-public session
 - x. Chris Gardner is working on some required repairs on the buildings
 - 2. Associate Principal's Report
 - i. K-1 is working on one-to-one correspondence and identifying patterns
 - ii. 2-4 is working on addition and subtraction of whole numbers; plan to move to multiplication shortly; participating in reading groups
 - iii. All students doing STAR monitoring this week to track progression as compared to benchmark at the beginning of the year; results to be presented at next meeting
 - iv. Open house and pumpkin carving happened and was well received
 - v. Annual Halloween parade happened
 - vi. Professional development regarding knowing what assessments are actually looking at when determining what assessments should be used
 - vii. Remote learning and/or packets were used during the three days that were remote due to the recent COVID cases; lots of positive feedback was received for closing
 - viii. Two more children received positive COVID tests during the closure and have remained home as to not infect any further people
 - ix. Hearing and vision screenings were conducted

- x. A \$500 donation was received from a Texas family who had family members who attended the village school in 1916, 1924, and 1949; in memory of a family member who recently passed away; this money will go to the PTO
3. Business Administrator's Report
 - i. Beth explained the reporting process for getting to new tax rates
 - ii. Audit is scheduled to happen November 19 and 22
 - iii. Tax rate was set; the county was up but our rate came down because the town's overall valuation increased by \$5mm
 - iv. All tuition bills are in except Claremont; 57 students were projected and only 55 are being tuitioned out; favorable variance is expected to be \$188k
 - v. NH building review identified three critical items needing immediate repair: the furnace room to be cleaned out, white building needs to be powerwashed for mold using bleach and hot water (will cost \$2,200 and will happen in April), and dedicated circuits for the kitchen in the red building
 - vi. Trust fund balances won't change between now and end of the year
 - vii. The state will only cover 81% of an out-of-district event if that were to happen
 - viii. First draft of the budget will come out in December; medical insurance will be increasing 7.5%; other insurance will not increase but retirement will increase in another year (the last two 2-year cycles were ~20% increases)
 4. Sustainability Committee's Report
 - i. Reviewed minutes from most recent meeting (attached)
 - ii. Letter of intent for applying for capital grants would need to be submitted during January 2021
 - iii. The current white building could be replaced for ~\$125k but availability used is practically nonexistent; a new one would cost ~\$275-300k; this does not include disposal of the current one and installation of the new one
 - iv. The current white building was purchased for \$30k
 - v. We're not sure what the capacity of the red building is if we were to reduce the number of grades; Frank to look into what the capacity of the building is

H. Discussion Items / Possible Action Items

1. Discussion with Russell Edwards, Select Board Chairman
 - i. This was the third year in a row the tax rate has been turned in late, which causes a number of issues for the town
 - ii. The select board would like to be informed if a tax rate extension has already been requested
 - iii. Discussed the concept of a joint venture between the town and school regarding new buildings
2. Transportation Update – Nicole and Beth
 - i. The topic was covered in earlier discussion
3. Student Conduct Policy Update – First Reading
 - i. The board requested the policy be edited to be more Croydon-specific, simplified wherever possible, and have RSA's referenced
4. Wellness Policy Update – First Reading
 - i. First reading was completed and several edits made
5. COVID Testing at School (pool or kids with symptoms)

- i. DHHS offered to perform weekly COVID tests to willing families at no cost to the school district; PCR test would be provided and if there were a positive result then quick-result tests would be provided daily
 - ii. Tom motioned to provide the option for weekly COVID testing, Jody seconded, motion passed 2-1 (ayes: Tom and Jody; nay: Aaron)
 - 6. Charter Schools Discussion
 - i. Families that choose Montessori do not have a great option for once their child moves up in grade; Jody would like to poll families to see if families would be interested in establishing a charter school
 - ii. Currently in grades 5-8, 5 go to Newport and 17 are at Montessori (those 17 have to choose an alternative after grade 8)
 - 7. Accept a Donation – In Memory of McAdams Family
 - i. The topic was covered in earlier discussion
- I. Public Forum 2
 - 1. One parent expressed satisfaction with how well her son is doing this year
- J. Next Meeting Date
 - 1. Next regular meeting will be December 21, 2021
- K. Non-Public per RSA 91A (If Necessary)
 - 1. No non-public meeting
- L. Meeting Adjournment
 - 1. Meeting adjourned at 9:19pm

[DRAFT]

Croydon School District

Sustainability Committee: 3 November 2021

The Sustainability Committee is a committee of citizens comprised of parents, citizens, and a school board member charged with looking at future enrollments, financing, the role in the community, and school configuration to plan for maintaining the school in future years. This committee would advise the Board and make recommendations to the Board.

- A. Call to Order at 6:33: Aaron McKeon
- B. Attendance
 - 1. Committee Member Roll Call
 - i. Aaron McKeon – present
 - ii. Brenda Williams – present
 - iii. Jan Mitchel – present
 - 2. Others Present
 - i. Frank Perotti
 - ii. Nicole Lackie
- C. Previous Minutes
 - 1. Reviewed previous minutes
 - 2. Aaron motioned to approve minutes from the last meeting, Brenda seconded, motion passed 3-0
- D. Building Inspection
 - 1. Discussed recent buildings and grounds inspection by the state
 - 2. Items required within 30 days:
 - i. Replace furnace
 - ii. Powerwash the white building for mold
 - iii. Add woodchips to the playground
 - iv. Put kitchen outlets on dedicated circuits
 - 3. A full report will be issued by the state, likely to contain items required for bringing buildings up to code for school-use; no expectations given on timing of the report
 - 4. No structural changes can be made to the red building without triggering needing to bring the entire building up to code
- E. Current and Potential Future State of Red Building
 - 1. The red building is currently not registered as a historical building
 - 2. Per state guidelines, the school should be roughly ~3k square feet based on minimum square footage per child as well as minimum classroom size
 - 3. Average cost to build new schools is \$400/sf, or \$1.2mm at 3k square feet.
 - 4. Grants are available at a 70/30 split (town pays 70%), but town must agree to the spending prior to applying for the grant

F. Tuitioning Out

1. Briefly discussed some nuances of tuitioning out lower grades
2. School district would still require a Superintendent, Director of Special Education, and a Business Manager
3. Tuition would not be the only cost because not all schools provide for special education (e.g. Newport includes special education but Montessori does not)
4. The school district will always be required to pay for special education
5. Frank would likely require 3 days per week to manage the school district and special ed

G. Next Steps

1. Frank to talk to Sullivan County Planner to find out how they look forward and plan for shifts in demographics
2. Aaron to spend time with Beth to fully understand financial implications of the following three possible courses of action:
 - i. K-4 in Croydon (status quo)
 - ii. K-2 only / tuition out 3-12 (K-2 is a separate developmental grouping)
 - iii. Tuition out everybody
3. Next meeting will be Wednesday December 15 at 6:30pm

H. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm