

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Board Chairman Luther Kinney (arrived at 5:24 PM); 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 5:25 PM by Chairman Kinney.

PUBLIC INPUT – None

LPTO REPORT

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Cookie Dough Fund Raiser was not as successful this year as it has been in the past.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Fun Pass Booklets netted the LPTO \$500.00.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Circus in Residency program is currently going on at Lafayette. Students are enjoying the experience and learning many things. Circus equipment is on sale for students to purchase.

The planning for the Art Show is ongoing. The LPTO has decided on Chef Joe's as the venue for this and it has been booked.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that planning for Staff Appreciation Week is well underway. This will be held the first week in May.

Denys Draper commented that the American History Museum in Manchester has a Treasure Chest which they will bring to local schools to present a history program to students.

MOTION BY CHRISTI GIGNAC, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2017 AND FEBRUARY 9, 2017 MEETINGS AS WRITTEN. The following corrections were requested in the February 9, 2017 minutes:

Page 1, paragraph 9. Line 3 should read to the editor of all . . .

Page 2, paragraph 5 Heading should read . . . FINANCIAL REPORTS:

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Kinney advised the Board that he is on the Board of the Tilotson Foundation and had attended a meeting earlier today. They had an excellent STEM presentation which was very exciting. A major focus of this presentation was the project leading up to and the launching of weather balloons. The Tilotson Foundation has expanded its area to include not only Coos County but Upper Grafton County and across the river to Vermont towns as well.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Johnk called the Board's attention to his written report distributed earlier today via e-mail. If there are any questions on his report, please let him know.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that there had been a recent visit to Lafayette School by a student's "Uncle Kevin" who is an astrophysicist with NASA and gave a presentation on his research on possible life forms on Europa, a moon of Jupiter which was well received and enjoyed by the students.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that School Nurse Samantha Presby has completed hearing tests on all students. This was done in collaboration with Profile School. Initially it was intended that the two schools split the cost of the machine utilized for this purpose but when this did not prove to be possible on Lafayette's part, the device was loaned to us by Profile.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the fourth grade participated in the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) testing program. This assessment ranks states according to standardized test scores in grades 4 and 8. In past years, NH has consistently ranked in the top five states in both reading and math. This year the tests were presented in a new on-line format.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that, as mentioned earlier, Troy Wunderle's Big Top Adventures Circus is at Lafayette. They are providing our students a one-week Circus in Residency program. Students learn how to balance feathers, juggle balls, jump on pogo sticks, ride unicycles, and form human pyramids. This program is a great learning experience for the students and is being well received by all.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the interviews have been completed for the head custodian position being vacated when Stan Sawicki retires at the end of March. Nineteen applications were received and seven individuals were interviewed. The committee selected Gerald Drapeau who is currently employed as a custodian at the Profile School District.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that Aaron Goldman, Technology Integrator at Lafayette School, attended the Power School University in Orlando, FL during winter break.

The Board discussed a parting gift for Mr. Sawicki. The Board decided on a gift certificate to the Common Man.
MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THIS GIFT

Principal Johnk advised the Board that seven applications have been received on School Spring thus far for the Kindergarten position. The deadline for application packet submission is Friday, March 17th. It is hoped that interviews will be completed in the first week of April and the successful candidate will be brought to the Board for nomination at the April meeting. A brief discussion ensued.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the publication, US News and World Report, has ranked NH Schools as number one in the country and NH secondary education as number two. This ranking is a direct result of competencies and the PACE Program and its effect on our education process.

Superintendent Couture briefed the Board on the bills before the legislature this session addressing education.

HB525 which was to freeze the 4% annual decrease in the stabilization grant portion of adequacy aid has been retained.

HB155 which was to fund Kindergarten on a full day basis per student has been retained. The superintendents are being told that this has been included in the governor's budget which has yet to be approved.

HB114 which was to fund 15% of the NH retirement is still alive and in committee.

SB193 which is being referred to as the voucher bill has been approved by the Senate Education Committee. This bill would allow funding of private and parochial schools along with Charter Schools and allow students to utilize the districts adequacy aid for this purpose. This would mean that public funds are being utilized for private institution tuitions. This bill is supported by both the Governor and the Commissioner of Education. It is estimated that this would cost \$80,000,000.00 annually which raises significant issues for the school districts. Where is this money to come from?

Superintendent Couture will be attending the NHSAA Executive Board meeting tomorrow in Concord. The new Commission of Education will be at this meeting and the superintendents have been requested to address issues of deep concern bringing them to the commissioner's attention. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that they need to decide who will be motioning and seconding each warrant article this evening. Chairman Kinney also wanted to discuss how the Board will handle motions to prevent reconsideration of articles and/or what to do if an article does not pass. Chairman Kinney shared information received from Legal Counsel Jay Boynton on these issues noting that Attorney Boynton will be on hand at the meeting to assist the Board and answer any questions from the public.

Principal Johnk distributed copies of the Power Point presentation for this evening's meeting for Board information and review.

Article 02	Motion will be made by Chris Thayer and Seconded by Denys Draper
Article 03	Motion will be made by Amy Mullins and Seconded by Christi Gignac
Article 04	Motion will be made by Luther Kinney and Seconded by Chris Thayer
Article 05	Motion will be made by Denys Draper and Seconded by Amy Mullins

Procedures for the motioning and seconding of motions to prevent reconsideration of articles was addressed and Board members identified for these tasks. Also discussed was the possible need to recess the Annual Meeting and reconvene on Thursday, March 23, 2017, if necessary. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the North Country Music Festival will be held on Wednesday, February 15th at Profile school.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Manifests were circulated for Board review and signature.

Business Manager Tina Peabody distributed copies of the bid listing for electric pricing noting that the three amounts in bold are what she feels are the best options. Ms. Peabody recommends awarding to First Point at a cost of \$0.07747 per kWh for forty-four months. Following a brief discussion, **MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO AWARD THE ELECTRIC PRICING BID AWARD TO FIRST POINT AT A COST OF \$0.07747 FOR A PERIOD OF FORTY FOUR MONTHS AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

Business Manager Tina Peabody distributed Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$850.71. A brief discussion ensued.

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairman Kinney advised the Board that the proposed change in health insurance for SAU employees was discussed and approved. Superintendent Couture briefed the Board on this change of plan fielding questions as necessary.

BUDGET – No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS – No Report

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL – No Report

POLICIES / PROCEDURES

Christi Gignac presented the following policies for second reading and approval:

GBCD	Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check
JCA	Change of School or Assignment
JLCD	Administering Medication to Students

Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRIS THAYER TO ACCEPT THE AFOREMENTIONED POLICIES FOR SECOND READING AND APPROVAL AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board conferred with Attorney Boynton briefly pertaining to the warrant for this evening's meeting.

MOTION BY CHRISTI GIGNAC, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER TO RECESS THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AT 6:30 PM UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO RECONVENE THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AT 8:00 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

There being no additional business to come before the Board, MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO ADJOURN AT 8:01 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk