

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

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2013
TIME: 5:30PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Tina Peabody; Board Members Linda Gaitskill, Thomas Eyman, Mary Jo Greene, Luther Kinney; Superintendent Pierre Couture; Business Manager Sandra Stone; Principal Gordie Johnk.

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

PUBLIC INPUT - None

LPTO REPORT

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Halloween Happenings was very successful with the LPTO providing a healthy treat, Zombie Apples.

The Silent Auction Fund Raiser was held at Chef Joe's on Friday, November 8, 2013. This was a very successful event and preliminary totals indicate that the LPTO raised \$7,500.00.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the recent box top submission netted the LPTO \$574.00. This is submitted twice yearly and has proven to have significant results. The top year netted \$1,300.00 in funds which represents a lot of box tops. It was noted that the Transfer Station workers were instrumental in assisting with this project providing the school with lots of box tops.

The LPTO Holiday Social will be held on December 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM at Wendle's. There will be a brief meeting followed by the Social.

Chairman Peabody expressed the Board's thanks to the LPTO for all they do for the students and the school community.

MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2013 MEETING AS WRITTEN. ALL IN FAVOR, 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.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that NECAP testing has been completed in grades 3-6. This coming Spring's Science NECAP testing in grade 4 will complete Lafayette's involvement with the NECAP testing program. Beginning in the spring on 2014 the Smarter Balanced program will be taking its place. This is an online standardized and adjustable assessment tool.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Parent/Teachers conferences were held in October with turnout being just slightly lower than 100%. There were only two families unable to make the conferences.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Grade 6 First Lego League has participated in a Robotics Presentation at Dartmouth. This year's theme was Nature's Fury and the teams' solution to natural emergencies was a flashlight that runs off of your body's electricity. All of the judges are volunteers and one of them who our students interacted with is a Thermo Electrical Engineer who was great with the kids.

Principal Johnk advised that the NH State Police brought in their robot to demonstrate to the students how they keep themselves and the community safe. The trooper providing the demonstration related well with the students who found the robot fascinating.

Principal Johnk advised that the Franconia Ski Club is offering scholarships to their program for Lafayette students.

Principal Johnk advised that the Franconia and Sugar Hill Police Departments met with the students to discuss "Halloween Safety" and being smart when trick or treating.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Franconia and Sugar Hill Police Departments along with the Life Squad provided protection for the students for the annual Halloween Parade down Main Street.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the LPTO has generously provided funding for new choral risers for the music program. The cost of this project was approximately \$4,300.00.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that he has received a letter from William Mellekas, Grade 2 teacher, advising the Board of his intent to retire at the end of the current school year, June 30, 2014. Under the terms of the negotiated agreement, once the Board has approved this notification, Mr. Mellekas will present a formal letter of resignation to the Board. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO ACCEPT, WITH REGRET, WILLIAM MELLEKAS'S LETTER OF INTENT TO RETIRE. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the proposed relocation of the SAU Office to Bethlehem was rejected by the Executive Board due to a low amount of savings and the additional costs associated with moving and the relocation of the fiber optics by Time Warner. The current location of the SAU Office at 260 Cottage Street is being sold and is under agreement with AHEAD. Our lease runs out in February of 2014 and Superintendent Couture will be meeting with the AHEAD Director, Michael Clafin, in the near future to discuss renewal terms along with the possibility of adding a conference room to our location. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the proposed SAU budget for the 2014-2015 school year was presented at the Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. The proposed budget calls for a 2% salary increase for SAU employees and includes the projected 7.4% health insurance increase. The Full Board December meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 6:00 PM at Profile School. The Budget will be voted on at that time and Superintendent Couture urged all Board members to attend.

Superintendent Couture presented the following job descriptions for First Reading:

- Paraprofessional
- Custodian (Day or Night)
- Cafeteria Assistant
- Food Service Manager

Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LUTHER KINNEY TO APPROVE THE AFOREMENTIONED JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR FIRST READING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Manifests were circulated for Board information and approval.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed copies of the Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$27,697.00. This includes monies being held for anticipated expenses in the areas of substitutes, extension courses, student activities, conferences/dues/workshops, fuel and supplies. Ms. Stone further advised that there has been a decrease in the anticipated revenue from National Forest Lands in the amount of \$3,033.00. Ms. Stone briefed the Board on the changes since the prior reporting period fielding questions as necessary.

