

Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee
Mt. Everett Regional School
Sheffield, MA
November 12, 2013
School Committee Workshop

School Committee Members: Mr. Batacchi, Mr. Flynn, Ms. Silvers, Mr. Valentini, Ms. Sparhawk, Ms. Sahn

Absent: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Sears, Ms. Fields, Ms. Rundle

Others: Ms. Linda Higgins

1. Vice Chairman Silvers called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
2. Mr. Valentini moved, seconded by Ms. Sparhawk, to approve the minutes of the October 8 School Committee Workshop. It was so voted (Mr. Flynn and Mr. Batacchi abstained.)
3. The Committee discussed how to proceed in choosing or designing a self-evaluation process. Ms. Sahn shared a document she found on the Internet that is used in the state of Oregon. After review, those present opted to modify that document for use in their self-evaluation. The Committee then began review of the document:
 - A. Introduction
 - It was agreed that individual members will identify their own strengths and weaknesses through the process.
 - It was agreed that the reasons suggested under the “Why Evaluate” section are why the School Committee evaluates itself.
 - B. Instructions: It was agreed that the instructions section was not necessary.
 - C. Standard I: Leadership: Mission, Vision and Goals
 - It was agreed that a vision and mission statement should be adopted on a three-year cycle, with goals being brought forward yearly for adoption.
 - Following additional discussion, it was generally agreed that bullets 3-7 could be boiled down to the following: The School Committee regularly references the vision, mission, and goals of the District in making its decisions.
 - D. Standard II: Policy and Governance
 - It was agreed to remove the bullet “the Committee sets annual goals and keeps those goals at the forefront of all Committee and district decisions throughout the year” and to move it to Standard 1.
 - E. Standard III: Community Relations
 - It was agreed to change the 3rd bullet to the following: “The Board seeks/develops cooperative agreements with community organizations and state agencies.”
 - F. Standard IV: Cultural Responsiveness and Educational Equity
 - It was agreed to eliminate the 5th bullet, “District staff is representative of the community.”
 - G. Standard V: Accountability and Performance Monitoring
 - It was agreed to change the 3rd bullet to read, “The board’s priority and focus are on student success in both academic and social arenas.”

- It was agreed to change the 6th bullet to “Student results are measured against expectations set by District, state, and Common Core standards.”
- H. Standard VI: Board Operations – *Meetings*
- It was agreed to eliminate the 6th bullet, “The board discusses only those topics that the majority of board members wish to take up.”
- I. Standard VII: Board Operations – Board member communications
- It was agreed to change bullet #2 to read as follows, “Board members share information, consistent with the requirements set forth in the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.”
- J. Standard VIII – Board Operations – Board- Staff Relations
- No changes were made to this section.

It was agreed to set the next workshop at the November 14 meeting. Ms. Silvers will move to add the item to the agenda and to provide an update to the full Committee. It was the hope of those present to hold another meeting prior to the holiday break.

On a motion by Mr. Flynn , seconded by Mr. Valentini, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Documents presented for this meeting:

- ***Agenda, School Committee Workshop of November 12, 2013***
- ***Minutes, School Committee Workshop of October 8, 2013***
- ***“Governance Rubric for Continuous Improvement”***
- ***District Policies BB and BBA***
- ***SBRSD 2008-09 School Committee Self-Evaluation***
- ***July, 2009, Oregon School Boards Association’s “Board Self-Evaluation, Oregon Standards for Governance”***