

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
106 Hancock Road
Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 19, 2017

7:00 p.m.

SAU #1

Minutes

Present: John Jordan, Ed Juengst, Bob Marshall, Gail Cromwell, Bob Edwards, Carl Newton, Steve Atherton, Myron Steere, Pierce Rigrod, Tom Kelly, Kimberly Saunders, Marian Alese

John Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Accept Minutes of November 17, 2016

Bob Edwards motioned to accept the minutes of November 17, 2016. Ed Juengst second. Unanimous.

2. 2017-2018 Budget

John Jordan reported that the proposed budget reflects an increase in the district assessment of less than 1%.

Food Service is holding their own. They may finish with a loss of approximately \$65,000 this year.

Enrollment projections for next year are anticipated to decrease by approximately 70 students. If we went to default, it would be approximate \$540K less. The math program might disappear. Kimberly Saunders offered to present information on the proposed budget at individual town meetings.

Support of the proposed school budget was asked. Representatives for those towns that had multiple selectmen were not ready to speak on behalf of their full boards.

Carl Newton asked that each Town Administrator send a letter of support to Brenda Marschok who will report the outcome to John Jordan.

John Jordan agreed to contact the Francestown Selectmen to ask them to review budget information and come forth with a recommendation for support of the proposed budget.

Trust Fund projections are to allocate \$500,000 should funds remain at the end of 2017/2018. The Special Education Trust is not scheduled to receive an allocation in the upcoming school year.

Discussion took place about the high school science labs. The District has been cited for safety issues in the labs. A bond is in the works to conduct work needed in various schools. The bond would allow this money to be spread out over many years. The Vocational Training area is another area being looked at. The plan, if approved, is for construction to begin in 2018.

The District receives between 40% and 60% of our investment in energy savings work from Eversource.

The Capital Improvement Plan helps project and schedule maintenance out.

3. 2017-2018 Capital Reserves

What is the Health Reserve? It was established a number of years ago and is designed to

offset higher deductible plans, in part. It is tied to the plans that are in place and what is negotiated moving forward.

Discussion took place about the trust fund balances.

4. Strategic Plan Update

Pierce Rigrod shared the work of the Strategic Plan Committee. Hard copies of the plan are now available. It is also available online. The plan focuses on academic performance. Examples were cited. Should SAC have any questions about what is in the plan, they should connect with the SAU. This plan encompasses greater detail than former plans.

5. Configuration

A financial analysis is underway to determine equity in the district. It will be submitted for peer review. It looks at the cost for each town to determine if it is equitable.

When this work is complete; either a proposed change to the funding formula, status quo predictions down the road; reconfiguration in the district; and consolidation of services and schools may result. Each proposed model will be compared by evaluating various characteristics.

In addition, an educational equity audit is underway. Both reviews are very comprehensive. It includes three main components; teacher experience; programmatic components; and demographics within the programs. As an example, we offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses at the high school. If there is a 30% Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) population, 30% of the students taking Advanced Placement courses should reflect FRL students.

Eight financial models are proposed for review.

Ed Juengst shared his opinion that the Selectmen's Advisory Committee is important in looking at what is in the best interest of the district, and not be territorial, and to help get the vote out.

6. Funding Formula Equality

Marian Alese shared that the existing formula, looking at the history of how we arrived at various funding formulas, and producing examples under the various options was some of the work done.

Ms. Alese asked Selectmen to check with their boards and to weigh in on what they think about the current funding formula. The funding formula was changed in 1996. It was before Senate Bill 2. The only reference she can find is that this article was voted in individual towns. Marian asked those present to look for any historical reference on this topic.

Additional information on this topic will be shared.

Further discussion on the topic of adequacy took place. Additional funding from the state is awarded based on whether or not a student is below the level of reading at grade 3 (+\$600 per student); special education identification (+\$1,800.00), and Free and Reduced Lunch identification (+\$1,800.00)

7. Other

None.

Motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok