

Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee  
Mt. Everett Regional School  
Sheffield, MA  
December 4, 2013  
School Committee Workshop

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

Absent: Ms. Fields

Others: Ms. Linda Higgins

1. Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
2. Mr. Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Valentini, to approve the minutes of the November 12 School Committee Workshop. Ms. Sahn noted that the second Standard referred to as Standard VII should read "VIII". The minutes were approved, with that amendment.
3. Following a brief update of members who were not in attendance at the November 12 meeting, the Committee began discussion of the remaining standards.
  - A. Standard 9, Committee Operations
    - It was agreed to remove the second bullet, "The Committee reserves statements critical of the superintendent's actions and evaluation of the superintendent for executive session" because it would be in violation of the Open Meeting Law.
    - Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to leave in the language of the fourth bullet.
  - B. Standard 10: Values, Ethics and Responsibility for Self.
    - It was agreed to change bullet #3 to read, "Committee members recuse themselves from discussions or deliberations of those topics which may result in a conflict of interest or appearance thereof."
    - It was agreed to delete bullet #4.
  - C. Standard 11: Committee Systematic Improvement
    - It was agreed to change bullet #1 to read, "Members participate in training and professional development."
    - It was agreed that the performance evaluations cited in bullet #2 will be bi-annually (not annually).
    - It was agreed that bullets #4-9 should be indented and re-named Items A-F.
  - D. Committee Self Evaluation Forms
    - It was agreed to remove this page.
  - E. Following discussion regarding next steps, Mr. Valentini moved to adopt the instrument, as developed, as the evaluative instrument of the School Committee. The motion was seconded by many members, and was so voted, unanimously.
  - F. Mr. Valentini then moved that the procedure for use of the instrument would be that at some point

every second year, each member take it home and evaluate to their own opinions as to how they are doing. Then, at a special meeting, review the document and bring forth their ideas on each. Ms. Sparhawk added that the Committee should develop goals to assess in the next self-evaluation.

Following additional discussion, Mr. Stewart clarified the motion as each member will take the instrument and do a qualitative appraisal of both individual member and the Committee as a whole, and then meet to discuss and evaluate the results and develop ideas of what the Committee is doing right or not doing right, and to reach decisions on goals.

Mr. Valentini agreed with the restated motion, and Ms. Sparhawk seconded the motion.

It was agreed that the discussion would take place in an open working meeting, and not be part of a regular School Committee meeting. It was also agreed that the process would begin in 2014.

The question was called, and it was so voted, unanimously.

Ms. Sparhawk noted that the Policy Subcommittee is in the process of revising Policy BAA.

On a motion by Mr. Valentini, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Documents presented for this meeting:*

- *Agenda, School Committee Workshop of December 4, 2013*
- *Minutes, School Committee Workshop of November 12, 2013*
- *Document titled, "Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee Self-Evaluation Instrument, November, 2013"*