

LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL SCHOOL
MAIN STREET
FRANCONIA, NH 03580

DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2012
TIME: 5:30 PM

MINUTES - APPROVED

PRESENT: Chairman Tina Peabody, Board Members Thomas Eyman, Luther Kinney, Linda Gaitskill, Mary Jo Greene; Superintendent Paul MacMillan; Business Manager Sandra Stone; Principal Gordie Johnk; Administrative Assistant Toni Butterfield; Profile Technology Representative, George Smith; Budget Committee Member David McPhaul; Parents, Nancy Peterson, Chris Polich, Crystal Hodgdon, Dan Kenerson, Victoria Cole; Students Danny Kenerson, Haley Hodgdon, Sasha Streich, Jake Peterson, Maddie Reeves, Eliza Polich, Hannah Butterfield, Tom Oliver.

Prior to the opening of the meeting, Principal Johnk showed a brief video of Governor John Lynch's visit to Lafayette Regional on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 and his interaction with the students.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peabody at 5:30 PM.

GRADE SIX LEGO ROBOTICS TEAM PRESENTATION

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Lafayette Lego Lovers are here this evening to present their award winning Lego presentation entitled Adopt-a-Senior. The students competed in the First Lego League winning awards at both their qualifying event and in the 2012 NH First Lego League Championship Event. The main goal of the project is to help senior citizens become more engaged, independent, connected and enjoy their older years to the fullest. Students became involved with a senior partner and they would play board games, go for short walks or make crafts. The students provided a skit with some of them playing themselves and some playing the seniors they adopted at the Lafayette Center. Following completion of the skit, the students demonstrated the 2012 FLL Challenge Senior Solution which is based on a real-world scientific topic. Each Challenge has three parts: the robot game, the project, and the FLL core values. The students asked all to join them in the computer lab for this informative successful demonstration. Students explained each facet of the Challenge various missions and in many instances demonstrated how their robot performed them. The Board applauded the students for their success and thanked them for the presentation.

LPTO REPORT

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the LPTO has donated funding to begin a Nordic Ski Program at Lafayette Regional. The Alpine Clinic is also participating as a sponsor. The program will be a collaboration with the Recreation Department with tracks at both the school and the Dow strip. Students will also be able to participate during recess. A brief discussion ensued.

MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2012 MEETING AS WRITTEN. The following corrections were requested:

Page 4, paragraph 6, line 3 should read . . . has replaced Performance Plus . . .
Page 4, paragraph 7, line 1 should read . . . and is approximately. . .

ALL IN FAVOR WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED CORRECTIONS, MOTION CARRIED.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Johnk called the Board's attention to his written report which was distributed earlier in the day via e-mail for Board information and review briefing them on the contents and fielding questions as necessary.

Among other issues that Principal Johnk wishes to address this evening are the technology issues and the status of the contract(s) with Time Warner Cable.

Chairman Peabody requested that the Technology Update be addressed at this point to allow George Smith of Profile Technologies to leave following the presentation.

Principal Johnk asked if there is a signed contract for the fiber optic connection in the amount of \$530.00 per month and was informed that there was. Business Manager Sandra Stone advised that she has been working with Lisa Kenard of Time Warner Cable pertaining to Lafayette's request to terminate the Fiber Optics contract and proceed with the program discussed at last month's meeting. Mr. Smith once again explained that Lafayette does not wish to participate in the I prism filtering system at the SAU level and is looking to install their own sonic wall for filtering purposes. They feel that the system in place at the SAU places unnecessary filtering constraints on their staff. By installing their own sonic wall they will be compliant with regulations for filtering content for students. As the current contract appears to be unbreakable, Lafayette will remain with the fiber optics and move forward with their stand alone filtering. Mr. Smith will need the pin number for Lafayette in order to work directly with Time Warner. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO RESCIND THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF GOING TO A CABLE CONNECTION AND REMAINING WITH THE FIBER OPTICS CONTRACT WITH TIME WARNER ASSUMING THAT THIS CONTRACT CANNOT BE BROKEN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Tom Eyman advised the Board that the Budget Committee held six meetings this fall. Mr. Eyman distributed an overview of the proposed budget to date briefing the Board on the major cost increases/decreases noting that the current proposed budget is \$2,286,310.00. This represents a 1.86% increase over the current budget with no salary increases. Principal Johnk also distributed a summary of the proposed budget which differs a bit from the one of Mr. Eyman. This is due in part to the fact that the committee has changed the technology position from a professional position to a support staff position. Also raised was the need to budget for the inclusion of an additional paraprofessional position. The committee was hoping that they could use the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. It was pointed out that this can only be utilized for unanticipated expenses and the fact that this is a known commodity at this point eliminates this option. Chairman Peabody raised the issue of the possibility of the addition of a warrant article to reserve the approved amount by DRA of any surplus funds to be utilized at the Board's discretion. Chairman Peabody will contact legal counsel pertaining to this issue and report back to the Board. A decision on this issue will be made prior to the Board voting on the budget at the January meeting.

