

Draft

**North Hero School Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 19, 2007
at North Hero School 7:00 P.M.**

**In Attendance: School Board: Paul Cheeseman, Jennifer Gariety, Susan
Lawrence, Mario Guerrina and Shelby St.
Hilaire a. 7:11**

**Administration: Principal Bennink
Note: Dick Taylor – away with family**

Secretary: Jo-Ann Tier

Other: Parent – Suzanne Gagnon

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Paul Cheeseman at 7:01 P.M.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

**Board Discussion - Parent concern for showing of videos and
Guest Speakers at the school.. Jennifer Gariety**

Executive Session - Personnel Matter... Susan Lawrence

Board Discussion – letter received from Rose Cheeseman

**Board Action – Signature of Board Chair for the School Quality
Standards Status Report 2006 – 2007**

**Board Action - 1st reading of a change in Policy F-17
Head Lice**

Board Discussion... GISU Personnel Committee... Paul Cheeseman

Board Discussion... Essex bus... Mario Guerrina

Approval of Minutes of September 05, 2007

**Mario Guerrina made a motion that the minutes of September
05, 2007 be accepted as read... this motion was seconded by
Susan Lawrence... hearing no further discussion.. this motion
was carried 4-0**

Principal's Report

Head Lice

Suggested changes read - action to be taken under Board Action

Truancy

**Principal Bennink asked for clarification as to who is the Truant
Officer for North Hero School. Ans. Mario Guerrina**

BOARD DISCUSSION

Field Behind School Update/Right-of-Way

Mario Guerrina shared that he has spoken with Andre Quintin and they will be meeting next week to walk the field.

Mario was requested to check with Andre on a right-of-way from the school on to the Blockhouse Point Road.

Future Agenda Item

Rental of School Facility Update

Mario reported that he and Marie Kilbride (Selecboard) have spoken. Question was asked – what could the length of the term be... short? ... permanent? Note: need by the Town is for a 1800 square foot area.

Usage change... need for a change of use certificate along with tax rate concern will be reviewed by and/or with George Nelson.

Establishment of the newly voted Board... DRB- effective October 01, 2007 was referenced. Future agenda item.

It was noted by Paul Cheeseman that the GISU may be interested in increasing their space.

Discussion... children could gain from the Town facility being moved on site... they, the children, becoming more aware of local government.

In Town Bussing

Discussion...

A.M. Run:

Having a stop whereby parents can meet the bus prior to their going on to work.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion that the school bus be at the Harborside Market from 7:00 to 7:05 each morning to be available to the North Hero Community Parents for pick-up. This motion was seconded by Mario Guerrina... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5 – 0.

Principal Bennink was asked to send a letter to those parents who attended the September 05, 2007 meeting with this concern and to also share this information in her weekly newsletter home.

Board asked about the after school programs.... Principal Bennink shared that she is working on this... State has been phoned... an inspection of the facility will be necessary.

Board shared the ballet class that took place after school a few years ago and how well it was attended.....

P.M. Run

Discussion

It was noted that the North Hero afternoon run contract does not include going into the Town of Grand Isle.

A discussion took place of the minutes for September 05, 2007 (page 2) which referenced that this originally took place when a bus driver lived in Grand Isle.. so the opportunity existed for children to get off at that stop.. from there the next bus driver took them... The Mountain Transit new management were unaware that this was happening, etc.

Principal Bennink will referenced in her newsletter that the p.m. bus run is a run only in the Town of North Hero. It was suggested that she also reference that afternoon programs, at the school, are in the process of being explored.

Essex Bus

Mario Guerrina shared with the Board that there is a concern that because the bus driver for this bus lives on Blockhouse Point she picks up the Blockhouse Point students (8 in number) as she leaves in the morning.

Discussion....

In no way does the North Hero Board want this happening being taken as a precedent established.

If said bus driver resigned her position and the new bus driver did not live in that area.... The students in that area would have to be brought to one of the designated stops.

Mario Guerrina made a motion that the Essex bus continue its route as established, picking up students on Blockhouse Point at the start of the driver' route before going on to Route # 2, due to the current bus driver living in that area, and to pick up the Board approved students whereby we have a State of Vermont education obligation.

This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 4-0.

Note: Susan Lawrence did abstain from this discussion and voting due to a conflict of interest.

Mario Guerrina made a motion that a letter be sent to the Blockhouse Point families (return receipt requested) indicating that their children are currently being picked- up on Blockhouse Point because the Mountain Transit driver resides in that location, however, should that driver resign her position and a newly hired person is employed who lives in another area, the children from Blockhouse Point will have to be brought to one of the designated stops.

This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 4-0.

Note: (1)Mrs. Susan Lawrence abstained from the discussion and voting due to her conflict of interest.

(2) Letter sent will be signed by Board.

Letter from Rose Chesseman

Letter from Rose Cheeseman dated September 19, 2007 was distributed to the Board, Principal, with a copy to Superintendent Taylor.

Discussion:

- **It was noted that 21 students are currently riding this bus.**
- **Students being picked-up in the Blockhouse area (8) are because the bus driver currently lives in that area.**

Jennifer Gariety will send a letter to Mrs. Chesseman on behalf of the North Hero School Board which will reference past decisions by Board in reference to her concerns.

Note: Original letter attached to Town Clerk's Copy.

Videos/Guest Speakers/Curriculum

Mrs. Gariety shared her concern for North Hero School families having the opportunity to be aware when videos are being shown in the classroom along with families being informed when guest speakers will be in the classroom with the purpose shared....., etc.

Discussion....

Principal Bennink shared that the video recently shown in a health class is in aliment with the curriculum

Having parents given the opportunity to look at videos being shown was suggested.

Principal Bennink informed the Board she will be staying on top of this concern.

Board Action

Change in Policy F-17 Head Lice

Read was the following recommended change –

Policy F-17 – Head Lice Under: MANAGING HEAD LICE CASES

#2 to read - Any student identified by the school nurse (or qualified designee) as having lice will be sent home as soon as possible for treatment. Students with untreated nits shall be discouraged from close contact with others and will be sent home at the end of the school day.

#5 to read - Each re-entering student will be examined by trained personnel to look for evidence that the treatment was performed. If evidence is lacking, the student will be sent home as soon as possible for treatment.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to accept the 1st reading for the change in Policy F-17 – Head Lice. This was seconded by Susan Lawrence.. hearing no further discussion – this motion was carried 5-0.

Signature of Board Chair for the School Quality Standards Status Report Discussion.....

Board asked for a copy of this School Quality Standards Status Report....

Jennifer Gariety made a motion that Chair Paul Cheeseman sign said statement.. this motion was seconded by Susan Lawrence.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Approval of Bills for Payment

Mario Guerrina made a motion that voucher warrant # 5 in the amount of \$22,468.75 be paid. This motion was seconded by Susan Lawrence... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to recess the meeting and to go into Executive Session for a Personnel and Student Matter. This was seconded by Mario Guerrina.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5—0.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the meeting with no action being taken. This was seconded by Susan Lawrence.. hearing no further discussion...this motion was carried 5 -0.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE/SHARING

GISU Meeting Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Sharing took place by those attending this meeting....

Examples were shared that Andy Finelli used with the GISU Board.

Board impressed with Debby King.

Question was raised... "Why are we re-creating the wheel"?

"Why is it that Literacy Curriculum is at the status that it is"?

"Why is it that we have to look elsewhere - why not try to meet the needs for the areas our children are going to school"?

"Mathland..... Principal Bennink shared her viewpoint on the math program being used in the District.

Writing... scores at North Hero were referenced along with North Hero teachers being involved in course work this year. Lack of homework at North Hero School was addressed with Principal Bennink.

Board asked Principal Bennink to discuss their feelings with the Curriculum Co-ordinator – Debby King. Future Agenda Item.

Board feels with Karen Groseclose on board that they will now have information on expenses and receivables.

Chair Paul Cheeseman asked if any Board Member would like to be on this committee.. Mario Guerrina volunteered to be on this committee.

Next GISU Meeting will be held on November 15th... location to be decided.

Beth Hemingway taking over this program due to Kathy's resignation... District now looking for an assistant for Beth Hemingway.

Board Chair complimented Beth Hemingway for the job she is going in the District.

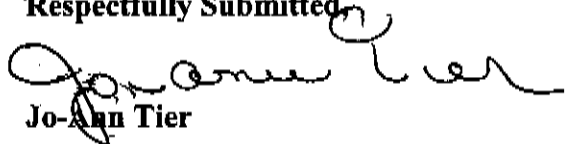
AGENDA BUILDING

- **Board Discusson.. meeting with Andre Quintin... Mario Guerrino**
- **Board Action... 2nd Reading for Policy Number F-17 HEAD LICE**
- **Principal's Report.... meeting with Curriculum Co-ordinator**

ADJOURN

Mario Guerrina made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Jennifer Gariety... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jo-Ann Tier

**C: Board: Paul, Mario, Susan, Jennifer, Shelly
Superintendent Taylor
Principal Bennink
Town Clerk
File**