

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

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

PUBLIC INPUT – None

LPTO REPORT

Amy Mullins advised that the LPTO has not met this month as yet.

Amy Mullins advised that today was the kick-off for the annual Meadow Farms Fundraising event.

MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLIINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8 AND JUNE 20, 2017 MEETINGS AS WRITTEN. The following corrections were requested:

June 8, 2017 Minutes

Page 2, paragraph 2, line 2 should read . . . Music Teacher. , ,

Page 2, paragraph 11, line 2 should read . . . yearend balance

Page 2, paragraph 12, line 2 should read . . . Principal Johnk . . .

Page 3, paragraph 12, line 1 should read . . . End of Year . . .

June 20, 2017 minutes

Page 1, paragraph 4, line 6 should read . . . \$18,468.00 . . .

ALL IN FAVOR WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED CORRECTIONS, MOTION CARRIED.

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 this report, please let him know.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Lafayette Regional School's beginning enrollment is 124 students. This includes 31 new students, 17 of which are Kindergarten students and the remaining 14 are in grades 1-6.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that things are going well in the Kindergarten classroom with students and our new teacher. There were some issues/concerns around the lateness of the parent packets for incoming Kindergarten students which are being resolved.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the summer recreation program was very successful utilizing the Lafayette School. Approximately 75 kiddos participated overall with the average attending on a daily basis being 55. The summer reading program had 46 students participating. Both programs were extremely successful.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that Emily Clark ran the Lafayette Regional Schools Summer Program which was a success. This program is offered for students in need of an extended year program. Ms. Clark did an excellent job and is to be commended for her efforts.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that his report also includes North West Educational Assessments (NWEA) results for each grade. These tests show the progress of each student as the year progresses. The teachers use these results to monitor teacher effectiveness and learning gaps or difficult areas along with areas in need of improvement. The charts included in his report provide a brief synopsis of the results. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Johnk advised the Board that Professional Development during the summer consisted of continuation of the writing program begun last year. This has been well received by staff members.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture distributed the Lafayette School Board Meeting Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year for Board information and review. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY CHRIS THAYER TO APPROVE THE BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED. It was noted that the February and March meeting dates may be changed to coincide with the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting dates.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that Irene Phelps was hired to fill the vacant paraprofessional position.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the recent residency issue has been dealt with. The family is renting space in Sugar Hill awaiting the completion of their new home. Superintendent Couture advised the Board that these type of issues need to be addressed by the principal following the established chain of command. The Board would need to hear any appeal resulting from the principal and/or superintendent's decisions in these matters and as such the Board should not have prior knowledge of the issue. It was noted that in order to enroll in school, parents must be able to prove current residency within the district. Historically, at the end of the year if there is a request for the students to finish the last few weeks of school in the District, it is normally approved. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised the board that the Administrative Retreat was held in August and SAU Goals for the 2017-2018 school year were developed. They are:

- Goal 1 Continue competency and assessment development
- Goal 2 Provide support within all schools to provide a physically and psychologically safe learning environment.
- Goal 3 Increase family and community (public) connections to foster relationships and support student learning.

Superintendent Couture noted that the Administrative Team removed the title PACE from Goal 1 in order to include all subjects and not limited to only English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that in keeping with Goal 2, ALICE (alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate) Training was held at Profile School on August 23rd. This was a mandatory presentation for all staff members in each of our districts and the SAU Central Office. Intruder training techniques have been updated since the incident at Columbine in Littleton, CO a number of years ago. Sheltering in place is not the best way to handle these situations and the training addresses this. Superintendent Couture also advised the Board that we are in the process of developing a partnership with ACHS (Ammonoosuc Community Health Services) to provide additional counseling for our students. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised that Goal 3 addresses the need for the development of more community and family support services within our districts.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that we are beginning the second year of PACE. Our staffs continue to develop assessment maps. Shelli Roberts of BES has taken a leadership role in this initiative and many staff members are also participating at the state and local levels.

Superintendent Couture advised that the DOE is looking at new testing programs to replace Smarter Balanced. This assessment will be testing students in grades 3, 8, and 11. We will need to also have approved assessments for other grades and plan to continue to use PACE.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that Full Day Kindergarten was approved and the qualifying districts will now receive an additional \$1,100.00 per student. The stabilization portion of Adequacy Aid was not changed and will remain at an annual decrease of 4% for twenty years. It is anticipated that more lobbying will be done as we move forward in the hopes of still changing and/or possibly eliminating this.

Superintendent Couture noted that the Commissioner of Education is forming a committee to study Adequacy Aid,

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that Deputy Commissioner of Education Paul Leather has announced his retirement after 40 plus years in the department. He has accepted a job at the University of Kentucky.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Manifests were circulated for Board information and approval.

Business Manager Tina Peabody distributed the final Financial Report for the 2016-2017 school year advising that the District ended the year with a deficit balance of (\$5,952.65). The District is not allowed to overspend their budget which is what has happened. Ms. Peabody advised that we may have to have a deficit appropriation at the March meeting. She is waiting to hear from the State as how to proceed. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Peabody advised that she will have the first Financial Reports for the 2017-2018 school year at the October or November meeting.

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the first draft of the SAU Budget will be addressed at the October meeting. The SAU Budget Hearing will be held in November and the Full Board Meeting to approve the Budget will be held in December. A brief discussion ensued.

BUDGET

Principal Johnk advised the Board that he will have the Budget Committee Membership for the October Board meeting. The Budget Committee will meet in October and November and have the budget ready for presentation to the Board at the December meeting. Amy Mullins and Denys Draper represent the Board on the Budget Committee.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Principal Johnk distributed a listing of unbudgeted items which need to be addressed totaling \$9,914.08 for Board information and review. This list consists of a Septic Control Box at a cost of \$2,500.00; MPR (multipurpose room) Window at a cost of \$184.55; MPR Fire Door at a cost of \$920.50; Freezer Tape at a cost of \$959.03; a new freezer door at a cost of \$4,900.00; and a new Silo Gauge at a cost of \$450.00. Also included in the list is an additional cost in the amount of \$2,128.84 which represents repairs on the control system to date

Christi Gignac advised the Board that the Building & Grounds Committee is working on obtaining the necessary signage from the DOE pertaining to the Drug Free School and Tobacco Free Zones ad addressed in the policies.

Amy Mullins advised that the LPTO is looking into signage stating Lafayette Regional School to be added over the front door of the Building.

Principal Johnk is continuing to research the lighting project for the Library, Multipurpose Room, and the Parking Lot. It appears that 30% of the project may be reimbursable by the Public Utilities Commission. He will have additional information next month.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL – No Report

POLICIES / PROCEDURES

Christi Gignac presented the following policies for first reading:

- EHB Data and Records Retention
- EHB-R Data and Records Retention Schedule
- IHAMA Teaching about Alcohol Drugs & Tobacco

Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE AFOREMENTIONED POLICIES FOR FIRST READING AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

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

- ADB Drug-Free Workplace / Drug-Free Schools
- GBEC Drug-Free Workplace / Drug-Free Schools
- JLcK Special Physical Health Needs of Students

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Principal Johnk addressed the problems stemming from the late release of Kindergarten Packets to parents. Principal Johnk accepts full responsibility for this issue and has sent a letter to the parents pertaining to this. He is seeking input as to a better way to handle this next year but did indicate that it will definitely be sent out earlier. A brief discussion ensued.

The establishment of a Lafayette Regional School Face Book Page was discussed.

It was noted that the Superintendent received a letter from concerned Kindergarten parents which was signed by two parents expressing their frustration at the lack of information prior to the opening of school. A brief discussion ensued.

There being no additional business to come before the Board, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO ADJOURN AT 7:00 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk