

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Thursday, March 20, 2014**

**School Board Meeting**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Pierce School**

**BOARD**

Rich Cahoon, Butch Estey  
Tom Ferenc, David Martz,  
Stephan Morrissey, Linda Quintanilha,  
Pierce Rigrod, Crista Salamy (8:11),  
Myron Steere, Fiona Tibbetts

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Brendan Minnihan, Supt.  
Kimberly Saunders, Asst. Supt.  
Marian Alese, B.A.  
Tim Markley, H.R.  
Dr. Rick Matte, Student Services  
Dr. Ann Allwarden, AES/Pierce School  
Steve Bartsch, CVHS  
Ben Loi, PES  
Jim Elder, GBS  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Dr. Noreen McAloon, FES/GES/HES

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

**Dr. Minnihan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

Joel Green and Crista Salamy participated electronically via cell phone speaker phone due to their inability to be present as a result of work commitments. The connection with Crista Salamy was lost moments into the meeting. Crista Salamy joined the meeting in person at 8:11 p.m.

Geoffrey Taylor, Peterborough, made a request to speak prior to the vote for School Board officers. Dr. Minnihan asked the will of the Board.

**Myron Steere moved to allow the request.**

**Myron Steere moved to waive the policy to provide advance notice to speak. Second.**

**Linda Quintanilha moved to limit comments to two minutes. Second. Unanimous.**

Jeff King said that the board needs to make a statement about declining enrollment and student cost. Mr. King requested that the board change its leadership. He said that the Board should make it clear to the community that they have heard the voters.

**2. Introduction and Swearing in of New and Returning Board Members**

Marian Alese swore in new and returning School Board Members prior to the start of the meeting.

**3. Call for Election of Officers – Superintendent**

**Dr. Minnihan asked Board members to vote to elect the School Board Chair:**

**Butch Estey: 4**

**Myron Steere: 6**

Myron Steere was announced as the School Board Chair.

**David Martz moved Pierce Rigrod as Vice Chair. Second. Unanimous.**

The meeting proceeded through the agenda and was then noted that the vote was actually a tie 5:5 as noted in agenda item 5 below.

In favor of Butch Estey: Butch Estey, Tom Ferenc, Pierce Rigrod, Linda Quintanilha, Joel Green (electronic vote)

In favor of Myron Steere: David Martz, Myron Steere, Steve Morrissey, Fiona Tibbetts, Rich Cahoon

*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.*

Tie Vote (originally thought to be Myron in favor); therefore there is no Board Chair. Another vote can be taken today or another vote at the next meeting when everyone is seated as a result of the tie. It was decided that a vote would be taken at the next board meeting on April 1, 2014.

#### **4. Appoint School District Clerk (Board Action/Vote Required)**

Myron Steere asked for a motion to appoint Marian Alese as School District Clerk.

**Rich Cahoon moved to appoint Marian Alese as School District Clerk. Linda Quintanilha second. Unanimous.**

#### **5. Pierce School Welcome – Ann Allwarden**

Ann Allwarden, Pierce School Principal introduced Pierce School staff: Cynthia Vick, Chris McClure, Diane Johnson, Robin Gregg, and Stacy McCartney. Jeannie Connolly, Arts Enrichment, and Carol Storro, Art Teacher were also introduced.

Ann Allwarden shared information on Art Education in school as a way to encourage the process of thinking. Board members and guests viewed student artwork on display.

Dr. Minnihan reported that the vote for board officials was actually 5:5. The Board has decided to put off the vote until the next meeting when hopefully 13 members will be present.

Pierce Rigrod presided over the remainder of this meeting.

#### **6. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes (Board Vote Required)**

##### **a. March 4, 2014**

**David Martz moved to accept the minutes of March 4, 2014. Butch Estey second. Linda Quintanilha abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

#### **7. Points of Pride**

##### **Dr. Minnihan reported as follows:**

##### **Special Olympics**

Despite very cold temperatures at the Winter Special Olympics at Waterville Valley, ConVal came away with 3 Gold medals, 1 Silver medal, and 2 fourth place ribbons. Once the snow goes away, they will start preparing for the summer games at the end of May. A huge thank you to Suzette Edick for her commitment to Special Olympics.

##### **SMS**

Dan Curran, SMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade student/athlete, was recently recognized as the New England Wrestling Champion.

