

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, February 17, 2015**

**School Board Meeting  
Immediately Following Public Hearing**

**ConVal High School  
Library**

**BOARD**

Rich Cahoon, Butch Estey,  
Tom Ferenc, Joel Green,  
David Martz, Stephan Morrissey,  
Linda Quintanilha, Pierce Rigrod,  
Crista Salamy, Fiona Tibbetts

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Brendan Minnihhan, Supt.  
Kimberly Saunders, Asst. Supt.  
Marian Alese, B.A.  
Tim Markley, H.R.  
Dr. Rick Matte, Student Services  
Tim Grossi, Facilities  
Brian Pickering, CVHS  
Colleen Roy, GES  
Nicola Fraley, FES  
May Clark, DCS  
Dr. Ann Allwarden, AES/Pierce  
Jim Elder, GBS  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Butch Estey called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Chairman Estey asked everyone present to recognize** Jack Murphy, former CVHS coach, who recently passed away. In addition, he asked for well wishes for both Lisa & Patrick Foley who are both in critical condition as a result of a recent car accident. Lastly, ConVal School Board member, Myron Steere, is ill and currently in the hospital. He asked for a moment of silence on behalf of these individuals.

**2. ConVal High School Welcome – Brian Pickering**

Brian Pickering welcomed everyone to CVHS tonight. Mr. Pickering invited everyone to the Lucy Hurlin Theatre for a student and teacher sharing. Ben Putnam, CVHS art teacher, introduced student poets and music students who shared performances.

**3. Minutes (Board Vote Required)**

**a. February 3, 2015**

**David Martz moved to accept the minutes of February 3, 2015. Stephan Morrissey second. Crista Salamy abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

**4. Points of Pride**

**DCS**

Last Thursday, all of DCS went to the Eric Carle Museum in Amherst Mass, as a culmination of our whole school Eric Carle study in January with art teacher Andy Shultz - this was one of the new residency weeks with our specialists, and was a huge success. All the children first painted paper in the style of Eric Carle, and then created collages according to content area subjects at each grade level. Some examples: grade 2 made planets as part of their astronomy study, grades 3/4 made animals for their mammal study; fifth graders illustrated Longfellow's "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" as part of their study of the Revolutionary War. The field trip was great, in spite of the weather.

*MISSION STATEMENT*

*The ConVal Regional School District, in partnership with its member communities, will inspire all learners to achieve academically, contribute to the global community, and thrive as independent and productive citizens.*

## **GBS**

On Wednesday night, the Great Brook Bobcat girl's basketball team became the 2015 "Blue Winter Slam Champions," beating eight other teams in the tournament, and beating the Boynton Bulldogs in a playoff. Congratulations GBS Girl's basketball.

### **5. Public Comment**

None.

### **6. Consent Agenda**

#### **a. Personnel**

##### **1) Notice of Co-Curricular Positions**

Tim referenced the notice of co-curricular positions for informational purposes.

##### **2) Dublin Consolidated School Principal Recommendation**

Dr. Minnihan shared that May Clark had announced her retirement leaving big shoes to fill. A committee conducted interviews and developed a recommendation to bring forward for that of Nicole Pease, current teacher at SMS. She is also the ConVal Teacher of the Year. Dr. Minnihan recommended Nicole Pease as Dublin Consolidated Principal effective July 1, 2015.

**Joel Green moved to accept the nomination as read. David Martz second.**

David Martz asked more about the position. Ms. Pease would be taking on math coach responsibilities and conducting work in science accompanied with principal duties.

David Martz asked the net. Dr. Minnihan said that we don't know the net until everything settles.

Marian Alese said that information was shared as part of the packet that was presented back in November.

David Martz asked if another teacher would need to be added at DCS. Dr. Minnihan said that it is possible.

Discussion took place about dollars and replacement figures.

Fiona Tibbetts shared that she thought that Nicole would fall in place of May. Dr. Minnihan reminded the board that it was shared that the community school model was to be pursued.

**Unanimous.**

### **7. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business**

#### **a. Monthly Events Calendar**

The Strategic Plan Committee will meet on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the SAU.

#### **b. Snow Day(s) Status**

Dr. Minnihan reported that there have been five snow days as of today. In addition, there have been six delays. Our policy states that our students will attend school for 180 days unless the Superintendent recommends something different. Dr. Minnihan reported that his recommendation is that one snow day was declared a State of Emergency, he proposed moving the two Professional Development days in March to the end of the school year and having student and staff attend school on those days; leaving teachers to make up 4 days. The last school day is June 19<sup>th</sup>, we go out to the last week of June. The graduation date has to be set as well. His recommendation is based on hours; we currently exceed in terms of hours. Other options were presented in a survey to staff. Overall, the feeling was that students would get the most academically with the proposed option. Additional snow days would not change his recommendation. The students would attend two days less than currently proposed with snow days.

Rich Cahoon said that we are still a full week ahead of last year's schedule.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to accept the recommendation. Crista Salamy second.**

**Discussion ensued. Unanimous.**

### **8. Reports**

#### **a. Student Representative – River Marmorstein**

River Marmorstein reported that the Robotics Team won an award at their meet recently.

River reported that CV Food Service staff does a great job and students do not want to lose this staff. Students have reviewed menus from Café Services and it appears to be a step down. Lunch affects everyone and he encouraged the current program to remain in place as currently is.

#### **b. Teacher Representative – Gil Morris**

None.

