

4.2.1

Audit Committee Minutes

Sept. 9th 2019

Attendees: Tom Burnell, Diane Lyons, Matt Van Wormer, Steve Jenkins. Absent: Thomas Liptay

We discussed Michele Keeler, the new small claims auditor. Michele started in August and has been catching up. She will take some training in the near future. Audit committee will meet with her at our next meeting.

We discussed the new software, Envision. Tom described some of the differences/challenges they are coping with in the payroll and accts payable portions. Ultimately Tom thinks operations will run smoothly and more efficiently but there's a learning curve to overcome. Envision also has budget and negotiations components that need to be explored for next iterations of these cycles.

The committee discussed the first draft of Questar's Administrator's report.

Next meeting TBD.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Jenkins

POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES**SEPTEMBER 12, 2019**

Attendance: Diane Lyons, Liz Raum, Mark Fleischhauer, Joe Phelan

#5220-Student Publications

School newspaper follow-up and what happened:

1. The students expressed interest using a particular software but Joe wants to see its benefits, how it operates, and is there a cost? Joe to make appointment with Sara Wheeler to discuss details.
2. There are no legal roadblocks to the newspaper selling sponsorship space because the newspaper is an extra-curricular activity. The issue then becomes which sponsors are/are not appropriate (alcohol, tobacco, slanderous personal ad); and using the Code of Conduct as our guideline who decides (Newspaper Adviser?).
3. Digital publication is not a problem (legal advice) and make the policy reflect that "students can publish digitally and hardcopy."
4. The publication needs to add a masthead with bylaws and who is the publisher.

Joe is creating a draft policy to address these topics, and will review with Ed Davenport and Sara Wheeler.

#5182 Released Time for Religious Instruction

Per legal advice, it is constitutional to host religious instruction outside school hours, but it is against our current policy.

State Mandated Voter Registration for Students

For students who are 16 by November must be given the opportunity to register to vote. Joe suggests we do every September for the 11th and 12th grades social study classes. Joe will talk with Ed Davenport about how best to do the registration.

Next Meeting: March 28th, 2019

Respectfully submitted: Liz Raum

Communications Committee Minutes

September 12, 2019

Attendees: Stephen Jensen, Joe Phelan, Jacqueline Raccuia, Elizabeth Raum, Jaclyn Savolainen

Brochure

Steve shared with the committee the most recent draft of the school district brochure we have been developing for families that might be interested in moving to Rhinebeck. He will send to the committee members PDFs for input on text and content, primarily in the sections on Students and Teachers. The committee members will also brainstorm for possible taglines for the district. Steve will inquire with other districts that have brochures to find out how they disseminate them.

Website

Steve also walked the committee through some of the changes he has made to the district website. We discussed ways to continue making gradual improvements with the goal of more intuitive organization of content and more readable pages.

Steve provided context for the website problems the district experienced in August. Our website sustained repeated attacks in such a way that our host had to keep shutting down the site. The good news is that our security effectively thwarted the attacks. Also, since we do not keep any private data on the website, nothing critical would have been gained by attackers even if they had been successful in breaching our security systems. Unfortunately, the community did experience a level of inconvenience in not being able to use the district website consistently in the weeks leading up to school's opening.

Cybersecurity will continue to be a major concern for public schools as trends indicate increasing number of cases where districts are targeted.

At our next meeting we will be looking back at the 2014-16 Communications Plan that Steve had developed to see what has been accomplished, what is still outstanding and what needs might have changed.

Next meeting: October 23, 2019

Respectfully submitted: Jaclyn Savolainen