

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Luther Kinney; Board Members Christi Gignac, Amy Mullins, Denys Draper, Chris Thayer; Superintendent Pierre Couture; Business Manager Tina Peabody, Principal Gordie Johnk; Administrative Assistant Toni Butterfield.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by Chairman Kinney.

PUBLIC INPUT – None

LPTO REPORT

Denys Draper distributed copies of the LPTO Report for Board information and review noting that the meeting was held on November 9, 2016 at 8:00 AM.

Ms. Draper advised that the Meadow Farms fundraiser orders are in. There are a few orders that need to be corrected but for the most part things went very well.

Ms. Draper advised the Board that the Halloween Happenings appeared to go very well. A good time was had by all.

Ms. Draper advised that the LPTO now has their own Bulletin Board. The Board will have information on upcoming events and sign-up sheets. Minutes of LPTO meetings will be posted and a suggestion box will be included.

Ms. Draper advised that the boxes are in for the Holiday Cookie Sale. Advertisement for cookies will be in the newsletter and on the LPTO Sandwich Board. The Cookie Sale will be held at the Holiday Concert.

Ms. Draper advised the Board that the Recycle Sale will be held on December 19th. This is an annual event that is always well received by the student shoppers who purchase gifts for family members.

Ms. Draper advised that planning for the Art Show is progressing. The LPTO will be meeting with The Inn at Sunset Hill to discuss availability of their venue for this event. This needs to be done very soon so that if the Inn is not available there will be ample time to secure the date with Chef Joe's. The LPTO is looking at having each class do a themed basket for a bucket auction and are trying to line up a few big live auction items.

Ms. Draper advised that PE instructor Jesse Lyman has made a request for a ping pong table. He needs two, one is included in his budget and he is requesting that the LPTO fund the cost of the other. The older tables have been repaired significantly and these two can no longer function. The LPTO will fund the cost of one table with fundraising to follow to reimburse them.

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2016 MEETING AS WRITTEN. It was noted that one change had already been made to add a space to the Non-Public Session Minutes. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Johnk called the Board's attention to his written report distributed earlier today via e-mail briefing the Board on the contents and fielding questions as necessary.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Annual Halloween Parade and related events was extremely successful and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the Franconia and Sugar Hill Fire and Police Departments for their assistance with this annual event.

Principal Johnk advised that the Franconia and Sugar Hill Fire Departments and Life Squad presented the annual Fire Prevention Activities for all students to learn and enjoy.

Principal Johnk advised that the Fall portion of the Outdoor Education Programs for the fifth and sixth graders has been completed. The final hike was to Lonesome Lake. This scenic trail is a steep climb to the lake which is surrounded by the Kinsman and Cannon Peaks. It was a brisk chilly day when they left the base and they encountered light snow as they climbed to the Lake. The program will resume in the spring with the annual trip to the Squam Lake Science Center to study field and lake ecology. The culminating activity is a trip to Boston for a whale watching experience on the New England Aquarium boats.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the sixth grade teams are competing in the regional First Lego League tournament at the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College on Saturday. Two teams will be participating in this event, one solving the problem of the white-nosed bat syndrome and the other trying to solve the issue of dolphins and porpoises being caught in commercial fishing nets. The students have worked very hard on this and are very excited.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Budget Committee continues with the budget development process meeting every week. This will be discussed under committee reports later in the evening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Couture reminded the Board that the SAU Full Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the AHEAD Conference Room upstairs from the SAU Office at 260 Cottage Street, Littleton. The SAU Budget will be approved at this meeting and he urges all members to attend.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the Administrative Team continues to focus on the PACE initiative.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that his office has been busy with budget preparation, negotiation participation, and the increase in health insurance. He is continuing to pursue a presentation by School Care in the near future. A brief discussion ensued.

Chris Thayer thanked Superintendent Couture for providing the link to the video on PACE.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that he had been to a NCSAA (North Country School Administrators Association) meeting earlier today. The main focus of their discussions was the proposed cuts in adequacy aid. Many North Country Districts face huge cuts resulting from the changes in adequacy aid. A brief discussion ensued. Superintendent Couture advised that he plans on attending a meeting on this in Franklin on November 14th. Superintendent Couture further noted that the NCSAA plans to invite area senators and representatives to their January meeting to seek their support and to advise that the State is not meeting their obligations pertaining to providing free and appropriate education for all students.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Manifests were distributed for Board review and approval.

Business Manager Tina Peabody distributed copies of the School Lunch Report for Board information and review noting that the meal count is down over that of the same period last year. Part of this decrease is the fact that the period included one less day this year. Ms. Peabody advised the Board that she would like to begin to present this report on a quarterly basis. It was the consensus of the Board to approve this suggestion. A brief discussion ensued pertaining to making parents aware that participation in the school lunch program benefits the school as the more meals sold the less the

amount needed to subsidize the program from tax dollars is. It was noted that a survey will be occurring in the near future as to the likes, dislikes, and what foods students wish to see on the menu. This week there was a baked potato bar with all the fixings for grades 4, 5, 6 which was well received. Business Manager Peabody also suggested that Lafayette might want to consider a biometric order system such as the one used at Profile. This eliminates the need for cards as students use their thumb print for identification. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Peabody distributed copies of the financial reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$14,867.76. Ms. Peabody noted that this includes monies to be transferred from the School District Building Expendable Trust Fund which needs to be voted on tonight.

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$62,200.00 FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMAINING FUNDS NEEDED FOR THE WINDOW/DOOR/INSULATION/PAINTING PROJECT COMPLETION. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED. It was noted that the public hearing was held for this purpose last month.

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD:

The SAU Budget Hearing was held on Monday, November 7, 2016. The budget is up 4% overall which includes a 15.3% increase in health care premiums. The SAU had already included the change to a less expensive prescription plan which was not mandated until the 2018 SY. A brief discussion ensued.

BUDGET:

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the committee completed their fourth meeting earlier today. They have finished their review of the budget which currently is at a 3.87% increase. Principal Johnk distributed copies of the FY 18 Budget Draft (Estimates) for Board information and review noting the additional costs for Health Insurance and Retirement and increases in the SAU costs, SPED Consultant, SPED Tuition and the Eureka Math Program totaling \$170,788.00.

Amy Mullins requested information on the E-Rate process which had been discussed at the Budget Committee specifically wanting to know if the District is receiving all that is available in this process. Business Manager Peabody advised the Board that the SAU contracts with an E-Rate Company for this purpose – E-Rate New England. The rules governing E-Rate are constantly changing and it has been found to be advantageous to all Districts to outsource this contract. Ms. Peabody distributed a summary of monies received from 1998 to the current year for Board information and review noting that some monies have been received for the current year and she is awaiting the breakdown from the contractor in order to distribute these funds appropriately. Ms. Peabody also distributed an analysis of the current year funding for Board information and review. A brief discussion ensued.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the budget includes \$9,000.00 for a new dishwasher; funding of a new carpet extractor at a projected cost of \$5,000.00 along with the recently purchased truck.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

Principal Johnk thanked Amy Mullins for all of her efforts in obtaining the appropriate reflective letters and numbers for the doors. This project is now complete.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL- No Report

POLICIES / PROCEDURES - No Report

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 6:30 PM UNDER PARAGRAPH II, SECTION 2 OF RSA 91A:3 OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES TAKING SUPERINTENDENT COUTURE, BUSINESS MANAGER PEABODY, PRINCIPAL JOHNK, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TONI BUTTERFIELD. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:07 PM. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

There being no additional business to come before the Board, MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER TO ADJOURN AT 7:08 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Brown, Board Clerk

APPROVED BY THE LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD DECEMBER 8, 2016