

**NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2006 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE NCUHS LIBRARY**

**Board Members Present:** Arne Amalixsen (Chair), Steve Brochu, Ken Canning, Richard Cartee, Rick Geisel, Harold Morse, Peter Moskovites, Joe Gregersen (via phone)

**Board Members Absent:** Todd Durkee (Newport City), David Merrill (Holland), Rose Mary Mayhew (Troy), Muriel O’Gorman (Brighton), James Privee (Newport City), June Rosenberg (Westfield), Morgan Rep

**Administrators:** Bill Rivard, Jennifer Kennison, Bob Fitts, Glenn Hankinson, Brent Hilliard, Rod Weston

**Media:** NEK-TV; Joseph Gresser: The Chronicle

**Student Council:** Tyler Uhlendorf

**Faculty Forum:** Helen Poulin

**Guests:** Frank Davis

A. Amalixsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He noted the board did not have a quorum present and informed the board he had contacted board member Joe Gregersen, who would participate via phone; adding they would explain issues needing a vote to J. Gregersen.

**Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Rod Weston**  
**Results of the 2006 Smartest State Award**

Dr. Weston stated the enclosure was simply informational; adding it speaks to our educational system in the state and to be a typical Vermont school is pretty darn good.

**Administrative Reports**  
**Bill Rivard, Principal**  
**NSRE/NECAP Updates**

Mr. Rivard reported he asked Ms. Kennison to share information with the board on the NSRE and NECAP testing. Ms. Kennison distributed information to the board and reviewed it with them. She reviewed testing scores from 2003 through 2006, which included reading and writing and math results. She noted that some of the work the math department had been doing was on common assessments and student work; adding she wanted teachers to see this as a positive. Ms. Kennison reported they had begun collecting data about students in the building.

Ms. Kennison reported that all juniors would take the NECAP pilot exam next week; in math, reading and writing. She reported the information would not come back to the school; that the company is testing the items and the official test will take place next October.

Tyler reported that last year his teachers and others were grading the entire year on the NSRE format, which helped them get ready for the test in the spring; and added NCUHS was doing a great job in that area.

### **New Teacher Mentoring Program**

Mr. Rivard reported this year they tried to fine tune their mentoring program; that they were really trying to help new teachers be successful; that they coordinated a 2 day workshop at Central Office, with Ms. Boucher coordinating the program with Kathy Curtiss, who has been working with the central office for over 4 years. Mr. Rivard reported this added support was really helping new teachers be more successful. He added he was thankful to be able to work with the central office and Kathy Curtiss on this.

### **Career Director's Report, Bob Fitts**

#### **Recommendation from RAB to Name the Land Lab the Harold J. Haynes Land Lab**

Mr. Fitts noted this would be an issue for the board to vote on when they had a quorum. He reported the RAB met on October 17<sup>th</sup> and recommended the NCUHS board consider naming the land lab the Harold J. Haynes Land Lab.

### **Trade Bids**

Mr. Fitts reviewed the trade bids, which were included in the board packet, with the board. He reported that electrical bids were received from: Mike's Electric for \$98,900; Ames' for \$123,956; Norway & Son's for \$135,880; and Lamberton for \$151,300. Mr. Fitts reported the bid went to Mike's Electric for \$98,900.

Mr. Fitts reviewed the bids received for the mechanical work: Ouellette for \$436,127; and Vermont Mechanical for \$568,653. Mr. Fitts reported the bid went to Ouellette's for \$436,127.

Mr. Fitts reviewed the bids received for the metal panels: CSE/MR&D for \$148,700 and American Insulated Panel at \$128,500. Mr. Fitts reported the bid for the metal panels went to American Insulated Panel at \$128,500.

Mr. Fitts reviewed the bids received for the storefront: Granite State Glass at \$97,500 and Northeast Glass & Aluminum at \$128,500. He reported the bid for the storefront went to Granite State Glass for \$97,500.

### **Overview of Progress on Land Lab**

Mr. Fitts reported the forms were in place; that they hoped to pour the concrete footings tomorrow; adding they had been blessed with good weather and he was pleased with the progress made so far.

### **Preliminary Meeting with Newport City Planning Commission**

Mr. Fitts reported they reviewed the preliminary plans; that the commission had no objections or concerns about the plans presented to them; and added he would bring the

plan to them by end of this month or early December for permitting. Mr. Fitts stated he was pleased with the help from Newport on this project.

### **NCCC Ad-Hoc Building Committee Update**

Mr. Fitts reported they met on October 18<sup>th</sup>; and met with the construction manager and DEW; that they reviewed the bidding process and got to see a virtual walk-through of what the new facility would look like.

Mr. Fitts reported the bids awarded tonight were within their budget; some were right on budget; some were savings; and reported the mechanical bid was almost double what they had budgeted for.

K. Canning asked Mr. Fitts to tell the board about Harold Haynes. Mr. Fitts stated that Mr. Haynes had been an agriculture teacher for over 30 years; that he retired in 1987; that he was responsible for getting the land they now had; that he touched many people in the community from the development of the Jay Peak ski area to the horticulture program; adding he was known throughout the state for his accomplishments. Dr. Weston reported that over the course of the last 7 or 8 years of discussion of the NCCC and where the expansion should be, Mr. Haynes was always there; that he was always positive and a supporter of the project throughout ; adding he was quite an individual. R. Geisel reported he was a dedicated community member.

### **Student Council – Tyler Uhlendorf**

#### **Motivational Speaker**

Tyler reported their guest speaker gave them new ideas about how to live their lives; that students were very attentive and positive.

#### **Dance Report**

Tyler reported they made about \$1,100 at their Halloween dance after paying the DJ about \$600.

Tyler reported they had a food drive coming up; and the suggestion box is underway; that the mentoring program is coming along great and students have been trained. He read a letter from Cheryl Currier and Karen Chitambar sent to students about the mentoring program. He gave the board information about the Coffee House coming up at CVU; adding he hoped students would attend; adding students could bring in their band or read poetry. Tyler stated he would have more information on this for the board.

Tyler reported the Variety Show would be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>; that they would have a lot of good talent on display. He reported the Sadie Hawkins Dance would be held on November 18<sup>th</sup>; and that he would have more details at the next meeting.

### **Faculty Representative, Helen Poulin**

Ms. Poulin noted she was asked to talk to the board about the motivational speaker, but reported she was out of the building that day as Lake Region had invited some teachers to one of their in-service meetings. She reported they talked about rubrics and distributed

information to the board. She reported there were 15 teachers involved; language teachers from all over the northern part of the state. Ms. Poulin reported that this year NCUHS teacher were transitioning to teaching proficiencies. Ms. Poulin stated they want to keep students on task, adding they had a lot of new ideas for them.

### Comments from Guests

There were none.

### Finance/Operation's Committee Report

R. Cartee noted they were into the budget process; had received a preliminary presentation of the budget from the administration; and had instructed the administration to work with the faculty and come back with recommendations.

R. Cartee stated, as chair of the NCUJHS board, he would like to thank the community for their support in approving the wood chip facility; he also thanked Mr. Hankinson for the tremendous amount of work he put into this project; adding NCUJHS might not have had the communities' support without his help.

### Bus Garage

S. Brochu reported at their last meeting they opened the bus garage bids; that 4 bids came in; and that tonight when they get another board member on the phone he would explain what went on. He added the board also needed to vote on a fund raiser request they received.

At 7:20 A. Amalixsen called for a 3 minute recess so they could get the phone system set up and call J. Gregersen.

At 7:25 p.m. A. Amalixsen reported the board had a quorum.

**K. Canning moved the board approve the finance/operation's committee minutes of October 25, 2006. The motion was unanimously approved (K. Canning/S. Brochu).**

### Bus Garage

S. Brochu reported they received 4 bids: Brault property located in Newport Center at \$375,000; Spates the Florist's property on Prouty Drive at \$149,000; OEM at \$480,000; and Tanguay on Union Street at \$325,000. He reviewed the proposals with the board, which had been included in their minutes of October 25, 2006.

S. Brochu reported it was the recommendation of the finance/operation's committee to go with Tanguay's proposal; noting that \$300,000 had been approved as a bond vote and the additional cost would come out of excess funds from the sale of the buses; adding if the transportation line falls into a deficit they would then take the money from the Enterprise Fund. **S. Brochu moved that board approve the bid received from Tanguay for \$325,000. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

S. Brochu thanked everyone for their hard work on this project; adding that hopefully this one would go through.

S. Brochu reported the National Honor Society had requested permission to hold a Christmas Adopt a Family Raffle and it would run from November 13<sup>th</sup> through December 18<sup>th</sup>. **S. Brochu moved the board approve the request received from the National Honor Society. The motion was unanimously approved (S. Brochu/R. Cartee).**

R. Cartee noted with the board's acceptance of the Tanguay bid they now needed to make a decision on the fuel tank on the school's property. He reported they had been informed that the tank must be moved; that it can't be moved to the Union Street site as the company that installed it is no longer in business, so it can't be re-certified. He stated he was asking the board to instruct Mr. Hankinson to put out a bid package for an off-site fuel source, which would allow fuel cards to be used. **R. Cartee moved the board authorize Mr. Hankinson to go out to bid on this. The motion was unanimously approved (R. Cartee/S. Brochu).**

**K. Canning moved the board officially name the land lab site the Harold J. Haynes Land Lab. The motion was unanimously approved (K. Canning/S. Brochu).**

**K. Canning moved the board approve the NCUHS board meeting minutes of October 17, 2006 as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved (K. Canning/S. Brochu).**

A. Amalixsen noted the board had a challenge this evening, and were able to take action on important issues.

**There being no further business requiring action the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. (R. Cartee/S. Brochu).**

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Rubino  
Recording Secretary