##### **GBS**

Great Brook hosted the EDies Committee this past Friday (3/14), as they are considering GBS for "Middle School of the Year." The visit went very well, however, we will not find out who the winner is until it is announced on June 7th.

Two GBS 8th grade teachers, Alison Bell and Stacy Egan, have been asked to present at the annual Environmental Educators Conference. They will be talking about how they integrate the data they collect during the hands-on science at Otter Brook Farm into math classes.

##### **District**

Marian Alese was recently recognized as Business Administrator of the Year!! Congratulations to Marian!

Ann Allwarden, AES/Pierce School Principal, earned her Doctorate in Education from Boston College last week! Congratulations Dr. Allwarden!!

##### **CVHS**

ConVal Varsity Cheerleaders finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Division II State Championships this past weekend. They represented ConVal in a positive way through their dedication! Go ConVal!

CVHS student Emma Rogers has been accepted into the National Circus School's Collegial Studies in Circus Arts Program in Montreal, Canada. Emma was one of 500 selected for 40 open spots!

## **8. Public Comment**

None.

## **9. Consent Agenda**

### **a. Personnel**

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

Holly Wilson, CVHS Girls Assistant Track Coach, and Don Jalbert, CVHS Girl's JV Lacrosse Coach were noticed for co-curricular positions.

#### 2) Resignations

Susan Ingalls has submitted her resignation. Amy Clason-Gilmet has submitted her intent to retire at the conclusion of 2014

**Myron Steere moved to accept the resignations as read. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.**

#### 3) Job Descriptions – Director of School Counseling (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)

Passed over.

School Counselor Elementary (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)

**Myron Steere moved to adopt as read. Second. Unanimous.**

School Counselor Middle School (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)

**Myron Steere moved to adopt as read. Second. Unanimous.**

Assistant Director of Student Services (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)

**Myron Steere moved to adopt as read. Second. Unanimous.**

Library Media Assistant (1<sup>st</sup> Read)

Tim Markley referenced this job description as a first read.

District Electrician (1<sup>st</sup> Read)

Tim Markley referenced this job description as a first read.

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

### **a. Election Results**

Dr. Minnihan referenced the election information included in tonight's packet. The Town of Sharon is asking those that received write-in votes for School Board position if they are interested in the position.

No minimum votes required.

### **b. Monthly Events Calendar**

#### 1) School Board Induction Series Dates

The Board agreed to meet with committees as previously organized.

John Jordan shared that SAC will meet on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Butch Estey called Point of Order noting that the School Board Subcommittee Chair of SAC sets the date of meetings.

Induction Series Meetings on various topics will be scheduled.

Rich Cahoon shared that a School Board goal setting meeting should be scheduled.

## **11. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

### **a. Self Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD) Presentation**

Kimberly Saunders reported out on Self-Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD). The Education Committee asked for data on why we are scoring poorly on writing. What instructional strategies have been found most effective in improving students' writing? Effect size of .4 or higher is considered good. SRSD was 1.14, making it a desirable approach. There is a self-assessment component involved for the student. Significant increases in student ability to address problems were visible.

Amy Janoch shared data on the impact on instructional practice; teaching positive, encouraging self-talk. 30 elementary teachers, 11 special educators, 6 Title 1 teachers, 2/3 of elementary teaching staff have been trained in SRSD.

Niki Fraley shared her experience as a fourth grade teacher at PES. Ms. Fraley reported that the change in the student's perspective on themselves changed very quickly. The biggest impact in her classroom is the change in the way that students thought through the process. This approach worked for her students.

## 12. Reports

### a. Student Representative – Zach Letourneau

Zach Letourneau reported that Student Council has been busy putting on an annual film festival.

A Blood Drive is scheduled for March 26th.

Mr. Letourneau welcomed new School Board members.

### b. Teacher Representative – Gil Morris

None.

### c. Wellness Committee – Rick Matte

Dr. Rick Matte reported that a presentation by Donna Reynolds, Food Service Director, on a potential survey on the wellness policy was shared at the last Wellness Committee meeting.

Steve Bartsch and Rick Matte had discussed bringing the policy and procedures to an upcoming Admin Council meeting.

### d. Budget & Property – Myron Steere

Myron Steere reported that the facilities use policy was reviewed. Committee goals were reviewed as well. The Antrim Agreement was reviewed also.

## 13. Old Business

### a. Middle School Football – Mark Swasey/Brian Pickering

Mark Swasey, CVHS Athletic Director, shared that the K-12 progression for athletes is important. The proposal for a middle school football program was brought forward. It was tabled. A group of interested parties came together and met. The common piece is improving and making more opportunities for students to learn and grow. Working together will make the sport stronger. The Mountaineers is a group that has been together for 20 years by providing football opportunities. It serves a small number of our kids. By working together with the Mountaineers we help them recruit for the middle school program. If this program is approved by the Board, students can play for the school or the Mountaineers. Feeder programs are important. Mr. Swasey said that he is asking the Board to help create more opportunities.

Funding will come from the booster club football program. They will purchase equipment and it will have no effect on the taxpayers.

#### **Butch Estey moved to accept middle school football. Tom Ferenc second.**

Nick Marks, Mountaineer rep, said that he met with Mr. Swasey to discuss the middle school football program. Mountaineers serve four school districts encompassing 18 towns. On average, 85 kids each year participate. Some kids will never be reached with the Mountaineer program as a result of fees and travel. Working with the middle school would boost numbers at the lower levels. This will benefit the high school football program.

Mr. Swasey reported that Mountaineer cheerleaders will cheer the games.

Butch Estey said that ConVal is lacking feeder programs. The feeder system will help the overall team for ConVal.

Tom Ferenc said that this is also an equity issue which levels the playing field.

This program does not pose Title IX issues.

Football boosters voted to fund this program indefinitely.

#### **Pierce Rigrod called the question:**

**In favor: Majority. Crista Salamy opposed. David Martz abstained. Motion carried.**

### b. Expenditure Report – Marian Alese

Marian Alese reported that that vacant positions and the cost of custodial services are reflected.

Snowplowing was overdrawn by \$14K. Discussion on how this will be covered will be necessary.

**Rich Cahoon moved to accept the expenditure report. David Martz second. Unanimous.**

### c. Budget +/- Report – Marian Alese

Available dollars as a result of snowplowing and the vacancy in the tech director position are reflected in this report.

### d. Grant Report – Marian Alese

All encumbrances are reflected.

## 14. New Business

### a. Signing of MS22 (Report of Appropriations voted)

Marian Alese shared three copies of the MS22, which is the report of appropriations as voted. They reflect the default as posted with the warrant.

It is posted by function, therefore it is not as critical if it had to be posted by object. Majority of the Board needs to sign.

Rich Cahoon said that in light of what happened with the vote for Chair, another tie might exist,

**Rich Cahoon moved to waive policy BDBA, Board Officers.**

Mr. Cahoon said that this policy requires prior notice for a candidate to run. It would be difficult to come up with a compromise candidate.

**Rich Cahoon revised the wording to state suspend.**

**Second.**

The policy requires 2 years on the Board to be Chair and one year as Vice Chair. Mr. Cahoon said that his reason for bringing it forward is that the policy states that interested people are required to submit intent in February. It requires a unanimous vote or you can notice and have it be the first order of business at the next meeting which would then require 2/3's vote.

Rich shared that it is his intent to suspend the entire policy.

**In favor: Unanimous.**

**Opposed: None.**

**Motion carried.**

#### **15. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)**

Marian Alese certified that manifests 70 through 76 and 23f14035 through 23f14039 totaling \$689,697.22 and Payroll 18, 19, and 181 and 182 totaling \$3,205,581.13 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.

**Myron Steere moved to accept the manifests as read. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Personnel**

**b. Negotiations**

**Butch Estey moved to enter into non-public session at 8:43 p.m. for matters of personnel and negotiations. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**David Martz moved to exit non-public at 10:46 p.m. Second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Myron Steere moved to waive the 1% penalty for breaking the contract as discussed in non-public session. Second. Linda Quintanilha abstained. Motion carried.**

**Motion to seal the minutes for 10 years on that matter. Second. Butch Estey opposed. Motion carried.**

**Myron Steere moved to approve a buyback of 90 days. Second. Unanimous.**

**Motion to seal for 20 years. Second. Unanimous.**

**Motion to make budget reductions as discussed in non-public. Second. Two opposed. Motion carried.**

**Motion to seal the minutes on this topic for five years. Second. Unanimous.**

**Linda Quintanilha moved to adjourn at 10:51 pm. Second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok

**Minutes accepted, as amended, at the April 1, 2014 School Board meeting.**