**c. Communication Committee – Myron Steere**

Butch Estey reported that there is a budget communication letter in today's newspaper. The flyer is at the printer. Towns were reached out to for banners in each of the towns; Antrim and Peterborough responded.

**d. Education Committee – Crista Salamy**

Crista Salamy reported that a report on math took place with a focus on instructional strategies. The ATC is working with the DOE assessing class offerings. This model was requested to remain intact for one more year retaining the consultant and interim director.

Department Heads were discussed.

Foreign Language was discussed. Brian Pickering shared that with declined enrollment in three world languages, a section of French was cancelled this spring. With declining enrollment it is difficult to maintain three offerings. Class sizes have begun to shrink. If we started students in French I next year, Mr. Pickering worried that we would not be able to continue to service these students. Mr. Pickering proposed proceeding with caution. He cannot offer courses with fewer than 5 students. This was shared with incoming freshmen parents. Other options include on-line learning.

**e. Budget & Property Committee – Myron Steere**

Pierce Rigrod reported that they met and continued discussion on Food Service and how to move forward with the two proposals. The committee voted to recommend to the board that we go with an outside vendor. Tonight, the board will be asked to outsource food service with other related details.

**Pierce Rigrod moved to outsource Food Service on the condition that we received an acceptable contract. Stephan Morrissey second.**

Pierce said that this was a five month process reviewing a number of documents; cost and quality issues were reviewed as well as consideration for current staff. Pierce shared that it was not a quality service issue with the current program.

Rich Cahoon asked how we can vote without an acceptable contract to review. He suggested a non-public first before a public vote.

Butch asked if this is a one year contract.

**Pierce Rigrod moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for matters of personnel at 7:40 p.m. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Linda Quintanilha moved to exit non-public session at 8:12 p.m. Second. Unanimous.**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to seal the minutes of non-public session for 10 years. Second. Unanimous.**

1) Food Service Recommendation

**Pierce Rigrod moved to retract his motion and offer a second motion. Stephan withdrew his second.**

**Pierce Rigrod moved to outsource food services with Café Services Inc. and ask Marian Alese to enter into negotiations for a contract for July 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Second.**

**Crista Salamy opposed.**

**Motion carries.**

**Pierce Rigrod moved for ConVal to utilize up to \$150,000 as a severance package for food service employees. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.**

**9. Old Business**

**a. Board Officer(s) Presentations**

Pierce Rigrod said that in general, over the past year, he has learned a lot about being on the board. He asked for one more year to improve on how the board works and asked and appreciated the board's vote for Vice Chairman.

Butch Estey said that this is his 12<sup>th</sup> year. He has thoughts on committee repositioning to allow board members to be away from their families less. The plan is for Myron Steere to step back into Budget & Property. He hopes that someone in Peterborough steps up for the open position.

**b. Expenditure Report – Marian Alese**

Marian reported out on the Expenditure Report included in tonight's packet.

Line 23 reflects the addition of a speech/language path services. Line 33 will be reimbursed from PSNH. Maintenance repair lines will not be encumbered for a few more weeks.

**10. New Business**

**a. Policy to Rescind (School Board Vote Required)**

JEF: Release Time for Students

**Linda Quintanilha moved to rescind this policy as it is no longer required and falls into other policy area. Second. Unanimous.**

**b. Greater Peterborough Chamber Fireworks Proposal**

Brian Pickering, Sean Ryan, and Tim Grossi were present to speak about a proposal to bring fireworks back to Peterborough. A decision was made not to have fireworks at the ConVal campus at one time. It caused stress to the community. This has been revisited and possibilities have been arrived at. A plan that alleviates wear and tear on fields is being asked for reconsideration.

Sean Ryan, Executive Director of Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, was present to speak about fireworks. When he took his position over, he was asked to look into bringing .

Mr. Ryan shared the plan implemented pre-2011. The new proposal alleviates wear on fields. Parking would be moved across the street. The spectators would be on the high school parking lot. A play area for younger children would take place on the softball field. The fireworks would be moved to a staging area that is not an actual field. Concessions would be turned over to school clubs etc.

Shuttle service would be provided.

There would be a fee for parking that would go toward the expense of paying for the fireworks. Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> is the proposed date.

Accessible parking would be likely in a sectioned off part of the parking lot.

Approximately 425 regular parking spaces would be available across the street; slightly more than the high school parking lot holds.

Rich Cahoon asked if potential track repair would be underway during this time. Tim Grossi said that the impact to us is minimal. This is a big positive for the ConVal communities.

Linda Quintanilha asked how we will keep people off of the fields. Mr. Ryan said that this is an event that people have been asking for. We have to share why; the maintenance of the field and additional expenses is of concern.

A walk in fee would be different than the proposed \$5 - \$10 per vehicle fee.

**Linda Quintanilha moved to bring fireworks back for 2015. David Martz second.**

Crista Salamy asked that the Chamber keep in mind that other towns are checked with for conflicts in firework dates. Mr. Ryan favored a post meeting.

**Unanimous.**

**11. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)**

Marian Alese certified that manifests totaling \$267,838.14 and Payroll totaling \$779,302.82 have been reviewed by her and found to be proper charges against the Contoocook Valley School District for goods and/or services received and have been properly processed prior to their submittal to the School Board.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to approve the manifests as read. David Martz second. Unanimous.**

**12. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,II (If Required)**

Non-public session was held earlier in the meeting under agenda item #4.

**Linda Quintanilha moved to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. Second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok