

**Sebago School Department
School Committee
Minutes of Meeting
September 25, 2018
Sebago Elementary School**

1. Call to order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Tina, Chair, at 6:30 pm

Members of the Sebago School Committee present:

Tina Vanasse
Joe McMahon
Wendy Newcomb
Donelle Allen
Audrey Douglass

Guests present:

Superintendent Marc Gendron
Claudia Lowe
June Allen
Linda May
Phil Lowe
Mabel Olden
Randa Viitala
Dot O'Donnell
Karen Moore
Tom Tracy
Grove Newcomb
Chris Balchunas
Kirsten Goff

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Adjustments

New Business will be after Public Comments.

Minutes of last meeting

Joe made a motion to approve the minutes from the Aug 28, 2018 meeting. 2nd by Donelle. Minutes approved.

5. Public Comments on Agenda items

Grosvenor Newcomb spoke regarding buses, wanted an update. He also asked about the Charter Pre-K. The PTC Birthday Wishes program was explained by Lisa Johnson.

6. New Business

- Tom Tracy spoke about Umbrella Pre-School. (See Handout)

It uses a Charter School structure and provides funds that would not otherwise be available from the state. He hopes to include “wrap around care” which includes pre-K and Day Care. Qualified families would use vouchers from DHS to pay for a full day. He expects it will be two years to get approval as a charter school.

Superintendent Gendron spoke about: it is already in the budget, classrooms and personnel would meet state standards. Daycare would be funded by other sources, including DHS vouchers.

Questions from the Board:

Donelle –

- Would it be open to only Sebago Students? Answer: once it is an approved charter school, students would be chosen by lottery.
- Transportation? None included.
- Space for Pre-K? DHS would do a site visit, there are several options
- Staff is paid by? Sebago pays teaching staff, not day care staff.
- Suggested a cost analysis town run Pre-K vs Charter

Wendy:

- Department of Ed is Pre-K oversight, Day Care is DHS oversight.
- Head Start? Should be tuitioned to Pre-K., may need more than one room in the school.
- Superintendent Gendron: The Charter Pre-K would have high quality people, Sebago does the teacher hiring (one teacher and one Ed Tech). Wrap Around Day Care would employ 1 Ed Tech and ½ Ed Tech.
- Without Voucher from DHS, cost to parents would be \$6000 for full Wrap Around program. Voucher qualification is based on income.
- If in two years the Charter School does not happens, what is needed would already be in place.
- Wendy commented: Lottery would take control out of the town’s hands, and all students would not be included. Superintendent Gendron: Transportation in Sebago could be included.

Tina –

- Closed the discussion and said the topic will be continued at a future meeting, deadline is the end of October.
- Board members said more time and information is needed and voted to have Superintendent Gendron study and report back.

7. Superintendent’s Report

- Draft 9-month outline to look over.
- Fall Conference of MSBA was discussed. Email Superintendent if interested within the next week. Cost is \$150/person
- Transportation: 1 Bus is perfect, 1 bus had problems, and a bus was borrowed from SAD 61. The Volkswagen Grant has been submitted.

Bus personnel changes, now there are 3 bus drivers and a bus director. Manuals and Procedures are needed. All three buses are running now.

- Water: Barbara Nichols is getting a water test certification. There is a new water dispenser.
- PTC Birthday Wishes fund raiser was discussed.
- Superintendent schedule for October will be Monday Wednesday and Friday.

In November it will be Tuesday and Thursday

- Financial reports by cost centers will be reviewed quarterly.
- GE Snow monitoring will be in place for the winter.
- Freedom of Access Training is being sent to the board.
- Propane prices were discussed.

7. Principal's Report

- US Flag flies on the tallest pole out front.
- Applefest is tomorrow. Tammy Girarden is hard at work on planning and set up.
- N
- WEA assessments are coming up.
- Student Council has met with the teachers.
- Everyday Math is now in place.
- Upcoming Teacher Workshop topics: Suicide Prevention and Mandatory reporting. Also, new report cards.
- A vision screening for students is planned, flu shots for the staff and the public will be offered.
- Food waste is being sent to pig farmers.

8. Old Business

- New Hires: Voted unanimous (transportation consultant, Bus drivers, and part time custodian)
- Parent Teacher conferences are planned for November and Late January or early February.
- Christmas Concerts will be held during the school day.
- SPICE and PTC: SPICE will meet next week.
- Property Boundaries: Phil Lowe asked to put the issue on hold for now, as some encroachments need to be addressed.

F. Solar Energy Project: Phil Lowe will come back with information at a future meeting.

The town Solar project will have a ribbon cutting on Oct 4, and students will attend.

9. Additional agenda items:

- Lisa Johnson asked about radio dispatch for bus drivers. Superintendent Gendron said his is working on two-way cell-based radios with repeater, cameras on buses, and a dispatcher
- for the morning route.

- Lisa mentioned parents want student council activities expanded and asked about chorus. Superintendent Gendron said it is “in the works”.

10. Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were none.

11. Communications

There were none.

12. Adjourn

The meeting of the Committee concluded at 8:10 p.m.

Future Meetings of the School Committee. All meetings are open to the public.

- The School Committee will meet with the Superintendent on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sebago Elementary School for a workshop to discuss Sections 9- 12 of the Handbook.
- The School Committee will meet for a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Sebago Elementary School
- The School Committee will meet for a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Sebago Elementary School