It was noted that there are still some budgetary issues to be looked at as well as salary increases for the support staff and the principal.

David McPhaul commended all the other members of the budget committee for their dedication to the process with emphasis on the work of Principal Johnk and Administrative Assistant Toni Butterfield. Mr. McPhaul made the following comments as a private citizen and a tax payer of the District not as a committee member. He urged the Board to continue to take the economy and the number of individuals on a fixed income into consideration when constructing future budgets. Mr. McPhaul would like the Board to look into ways to slow the growth of the budget

and possibly make necessary cuts while not affecting the quality of education at Lafayette Regional School. Chairman Peabody asked where Mr. McPhaul sees these cuts to which he replied that they may need to possibly look at special programs such as art, music and physical education. Mr. McPhaul also requested further explanation of the increase in the District's portion of the retirement costs and can this be passed onto the employees. Superintendent MacMillan advised that this is the District's portion and that the employees are also paying an increased portion of these costs. Following a brief discussion, Mr. McPhaul left the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Linda Gaitskill expressed her thanks to the Budget Committee who has worked so hard to keep the budget increase as low as possible.

A discussion ensued on the possible budget surplus at the end of the current school year and how best to utilize a portion of this. The inclusion of a warrant article for the future funding of the oil tank upgrade was discussed. Tom Eyman suggested that the Board consider researching an alternative form of heating system such as pellets. The Building & Grounds committee will look into having a feasibility study for this purpose.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent MacMillan thanked the Board members for their attendance at the recent Full Board meeting.

Superintendent MacMillan presented the school calendar for the 2013-2014 school year which was approved by the Full Board for local approval. MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LUTHER KINNEY FOR THE LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD TO ADOPT THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL CALENDAR AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent MacMillan distributed copies of the Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting Calendar for Board review and approval noting that Lafayette's meetings are scheduled as follows:

Budget Hearing	February 14, 2013	7:00 PM
Annual Meeting	March 14, 2013	7:00 PM

The regularly scheduled Board meetings for February and March will be held prior to these at 5:00 PM. It was the consensus of the Board to approve these dates as presented.

Superintendent MacMillan distributed copies of the December 3, 2012 Enrollment figures for Board information and review.

Superintendent MacMillan distributed a letter from Kathleen Ross advising of her intent to retire under the terms of the current negotiated agreement. MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO ACCEPT KATHLEEN ROSS'S LETTER OF INTENT TO RETIRE AS SUBMITTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL

Manifests were circulated for Board information and approval.

Business Manager Sandra Stone advised the Board that she has the renewal contracts for Berry Transportation for the next five years for Board signature. The issue was raised pertaining to the cameras owned by Lafayette Regional that have not been installed on the buses. The Board requested an explanation prior to signing the contracts. This will be available for the next meeting.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed School Lunch Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is (\$5,951.47). This is a minor change from the prior reporting period.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$51,690.00. This includes all monies being held for unencumbered items and is a small change from the prior reporting period. A brief discussion ensued.

BOARD REPORTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD – No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS – No Report

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL

This will be discussed in Non-Public Session.

POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Linda Gaitskill distributed copies of the Policy Committee To Do List for Board information and review briefing them on the contents and fielding questions as necessary.

Linda Gaitskill presented Policy IHBG – Home Education Instruction for Board first reading. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO APPROVE POLICY IHBG – HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION FOR FIRST READING AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 8:06 PM UNDER PARAGRAPH II, SECTION 2 OF RSA 91A:3 OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS TAKING SUPERINTENDENT MACMILLAN. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 9:17 PM. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

Future classroom structure was discussed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY LUTHER KINNEY TO ADJOURN AT 9:22 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted;

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk

Approved by the Lafayette School Board January 10, 2013