Business Manager Stone distributed a summary of Lafayette and Profile Tax Rates for Franconia, Easton and Sugar Hill advising the Board on the increases/decreases for the rates in each town. Ms. Stone noted that her preliminary estimates were quite close to the actual figures. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Stone distributed copies of the School Lunch Report for Board information and review noting that the current balance is at a deficit of (\$4,277.30). This amount is well within the limits of the \$11,168.00 budgeted for this purpose. The Board had asked for information on what the District would stand to lose if they opted out of the Federal School Lunch Program. Ms. Stone advised that they would lose their E-Rate, Title I, Title IIA and REAP funding if they chose this route and the loss would be substantially more than the costs to support the program. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Stone distributed updated information on the proposed lease agreement with Specialized Purchasing Consultants for upgrading of the copiers and printers under a leasing program similar to what is now in place. They would be replacing the three copiers in the building as well as the individual classroom printers on a phase out basis for a significant savings in cost over a five year period. There is also a significant savings in the cost of black and white and color copies. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY LUTHER KINNEY TO APPROVE THE LEASE FOR COPIERS, PRINTERS AND SUPPLIES AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mary Jo Greene advised the Board that the majority of the report was covered by Superintendent Couture.

Ms. Greene noted that the estimated costs from Time Warner to move the fiber optics to the proposed new location would be approximately \$9,000.00.

Ms. Greene advised the Board that the 2014-2015 School Calendar will be on the agenda for the Full Board Meeting in December for approval.

BUDGET

Principal Johnk advised that the Budget Committee has met four times and will be meeting again on this Friday. Principal Johnk distributed a listing of significant changes to the proposed budget to date briefing the Board on them and fielding questions as necessary.

Principal Johnk is asking the Board to consider reducing legal expenses line by \$1,000.00 along with reducing the school lunch transfer amount from \$11,168.00 to \$10,000.00. Following a brief discussion the Board felt that these two lines should remain as is.

Principal Johnk advised that the committee will be discussing salaries for support staff at the meeting on Friday.

Principal Johnk anticipates that the budget will be completed to present to the Board in December.

Mary Jo Greene requested clarification on a graduate course payment included in the manifest. Principal Johnk will request a synopsis of the course and report back to the Board.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Principal Johnk called the Board's attention to the Siemen's Energy Audit distributed prior to tonight's meeting. The report contains six different areas of energy reduction opportunities (Facility Improvement Measures or "FIMs". The Building and Grounds Committee has identified and prioritized two of these FIMs which include the Boiler Conversion and Pump Retrofit w/piping redesign. The committee has been researching other means of heating. Principal Johnk distributed a Heating Cost Comparison Report for Board information and review consisting of fuel oil, propane, wood pellets along with pellet/oil combination and pellets/propane combination. The committee along with Superintendent Couture attended a Biomass presentation at White Mountain School earlier in the week showcasing their wood pellet system. This was a very interesting and informative session. The Committee would like to look into the possibility of converting to a pellet system. They have scheduled an appointment with Wayne Fillion of Yeaton Associates to begin this process. Mr. Fillion would develop the engineering plans for submission to the state, develop and oversee the bid process and act in the position of Clerk of the Works during the project at a cost of \$5,000.00. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$5,000.00 TO YEATON ASSOCIATES FOR AN ENGINEERING STUDY, DESIGN, BID PROCESS AND OVERSEEING OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

The subject of a silo for the storage of wood pellets and the location of same was raised. This would need to be in the front of the building in the area of the sculpture garden. The subject of seeking public input was also raised. A brief discussion ensued.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL – No Report

POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Linda Gaitskill presented the following policies for second reading and approval:

JICI	WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY
KB	TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION
KFA	PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO ACCEPT THE AFORMENTIONED POLICIES FOR SECOND READING AND APPROVAL AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:27 PM UNDER PARAGRAPH II, SECTION 2 OF RSA 91A:3 OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES TAKING SUPERINTENDENT COUTURE. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:50 PM. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to come before the Board, MOTION BY LUTHER KINNEY, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYEMAN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:51 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted;

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk