

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

DATE: MARCH 13, 2014
TIME: 5:00 PM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Board Chairman Tina Peabody; Board Members Linda Gaitskill, Mary Jo Greene, Thomas Eyman, Luther Kinney; Superintendent Pierre Couture; Business Manager Sandra Stone; Principal Gordie Johnk; Administrative Assistant Toni Butterfield; Community Member Kevin Low.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM by Chairman Tina Peabody.

PUBLIC INPUT – None

LPTO REPORT

Toni Butterfield advised the Board that the recent Circus residency program was very successful with students and staff members doing extremely well in their participation. A great time was had by all.

Ms. Butterfield advised the Board that the annual spelling bee is scheduled for March 21, 2014 and plans are well underway for this well received event.

Ms. Butterfield advised the Board that the LPTO will be sponsoring a program called Fit Girls for girls in grades 3-6 at a total cost of \$400.00 for the program. This will replace the program Girls on the Run which was significantly more expensive.

Ms. Butterfield further advised that there will be a presentation by Jenifer Frank of PSU Security on Internet Safety for Students later in the year. This is a program specifically designed for students similar to the presentation done last year for parents. Ms. Frank is a recognized leader in this venue. A brief discussion ensued.

MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2014 MEETING AS WRITTEN. The following corrections were requested:

Page 2, paragraph 5, item 5 should read . . . What suggestions would you . . .

Page 3, paragraph 5, line 1 should read . . . has had reply from . . .

Page 4, paragraph 1, line 1 should read . . . Student Transportation

ALL IN FAVOR WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED CORRECTIONS, MOTION CARRIED.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Honeywell System has worked very well this year notifying parents and staff of school cancellations and other events. Principal Johnk sent a reminder out today pertaining to the Annual Meeting being held this evening and the make-up day for Winter Program tomorrow. Principal Johnk felt it prudent to do so in light of the cancellation of school today! A brief discussion ensued.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Kindergarten class combined learning of measurement with President's Day and made a life size replica (one dimensional like a "Flat Abe") of President Lincoln. All students participated in this and learned a lot about measuring and President Lincoln.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that Grade 4 is making a video for submission to the NH Tourism Department advertising our area. Grade 5 & 6 students have been busy compiling videos for entry in the North Country Film Festival. The awards program for this program will be on March 22, 2014. A brief discussion ensued.

Principal Johnk advised that, as reported under the LPTO Report, Wonderlee Big Top Adventures headed by Troy Wonderlee was a very successful residency program with huge participation on the part of the students and staff. Many students stayed after school on various days to hone their circus skills.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Winter Program ends tomorrow. This is actually a makeup day so there will be no lessons and supervision will be done by parental volunteers. It was noted that this year two days needed to be cancelled due to extremely cold temperatures and wind conditions

Principal Johnk thanked the members of the Building and Grounds Committee for their inordinate amount of work researching the various types of systems and preparing the presentation for this evening's annual meeting. A brief discussion ensued.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture presented the Job Descriptions for Head of Maintenance and Custodian positions for second reading and approval. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO ACCEPT THE HEAD OF MAINTENANCE JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR SECOND READING AND APPROVAL AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO APPROVE THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE CUSTODIAN POSITION AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture recommended the Professional Staff Nomination List (copy attached) for the 2014-2015 school year for Board approval. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture recommended the nomination of Principal Johnk for the 2014-2015 school year. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF PRINCIPAL JOHNK FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the advertisement for the Business Manager's position has appeared in the local newspapers and is on School Spring. The committee members have been given access on School Spring to review and evaluate the applicants which alleviates the need to come to the SAU Office to do so. Interviews will be held during April and it is anticipated that the final candidate will be presented to the Full Board in May. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the Teacher Evaluation Plan has been tweaked and that it will be presented to the professional staff at the various districts in the near future. There will be a

two week window for staff input and comments and then the final product will be completed. This will be presented to the Full Board at the May meeting. A brief discussion ensued.

The NHSBA Sample Policy for Teacher Evaluations is under review by the Policy Committee and will be presented to the Board at the April meeting for first reading. This policy is required by the State in conjunction with the waiver of NCLB.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Manifests were circulated for Board information and approval.

Business Manager Stone distributed copies of the School Lunch Report through the end of February noting that the current balance is a deficit of (\$7,613.11) which is a minor change from the prior reporting period. This is still within the limits of the amount set aside in the budget to offset this deficit.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed copies of the Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is at a deficit of (\$14,147.00). Ms. Stone briefed the Board on the changes since the prior reporting period noting that she is holding monies for unencumbered expenses along with the \$25,000.00 the Board hopes to retain as a beginning balance. Mrs. Stone advised the Board that she is confident that when all is said and done, the District will finish the year in the black. A brief discussion ensued.

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mary Jo Greene advised the Board that this had been covered under Superintendent Couture's report.

BUDGET

Principal Johnk distributed information on the proposed budget reduction he is recommending the Board to make later this evening. This is based on information which was not available at the time the budget was originally developed. The total amount of this reduction would be \$16,250.00. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Johnk also addressed the continuity of education standards as they apply to a Lafayette student who will be remaining at Lafayette Regional School for the balance of the 2013-2014 school year. A brief discussion ensued.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

A brief discussion on the heating system presentation later this evening at the Annual Meeting was held. The Board also discussed the worst case scenario of waiting till the summer of 2015 to complete this project.

Warrant article motions and seconds for this evening were discussed.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL

Principal Johnk advised the Board that 19 applications have been received to date for the grade two position. Principal Johnk advised the Board that he is seeking Board volunteers to serve on the interview committee. The committee will consist of 2-3 teachers, 2 parents, 2 school board members and Principal Johnk as chairman. Linda Gaitskill and Luther Kinney volunteered to serve in this capacity. It is anticipated that interviews will be conducted in early April.

POLICIES – No Report

There being no additional business to come before the Board, MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO ADJOURN AT 6:40 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk

APPROVED BY LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD APRIL 9, 2014