

Shared Decision-Making Committee (SDMC) Meeting

September 20, 2018

Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Elizabeth Barton	Community Member
Diana Payne	Parent Member
Katie Lombardo	Teacher
Terry Scammell	Lead Teacher
Alan Van Cott	Superintendent

- I. **Welcome and Introductions...**The meeting was called to order at 2:50 p.m. Mr. Van Cott welcomed everyone to the first SDMC meeting of the new school year and introductions followed.
- II. **The Start of a New School Year...**Mr. Scammell and Mrs. Lombardo joined Mr. Van Cott in sharing information about the start of the 2018-19 school year. Student enrollment now stands at 15, 13 residents and 2 tuition paying non-residents. Future enrollment looks favorable too. A second part-time teacher aide has also been hired to assist teachers with the running of the school day and implementation of the instructional program.
- III. **New Transportation Provider...**After 50 years of reliable service, McCoy Bus Company will no longer be the student transportation provider for the Sagaponack CSD. The contract that was in place through the 2017-18 school year permitted the bus company under contract (McCoy) to continue as the provider as long as their yearly increases remained at or below the Consumer Price Index (CPI.) With this in mind, last spring, McCoy notified the school district that they were not able to stay within these financial restrictions for the 2018-19 school year. After exploring all available options, the Sagaponack Board of Trustees (BOT), voted to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with the Sag Harbor UFSD to transport our students for the current school year. It was also noted that as with any new transportation arrangement, challenges with travel time are being worked out. In addition, concerns related to the location of two bus stops along Montauk Highway remain the focus of conversations with Sag Harbor UFSD.
- IV. **School Garden Project/Update...**Our thanks to the folks at Madoo Conservancy for their continued support of our school garden project. Towards the end of last school year the Sagaponack BOT authorized the expenditure of funds to install a school garden in the northwest corner of the outdoor field. Fencing, irrigation, garden beds, soil and seedlings were all essential ingredients to the start of this new hands-on learning activity. Add some very interested students, some sun and adult supervision provided by Mrs. Krempler, our school secretary and Alejandro from the Madoo

Conservancy, we quickly had a very successful garden project as witnessed by the bountiful production of tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce. With cooler temperatures right around the corner, our cool weather crops of radishes, spinach and are well under way. (Special thanks to Ms. Marilee Foster and Mr. and Mrs. Payne for their generous support of this special activity.)

- V. **Building Repairs...**Each summer a number of repairs are usually scheduled for completion. This past summer was no exception as the shingles on the south side of the school were replaced and painted, the school sign was re-done, the interior floors were screened, the wood corners of the outdoor shed were replaced and repainted, the interior walls and trim of the school were touched up and security cameras were installed. As one can see, the Sagaponack BOT joins the community in taking great pride in our “Little Red School House.”

- VI. **Superintendent’s Conference Days...**On Wednesday, August 29th teachers and staff from New Suffolk, Wainscott and Sagaponack attended a lunch meeting to explore the many ways that we can do things collaboratively and cooperatively in the years ahead. Topics included pen-pals, field trips to each other’s schools, joint field trips to locations across Long Island and common professional development activities for teachers. On Tuesday, September 4th, the staff set up their classroom areas and then met with Mr. Van Cott to review various topics related to the start of a new school year. Special thanks were given to Mrs. Krempler, Mrs. Lombardo and Mr. Scammell for their extra efforts over the summer months to prepare our school for the 2018-19 school year. Well done!

- VII. **SDMC Purpose...**Mr. Van Cott referenced the Sagaponack BOT approved SDMC document that spells out the purpose of Sagaponack School's Shared Decision-Making Committee as authorized by the New York State Education Department. The overall SDMC purpose is for everyone (all constituent groups) to work together to improve student performance.

- VIII. **SDMC Vision Statement...**This year the SDMC will work on the development of a Vision Statement. We have a BOT approved Mission Statement but lack a Vision Statement. To this end, Mr. Van Cott distributed a copy of our Mission Statement and an article that provided information and developing Vision and Mission Statements. This homework assignment for the committee was for all SDMC members to review these materials and give some thought to the language of a Vision Statement for Sagaponack.

- IV. **Q&A...**None at this time

- X. **Meeting Adjournment...**The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 15, 2018 @ 2:45 p.m.