

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.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peabody at 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC INPUT - None

LPTO REPORT

Toni Butterfield distributed copies of the LPTO Monthly Report for Board review and information.

The Silent Auction grossed \$9,696.00. Expenses totaled approximately \$800.00 thereby raising \$8,896.00 to be used for the enrichment of the children at Lafayette. This was truly a community effort with parents, staff, students, local business and community members all pulling together to make this event an amazing success.

The LPTO has begun a pilot Foreign Language Club. Twenty-five students meet over two sessions twice weekly with Alex Shaw-Doran. The students are enjoying this experience and learning many Spanish words. The LPTO is financing this for the first six weeks. Following this time frame this will be revisited to assess how funding will happen in the future.

MOTION BY THOMAS EYMAN, SECONDED BY LINDA GAITSKILL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2010 MEETING AS WRITTEN. The following correction was requested.

Page 2, paragraph 1, line 4 should read . . . it is the opinion of the Board that the consensus at that time still stands to not begin . . .

Page 2, paragraph 10, line 4 should read Unlike many of their . . .

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. It was noted that the school has had several interesting community meetings this month. October is Fire Prevention month and the Franconia and Sugar Hill Fire Departments presented fire safety activities to the students. There was also a presentation by a PSU student who is a paraplegic along with his dog and how his dog assists him in his daily activities.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that students of Grade 4 at Lafayette are once again participating in a global newspaper entitled Worldwide Kids News program. There are ten other schools across the globe involved in this venture. Principal Johnk introduced Sam Greene who is one of the students participating. Sam briefed the Board on the project works along with sharing information on many of the articles submitted for inclusion in the latest issue. There is an article by Eliza on Monarch Caterpillars along with articles from Israel students on the Jewish New Year and Russian students on First Bells.

Principal Johnk also advised the Board on the Monster Project bringing the head to demonstrate the sculpture. Students from six continents including 31 schools participated in this venture. Lafayette students had their monster riding on a jet ski.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent MacMillan distributed copies of the updated SAU proposed budget for the 2011-2012 school year briefing the Board on the changes. The health insurance increase was originally included at 17.9%. We have now been notified by the Local Government Center that the actual increases are 19.2 – 22.5% and this increase is included. Superintendent MacMillan further advised that an additional \$960.00 has been included to rent storage space in Mt. Eustis Commons when the SAU office moves to smaller quarters. This space is needed for the day to day materials utilized by Speech, OT and PT. It was further noted that dental insurance rates decreased to 4.5% increase.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that he is participating in collaboration with Grafton County and SAU's 23 & 68 to research perhaps combining for health insurance possibilities. The larger group involving all SAU's in the North Country was unable to move forward due to the laws governing the three insurance carriers licensed in NH. A brief discussion ensued.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that the SAU Budget Hearing will be held on November 17th at 6:00 PM at the SAU Office and the Full Board Meeting will be held on December 1st at 6:00 PM at Profile School Cafeteria. He urged members to make every effort to attend both of these.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that the Grade Level and Subject Alike meetings are proceeding on scheduled. Thus far they have been well received by the participants and all are eager to continue. The DOE has released a PowerPoint presentation on the Common Core Standards for Language Arts and Math. This can be found on the DOE website.

Superintendent MacMillan advised that the Superintendent Evaluation completed forms are due back to Linda Gaitskill by November 19th. The results will be reported to the Full Board at the December meeting.

Superintendent MacMillan advised the Board that he will be presenting a proposal at the SAU Budget Hearing pertaining to setting a base insurance program for incoming new SAU employees and grandfathering existing employees with a base MT5 plan. 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 (\$238.32) which is over and above the \$20,000.00 set aside for this purpose.

Business Manager Sandra Stone distributed Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the projected yearend balance is \$18,917.00. This is a very minor change from the prior reporting period. Ms. Stone advised the Board that the report now shows the updated Capital Reserve Account Balances including the Technology Account in the amount of \$10,001.71.

A discussion ensued on the possible need to replace the existing oil tanks in 5-6 years ensued. This is based on the recent inspections and code upgrades.

BOARD REPORTS
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairman Peabody urged the members to attend the SAU Budget Hearing on November 17th and the Full Board Meeting on December 1st.

BUDGET

Tom Eyman advised the Board that the initial meeting of the Lafayette Budget Committee was held last Friday. They went over the ground rules and began working line by line reviewing the proposed budget. The committee also began discussions on additional compensation for non-bargained employees along with reviewing benefits.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that the school truck is rusting and he anticipates getting one more year out of this vehicle in its current condition. The truck has been to one body shop and they were not favorable on addressing the rust situation. The District will be seeking a second opinion from an additional body shop tomorrow.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that technology maintenance costs for NSI (New England Systems, Inc.), the company who sold the District all the equipment, will be approximately \$7,000.00 annually.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that there are three huge pine trees on the school property that are in less than perfect shape. Principal Johnk is concerned about the damage these could cause if they blew down. He has received an estimate from Climbing Higher Tree Services in the amount of \$2,100.00 to take down and remove. Principal Johnk wanted the Board to be aware of this in the event further action is needed. A brief discussion ensued.

Tom Eyman advised the Board the committee feels it will be very tough to have a flat budget this year do the increases in items such as health insurance and retirement costs which are out to the District's control.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – No Report

NEGOTIATIONS / PERSONNEL – No Report

POLICIES /PROCEDURES

Linda Gaitskill presented Policy JH – Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy for first reading. Ms. Gaitskill briefed the Board on changes to the Truancy law which resulted in the need to update this policy. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY TOM EYMAN TO APPROVE THE AFORMENTIONED POLICY FOR FIRST READING AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Linda Gaitskill presented Policy JICK – Student Safety and Violence Prevention – Bullying for second reading and approval. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY MARY JO GREENE, SECONDED BY TOM EYMAN TO ACCEPT THE AFOREMENTIONED POLICY FOR SECOND READING AND APPROVAL AS PRESENTED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to come before the Board, MOTION BY LINDA GAITSKILL, SECONDED BY MARY JO GREENE TO ADJOURN AT 6:30 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted;
Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk