

## MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Tina Peabody; Board Members Thomas Eyman, Toni Butterfield; Linda Gaitskill, Mary Jo Greene; Superintendent Paul MacMillan; Business Manager Sandra Stone; Principal 'Gordie Johnk; Community Member Nick De Mayo.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peabody at 5:35 PM.

PUBLIC INPUT - None

### LPTO REPORT

Toni Butterfield advised that the LPTO has not met as yet this month.

MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 9 AND NOVEMBER 17, 2010 MEETINGS AS WRITTEN. The following corrections were requested on the November 9 minutes:

Page 3, paragraph 2, line 2 should read . . . and began working line by line . . .

Page 3, paragraph 6, line 2 should read . . . due to the increases . . .

Page 3, paragraph 6, line 3 should read of the District's control.

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 via e-mail, briefing the Board on the contents and fielding questions as necessary.

Principal Johnk advised that the Grade 6 First Lego League Robotics Team participated in the Regional Tournament at Dartmouth University. The Team did not qualify for the state meet but did learn a lot about teamwork, presentation, robotics programming, design element, and sportsmanship. As part of this experience, the team made a video entitled "Heart Race" which they entered into the North Country Middle School Film Festival. They won a category in this contest which will be awarded on Saturday at the Berlin Middle School.

Principal Johnk advised that Mr. Ferguson's fourth grade class took a field trip to the Alpine Clinic to study the human skeletal system. Dr. Chen took them on a tour and showed them all of the technology that is used in the clinic.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Lafayette Budget Committee met five times from the beginning of November until their final meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The proposed budget will be presented to the Board later this evening.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent MacMillan thanked those who attended the SAU Full Board meeting at Profile School on December 1, 2010. Superintendent MacMillan distributed copies of the reports presented at that meeting for information and review which included the SAU Budget for the 2011-2012 school year and the accompanying summation of the budget along with a report

entitled SAU 35, A Year in Review. Superintendent MacMillan also distributed copies of the National Core Curriculum and Assessment utilized in his PowerPoint presentation at the meeting.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that the SAU Technology Audit has been completed and he anticipates receiving the report later this week. Superintendent MacMillan noted that input had been sought from all Central Office staff members, Executive Board Chairman Tina Peabody, Lisbon IT Coordinator Ben Jellison and Profile's Dan Inghram. It is hoped that this audit will pinpoint areas where collaboration can save all districts monies along with eliminating duplication of efforts. A brief discussion ensued.

Community Member Nick De Mayo asked if there has been a conclusion to the law suit regarding the retirement system. Superintendent MacMillan advised that this case is still ongoing and is anticipated to take quite some time to come to a resolution. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent MacMillan distributed copies of the proposed school calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. The SAU has been in contact with other area SAU's with the following results; SAU 84 is developing their calendar but indicated that they do plan to start school on August 29<sup>th</sup>; SAU 36 and SAU 23 have yet to develop a proposed calendar. The possibility of being closed the day before Thanksgiving in future years or possibly having an early release was discussed. MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY TONI BUTTERFIELD TO APPROVE THE SAU 35 PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting dates have been scheduled as follows: Budget Hearing, February 10, 2011 at 7:00 PM and Annual Meeting, March 10, 2011 at 7:00 PM. Their regularly scheduled Board meetings will also be held on these dates at 5:30 PM. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO APPROVE THE BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL MEETING DATES AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that the Grade Level / Subject Alike meetings have been completed with the exception of Music which is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>. Overall the participants have found these meetings very informative, have enjoyed the collaboration and sharing of best practices and resources and opening the lines of communication. Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that Ben Woo of the Lafayette Staff facilitated the Art Team meeting in his classroom which was very well received as well. A brief discussion ensued.

## FINANCIAL

Manifests were circulated for Board review and approval.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed the School Lunch Report for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$65.82 less than the \$20,000.00 set aside for this purpose. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed the Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected yearend balance is \$17,656.00. This is a very small changes from the prior reporting period. Ms. Stone briefed the Board on the contents of the report fielding questions as necessary.

Community member Nick De Mayo requested an update on the oil bidding process. Ms. Stone advised that Stiles Fuel was the choice at 14.7 cents over rack pricing. Lafayette cannot get the tanker pricing as their oil tank is too small. Principal Johnk commented that the Board may wish to consider installing a larger tank when replacement is needed in order to be up to the new codes. Ms. Stone advised the Board that she has been in touch with David Landry of Tanner Hill

who accompanied the state inspector. It is Mr. Landry's hope that all Lafayette will need to replace in order to be in compliance will be the piping to the tank but not the tank itself. The only deterrent to this may be the fact that the tank does not sit low enough in the ground. A brief discussion ensued.

## BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Toni Butterfield advised that the Superintendent had covered the Full Board meeting in his report. The next Executive Board meeting will be on January 5, 2011.

## BUDGET

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the Budget Committee faced some serious concerns during budget development as the items causing the largest increase (health insurance costs and retirement costs) are items completely out of the control of the Board.

Tom Eyman advised the Board that the committee reviewed the budget line by line. Mr. Eyman distributed copies of the Lafayette School FY12 Proposed Budget which highlights the Major Increases/Decreases by Functional Category. The proposed budget is up by 3.86% and is \$2,246,103.69.

Tom Eyman read the response received for the LEA regarding the Board's request to them pertaining to possible interest in reopening negotiations. Basically the LEA advised the Board that they feel they are unable to do so in these economic times especially since they did so last year.

Tom Eyman further advised the Board that there will need to be some belt tightening but does not feel that any budget cuts made by the committee will ultimately have any deteriorating effects on the students. Mr. Eyman expressed the committee's feelings pertaining to this decision by the LEA.

Tom Eyman presented additional information on support staff health insurance packages noting that the committee was reluctant to make any changes in this area as they feel that it is not ethical to balance the budget on the backs of those who make the least. A brief discussion ensued.

Chairman Peabody thanked Mr. Eyman and the Budget Committee for their dedication commending them all on the great job in developing the proposed budget.

Tom Eyman advised the Board that they also looked at the possibility of eliminating the school lunch program. State Law mandates that school board must make a meal available during school hours to every pupil under its jurisdiction. Business Manager Stone also pointed out that several of the Title Grants are based on free and reduced lunch and Lafayette could stand to lose a portion of their grant funding if the program was eliminated. In view of this the committee opted to not look at eliminating the program.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – No Report

NEGOTIATIONS / PERSONNEL – No Report

## POLICIES /PROCEDURES

Linda Gaitskill presented Policy JH – Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy for second reading and approval. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY TONI BUTTERFIELD TO ACCEPT POLICY JH – ATTENDANCE, ABSENTEEISM AND TRUANCY FOR SECOND READING AND APPROVAL AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TONI BUTTERFIELD, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:10 PM UNDER PARAGRAPH II, SECTION 2 OF RSA 91A:3 OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TOM EYMAN, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:24 PM. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to come before the Board, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY THOMAS EYMAN TO ADJOURN AT 7:25 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted;

Marjorie Brown  
Board Clerk