

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

DATE: February 8, 2018
TIME: 5:00 PM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Board Chairman, Luther Kinney; Board members Denys Draper, Christi Gignac, Amy Mullins, Chris Thayer
Superintendent Pierre Couture
Principal Gordie Johnk
Administrative Assistant Toni Butterfield
Board Clerk Lynne Warren
Business Manager Kristin Franklin
Michelle McCord, NEA-NH Uniserve Director
Amy Kelley
Katherine Anderson

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by Chairman Kinney.

MOTION TO GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION BY CHAIRMAN KINNEY, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS. ALL IN FAVOR AFTER A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

Returned to public session at 5:29 p.m.

Upon returning to public session Michelle McCord, Amy Kelley, and Katherine Anderson left the meeting.

LPTO Report

None – LPTO does not meet until next week.

Approval of minutes of Jan 11, 2018 meeting

MOTION BY CHRISTIE GIGNAC, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14 MEETING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Principal's report

Principal Johnk presented and reviewed the report which had been previously emailed to attendees along with NWEA standardized testing results.

Winter program recap: Chaperones have been great. There have been many weather challenges so far causing cancellations. There are plans to make up some of the cancelled sessions.

Lafayette Teachers decided to withdraw from the PACE program. The decision was primarily due to the amount of paperwork mandated by the state and federal governments as part of the program. PACE seems to be a good initiative, but needs improvement related to reducing paperwork. Lafayette will go back to standardized testing for grades 3, 4, 5, 6.

Discussion ensued.

NWEA results were reviewed and discussed. Principal Johnk reiterated that NWEA is just one piece used by teachers and administration to know if they are doing what they're supposed to be doing.

With the severity of this flu season, there have been significant attendance issues lately. At Lafayette there have been at least 12 documented cases of flu to date, and many absences.

Superintendent's Report

Adequacy Aid / Legislative Update

Voucher Bill - The Superintendent was at a presentation recently where the sponsor of the bill, Senator John Regan, made a presentation in which he outlined the reasons he sponsored the bill.

Discussion ensued regarding financial impacts of the bill, especially on rural and small school districts.

Superintendent Couture mentioned that he has had discussions with Representative Brad Bailey regarding the issue.

Financial Report

Kristin Franklin presented and reviewed the financial report. She explained that the projected \$57,000 surplus at end-of-year includes things that are formally encumbered as well as some that are not formally encumbered, but are expected to be spent.

The health Insurance 'gain' of \$77,000 due to lower costs in that area is a key part of the surplus. Without it there would be a \$20,000 deficit.

There have been 1762 more meals served this year-to-date than last.

Franklin discussed potential changes to Lafayette's insurance through Primex, specifically related to workers comp and property / casualty & liability insurance. The insurer sent a letter to the district with proposed changes regarding caps and potential savings. A decision needs to be made soon whether to accept the proposed caps. The letter specified a deadline, but the representative from the insurer said that date can be extended some.

Franklin presented historical data in an effort to support decision making regarding the insurance issue. However she is concerned about the accuracy and validity of the data. Says she doesn't feel in a position to advise well on the decision. She did feel that because a cap is set, but not a floor there is probably not a downside to accepting the cap agreement.

Discussion ensued.

Chairman Kinney asked if we had gotten the caps in the past as we were supposed to. Superintendent Couture suggested that Franklin call Primex to inquire on this.

A MOTION TO ACCEPT AN ANNUAL CAP OF 10% FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN KINNEY TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION TO ACCEPT AN ANNUAL CAP OF 10% FOR PROPERTY / CASUALTY & LIABILITY INSURANCE AND AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN KINNEY TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE BY CHRIS THAYER AND SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Franklin commended Lafayette for qualifying for the program - based on claims history.

Approval of bills

Christie Gignac requested that the manifests be made available prior to the school board meeting for review, since it is difficult to review and sign them, while trying to focus on the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding timing, and Franklin said she would likely be able to make them available at the school at least a day prior to the meeting.

Board of Education Committee Reports

Executive Board

No Executive Board meeting this month - no report.

Building & Grounds

Lighting Project upgrade

Principal Johnk recapped progress so far on the project. Things are moving fast, and he is receiving pre-construction notes. It appears that the entire project will most likely be completed over spring break.

Davis Electric from Whitefield is the sub-contractor doing the installation. Johnk recently met with the project manager to verify light count. A location on-site at the school needs to be determined to place a storage container for project supplies and materials.

Policies / Procedures

Christin Gignac presented three policies for first reading - all three are new policies.

1. BEDB Agenda prep and dissemination
2. BEDG Minutes
3. DIH Fraud Prevention & Fiscal Mgmt

There was brief discussion and clarification regarding each, and Gignac pointed out key aspects of each.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE THREE POLICIES WAS MADE BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Two policies were presented for Second Reading and Approval

1. EH Public Use of School Records
2. JICD Student Conduct, Discipline and Due Process

Gignac specified that there have been no changes to either of the policies from the previous reading.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE TWO POLICIES BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Budget review

No report presented. Annual budget meeting to immediately follow board meeting.

Chairman Kinney asked if a motion was needed on article 3, to make up prior year's deficit. This had not been done at the last meeting.

MOTION TO HAVE A WARRANT ARTICLE TO ELIMINATE DEFICIT APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017 WAS MADE BY CHRISTI GIGNAC, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Other Business

MOTION TO RETURN TO NON-PUBLIC SESSION TO CONTINUE PERSONNEL DISCUSSION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC. ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Returned to public session at 6:52 PM

MOTION TO INSTRUCT SUPERINTENDENT COUTURE TO PROCEED AS DISCUSSED DURING NON-PUBLIC SESSION WAS MADE BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Denys Draper discussed changes regarding the Right-to-Know law. She is to receive additional information on the subject and will forward it by email to the group.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTIE GIGNAC. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54PM

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Warren, Board Clerk