Members Present: Marc DeBois (Chair), Cicely Richardson, David Ricker (Orford); Bruce Lyndes, Mark Avery (Vice Chair), Grover Boutin, (Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker (Vershire); Kathy Blanchard (at-large)

Members Absent: Mike Fanizzi (W. Fairlee)

Administration and Staff Present: Keri Gelenian (Head of Schools/RA Principal), Tammy MacQueen (WES Assistant Principal), Brenda Needham (Superintendent), Michael Galli (Dean of Students); Gary Collins (Director of Operations),

Others Present: Gay-C Gahagan, Journal Opinion; Kathy Hooke (Vershire)

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: Removed VII. A – Old Orford Academy Building and VIII A – Asbestos Abatement Resolution.

III. General Public Comments (Listen & Defer Action to Future Mtg.): None.

IV. Presentation/Guests: None

V. Consent Agenda (Accept):
   A. Minutes
      Action: Motion made to approve the consent agenda. Approved

VI. Informational Reports (written):
   A. Elementary Reports: MacQueen reported that the Summer Program was successful. She shared photos of the trip to the Science Museum.
   B. Superintendent: Needham discussed the NECAP testing – all three schools met AYP – there will be a press release about this soon. She indicated that the unaudited financials for FY 6/30/13 show that income is up and expenses are down. Needham stated that she did attend the Elementary meeting with parents of 4th grade students and future meetings will be scheduled for parents with Keiling and MacQueen who still have concerns. Needham thanked Collins for all the work that has gone into the asbestos abatement work. The Board will plan to have a walk-through at the September Board meeting. Collins gave the Board an update on the work and stated the project is expected to come in under budget. Needham informed the Board that she had called the OESU Board Chair, Steve Simpson, regarding school district consolidations. She reported that they had a good conversation.
   C. Head of Schools: Gelenian spoke on the AYP results – reading and math 15-20% above the state average. Galli spoke about the summer reading selection and that Rivendell will have the author of “Overcome” (a summer reading program selection) speaking on August 28th at Rivendell Academy.

VII. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action)
   A. Board Position (West Fairlee) Appointment: Board still doesn’t have anyone for the West Fairlee position. However, J. MacDonald has resigned (see Correspondence below) and Kathy Hooke was nominated to replace her.
   Action: Motion made to appoint Kathy Hooke to replace Jean MacDonald as a Vershire Board Member. Approved.
   B. Hiring Update – 2013-14 Teachers – refer to the Superintendent’s Report. Needham reported that offers were made for the English teacher position and Visions Director
position. Both have been accepted, but contracts not signed yet. They have reposted the ad for the RA secretarial position.

C. Strategic Plan Process/Retreat: Board members are to come up with ideas of how to update the Strategic Plan at the retreat. Gahaghan (Journal Opinion reporter) asked why the retreat is not open to the public. It was explained that they will also be discussing personnel and other executive topics. Agenda will be reposted to indicate strategic plan as open session followed by executive session for personnel, if needed.

VIII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action)
   A. Correspondence: A letter of resignation from the Board was received from J. MacDonald (Vershire). The Board expressed their appreciation for the time served by MacDonald.

   Action: Motion made to accept the resignation of J. MacDonald. Approved.

IX. Future Agenda Items (Discussion)

   Building Tour (September), MacQueen – Summer Program presentation, Community Outreach, Grants, Global Language for 6th grade, Policies to be Revised (ongoing), Student Presentations, Department Reports, Individualized Student Needs, Recruiting Process

   Action: Motion made to enter Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Approved

X. Anticipated Executive Session:
   A. Negotiations
   B. Student Issue/Age of Entrance Policy
   C. Personnel Issue

   Board came out of executive session at 7:46 p.m.

   Action: Motion made to waive Policy F22 to allow a request for entrance of a kindergarten student whose birthday is in September. Approved.

   Action: Motion to authorize the Board Chair to execute individual personnel agreement. Approved.

XI. Adjournment: Action – Motion made to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Approved.

Recoded by:

Esther Dobbins-Marsh
Clerk/Treasurer