

Education Committee - Town of Arrowsic

Arrowsic Town Hall , February 3, 2016

{Notes drafted by Dena Bachman}

Participants: Dena Bachman, Erin Hart, Camille Kauffunger Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Reflections from meeting with Tim Harkins
3. Camille's observations from last RSU 1 school board meeting

1. Approve Minutes

Minutes were approved. Anita will forward final minutes from the January 2016 meeting to the Town webmaster to post for public viewing.

2. Reflections from meeting with Tim

Our suggested charge of "Advocating for those kids who don't have advocates" has motivated us to think more about the connection between us as a committee, to the town and to the RSU. The committee has agreed in order to address this we must define the town need so we can represent the town of Arrowsic in budget discussions and make good decisions for the kids of Arrowsic. Possible ways of doing this was discussed including:

- Reach out to school's guidance programs, principals, nurses
- Camille to reach out to a past neighbor who specializes in "assessing need"
- Table at election day with a "get informed" sign up
- Hosting homework nights at the town hall
- Partnerships with other committees

Agreement to test coordinating future Committee meetings with the RSU1 board meeting schedule to allow for the Committee to review the RSU1 board schedule ahead of time and gain feedback or insight into meeting agenda items before the meeting. The updated schedule is as follows:

1st reading of the school budget – March 28th at 5:45pm at BMS (*all members of Arrowsic Education Committee are asked to attend*)

Arrowsic Ed meeting – March 30th at 6pm at Arrowsic Town Hall

Arrowsic Ed Meeting – April 27th at 6pm at Arrowsic Town Hall

Arrowsic Ed Meeting – May 18th at 6pm at Arrowsic Town Hall

3. Camille's observations from last RSU 1 school board meeting

Camille shared highlights from the most recent RSU 1 Board Meeting. In particular, she discussed the first reading of several school policy drafts, including Student Code of Conduct (involving comments on sections related to Transgendered students, discrimination, removal of violent students and drug and alcohol use), Child Abuse & Neglect, Patriotic Exercises, and Honor Roll Policies. As a learning, Camille will ask Tim if copies of the drafts are available for our review to determine if these or future policy updates/revisions represent an opportunity for our committee to seek feedback and contribute on behalf of Arrowsic.

At the public comment section of the meeting, a resident made the recommendation that Board subcommittees be formed on the topics of Technology (especially looking a head to the end of

the Apple iPad contract), Proficiency Based Education, and Communication. Our committee can show support for this suggestion if there's interest or keep it in mind as questions or concerns of our own come up on these topics.

NEXT STEPS:

- 1) Ask fellow Arrowsic community members to attend March 1 and March 11th reviews of the budget that happen during the workday. (Camille)
- 2) Submit the Committee notes from January to the Town webmaster. (Anita) 3) Review Committee goals and outcomes for 2016. (Committee)
- 4) Request a copy of the RSU 1's Code of Conduct for our review (Camille)
- 5) Confirm since the date change that attendance at the Feb school board meeting is still possible (Camille)
- 6) Come to next meeting to discuss recruitment strategies for new Committee members (Committee)
- 7) Emailing the select board about the RSU 1 meetings on March 7th and 14th (Finance Committee Review of Cost Centers) to see if one of them can attend during the day rather than "Arrowsic Community Members" as written in the draft. (Camille)
- 8) Email the Google Group or ask Bill to post a town announcement about the State of the District meeting. (Camille)

Committee's Annual Tasks

- 1) Create annual monthly meeting schedule & post on town calendar, Google Town calendar, and Arrow publication. (AUGUST)
- 2) Identify Arrow newsletter submission dates, coordinate submission dates with Committee meetings to ensure timely announcements/material from the Committee in the newsletter (2015-2016 months of publication are listed as August, November, February, May). (AUGUST) 3) Secure RSU1 School Board meeting schedule & assign Committee members to attend & report back to the Committee (SEPTEMBER)
- 4) Identify date & outreach schedule for the Fall Festival., create event work plan. (SEPTEMBER)
- 5) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (OCTOBER)
- 6) Announce Pre-K information session & RSU1 school registration deadline. (MARCH)
- 7) Town Annual Report (MARCH)
- 8) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (APRIL)
- 9) Submit annual Committee budget request to Select Board. (APRIL)
- 10) Prepare for Town meeting presentation. (JUNE)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next Committee meeting is March 30th, 6pm at Town Hall.