

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET & PROPERTY

January 12, 2016

SAU Office

6:30 PM

Minutes

Committee Members:

- Myron Steere, Chair
- Janine Lesser
- Pierce Rigrod
- David Martz
- Richard Dunning

Present: Myron Steere, Janine Lesser, Pierce Rigrod, David Martz (6:45), Richard Dunning

Others Present: Jerome Wilson, John Jordan, Fiona Tibbetts, Tim Grossi, Kimberly Saunders

1. Call to Order

Myron Steere called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes – December 2, 2015

Richard Dunning motioned to approve the minutes of December 2, 2015. Janine Lesser second. Unanimous.

3. December 2015 Expense Report

Myron Steere reviewed the December 2015 Expense Report.

4. Roofing Project

Tim Grossi reported that he has met with three roofers and expects three bids. Melanson, Mayo, and Prime are the expected bidders.

Work will take place during the summer and will include work on the 1969 portion of the high school roof.

5. Security Discussion

Tim Grossi referenced an article in tonight's packed on Risk Management and School Safety on the importance of partnerships with school safety service providers as one option for providing safe and secure schools. Discussions on security focused on partnering with a contractor. Mr. Grossi reported that a team was put together and traveled to Securadyne's training lab. One of the Nashua School District's schools was toured to see the work of Securadyne first-hand. It was looked at from different perspectives; Administrator, Principal, Teacher, and Administrative Assistant. Card readers, video monitoring, and other components along with pricing for the elementary schools were included in the packet. The security policy was discussed briefly.

Myron Steere insisted on multiple vendors for bidding to coincide with policy.

Tim Grossi noted that Sandy Hook had everything that ConVal is considering. It depends on what level we want to get to.

Discussion took place about safety options, auto-dialer etc.

Local police departments conduct trainings in our schools to assure that they are well versed in the event of an emergency situation.

Does this commit the full \$225,000? Tim confirmed that it does for just the elementary schools.

6. Organizational Structure Discussion

Myron Steere shared a potential warrant article as follows:

"Vote to see if the District will vote to amend the Articles of Agreement to maintain local elementary schools. To have each Town fund the operating costs of their local elementary school excluding busing and special education expenses continuing to share expenses for the middle and high schools and all busing and special education costs being shared according to the formula currently contained in the Articles of Agreement.

Towns having students attending schools in other towns will pay tuition fees calculated by dividing the sum of operating costs (as defined above) of all open elementary schools by the number of students attending elementary schools in the District times the number of students attending an open school. The tuition funds will be used to reduce the cost of the attended school to the "local" Town.

The towns with small attended elementary schools will have to pay more to spread the costs to the town that is incurring them rather than across the district.

John Jordan spoke about the change in the past to the funding formula.

Kimberly Saunders said that you have to keep the funding formula the same for five years after a change has been made. It appears to be a proposed withdrawal and would have to follow the withdrawal process. The Fall Mountain withdrawal process was shared. It appears, according to legal opinion, to be a "back door withdrawal".

Janine Lesser asked if this would put a real blinder on our ability to think creatively about reorganization if we did this first.

John Jordan said that it is not a comprehensive plan; it does not address the middle schools and high school. Janine Lesser said that it addresses the budget but not education.

Dick Dunning said that unless you reduce people you will not have the impact on the budget. We have cut technology and curriculum in order to arrive at a budget that we can support. There is an impact on education. It would be interesting to see what the funding would look like if we went to this.

Kimberly Saunders said that you must go through a withdrawal study to withdraw. Then it takes another vote to actually withdraw.

Fiona Tibbetts said that this should go to the Selectman to decide if they can get behind changing the Articles of Agreement.

Pierce Rigrod said that this should be studied, weigh the pros and cons, and brought to constituents. This would fit under the Strategic Plan under organizational structure as well as other committees.

7. Other

Pierce Rigrod said that the amount of adequacy per student has diminished by a third. Why are we not pressing out legislators to fund an adequate education? Nothing will change without an increase in revenue.

Greg Morris asked where the real hang up is with the reorganization. Where is the push back coming from?

Myron Steere said that Selectmen's Advisory Committee voted to support local elementary schools. If we don't consolidate and reduce the number of teachers and other staff the costs remain.

Greg Morris said that he has heard arguments about property values declining absent a local school; where does that come from?

John Jordan said that he has heard that in the Hancock community.

Discussion took place about the perception of a local school against a consolidated school with greater opportunities i.e. year round language.

Fiona Tibbetts said that the board has tasked the administration for their recommendation for consolidation/reorganization. That will move the process in a more informed way forward.

8. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,II (If Needed)

None.

Richard Dunning motioned to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Pierce Rigrod second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok