

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2014**

**School Board Meeting**

**SAU #1 Board Room**

**7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD**

Gary Backstrom, Rich Cahoon,  
Butch Estey, Tom Ferenc,  
Joel Green, Jon Ingram,  
David Martz, Stephan Morrissey,  
Pierce Rigrod, Crista Salamy,  
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  
Brian Pickering, CVHS  
Dr. Ann Allwarden, AES/Pierce  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Gib West, CVHS  
Ben Loi, PES  
Dr. Noreen McAloon, FES/GES/HES  
Jim Elder, GBS

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

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

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

**a. June 3, 2014**

**Myron Steere moved to accept the minutes of June 3, 2014. Crista Salamy second. Unanimous.**

**3. School Board Chairman's Award**

School Board Chair Butch Estey recognized both David Carter and Heidi Wakefield from Student Transportation of America for their efforts and dedication to ConVal students. Their attention to the details, putting students first, and placing student safety at the forefront were several reasons for this recognition.

**4. Points of Pride**

Members of the ConVal Baseball teams, along with parent volunteers and coaches, visited two local nursing homes recently to distribute camouflage ConVal baseball hats to military veterans and thank them for their service to our country.

Dr. Minnihan reported on ConVal High School's successful graduation on Saturday.

The ConVal small elementary schools held a community school field day on Monday. Students participated in activities for this day-long event. A special thanks goes out ConVal physical education teachers Tim Conway and Paul Landeau for putting this day together. A thanks also to staff and parent volunteers for their effort as well.

**5. Public Comment**

None.

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## **6. Consent Agenda**

### **a. Personnel**

#### **1) Resignations/Nominations**

Resignations:

**Myron Steere motioned to accept the resignations as read of Angela Hartmann and Catherine Casiello. Gary Backstrom second. Unanimous.**

Nominations:

**Myron Steere moved to accept the nominations of Kelley Means, Catherine Metcalf, Scott MacNamee, and Kristine Chamberlin as read. Gary Backstrom second. David Martz abstained. Motion carried.**

**Myron Steere motioned to accept the nomination of Deb Riley, SpEd Educator: Gary Backstrom second. Unanimous.**

Dr. Minnihan presented the Tri-School Model Nominations as follows:

Nicola Fraley – Frankestown

Colleen Roy – Greenfield

Amy Janoch – Hancock

**Myron Steere motioned to accept the nominations as read. Gary Backstrom second. Unanimous.**

#### **2) Job Descriptions – 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

- Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools
- Administrative Assistant/Assistant Superintendent/Data Management
- Administrative Assistant - Finance Office-Federal Funds
- Administrative Assistant - Student Services/Financial
- Administrative Assistant - Human Resources/Benefits
- Administrative Assistant - Finance Office/Purchasing & Accounts Payable
- Administrative Assistant – Payroll
- Administrative Assistant - Student Services

Tim Markley presented these as a first read.

Tim Markley referenced a document which shared enrollment figures by school and by grade including what sending towns were in each of the schools. The figures included preschool numbers.

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

### **a. Harris Center Presentation**

A presentation titled "Harris Center and ConVal Growing Scientists and Creating STEM literacy" was shared.

The Harris Center was represented by Jeremy Wilson, Janet Altobello, and Susie Spikol-Faber.

Early exposure to STEM based literacy helps students view the role of concepts and content as interrelated. It motivates students to enroll in enrichment as well as in advanced math and science courses later.

Highly successful STEM programs include strong partnerships with universities.

Jeremy Wilson spoke about programming and community conservation offerings.

Susie Spikol spoke about the connections made between the Harris Center and students.

Caitlin Houlihan, former ConVal gradate, shared the impact that the Harris Center has had on her life.

The ConVal/Harris Center connection works because of a shared vision of learning and collaboration.

Janel Altobello shared detail on the breakdown by grade of their program.

Teacher's Katie Richardson, Emily Wrubel, Letitia Rice, and Carol Young shared their perspective on their experience with the Harris Center for their classrooms.

Takeaways: STEM topics are about using science and math knowledge to develop new technology, this is inexpensive programming for the number of grades, and this program is a long standing community value.

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

Ad Hoc School Board Goals committee will meet on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the SAU.  
The School Board will hold their August meeting on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU.

#### **c. Field Trip Request (Board Vote Required)**

- 1) ConVal High School – music students will travel by bus to Sandusky and Cleveland, OH to perform and attend a clinic opportunity for band and chorus students May 21-24, 2015. They will also visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Cleveland Symphony Orchestra.

James Wickam reported that the dates have changed to May 7-10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wickam outlined the trip details.

**Myron Steere moved to approve the field trip request as proposed. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.**

Dr. Minnihan reported that the professional development opportunity that Robin Croteau requested for a leave of absence has been cancelled.

#### **d. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)**

- 1) ConVal School District to accept a gift/donation from the Peterborough Rotary Club Charitable Fund in the amount of \$ 33,750.00 for the purpose of funding Camp Quest.

**Myron Steere moved to accept the funding as read. Stephan Morrissey second. It will fund 75 students. Unanimous.**

### **8. Reports**

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

None.

#### **b. Budget & Property Committee – Myron Steere**

Myron Steere reported that Food Service was discussed at the last meeting. In addition, PSNH rebate money was discussed. The committee made a motion to conduct additional efficiencies with this money.

**Myron Steere moved for this money to be used for additional efficiencies. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.**

Myron reported remaining money to be used for a paging system at PES.

**Myron Steere moved to use this money to update the paging system at PES and GBS. Second. Unanimous.**

#### **c. Education Committee – Crista Salamy**

Crista Salamy reported that a review of RtI and where we currently are took place at the meeting. TASC at the high school was also discussed. The Curriculum Renewal Cycle was discussed; math is of great concern throughout the district. Discussion on the instructional hours at the elementary schools in terms of comparisons to other schools in the state took place.

At tonight's Ed meeting, youth basketball and a youth sport association was discussed. Rollout information was asked of the athletic director.

World languages were discussed in terms of K-12 based on the high school.

Lastly, the iPad initiative at the high and middle schools was discussed. The pilot timing was not long enough to provide an impact on assessment. Engagement was noted at an increase.

The Education Committee would like to move forward at the high school for four additional carts to expand the program. The Board needs to decide if we want to move in the direction of technology with the students. The high school is looking for \$100,000 to expand the pilot. The middle schools are looking for \$29,000.

Dr. Minnihan said that this discussion led to a prioritization list. The top two priorities included \$129,000 in technology purchases. If additional money were available, the second priority was to reinstitute a regular education para at Francestown Elementary School.

Conversation on the iPad pilot outcome; moving forward.

The total is for \$169,000 for these purposes.

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The savings in health insurance is actually higher than anticipated.

A position was cut at the middle school; resulting in additional savings more than anticipated.

Is the board willing to approve using some of the health savings or other to fund the technology piece and the FES para or some combination?

Kimberly Saunders shared information about the pilot program experience at the middle schools and high school. Student engagement and achievement information was discussed.

The Education Committee makes the recommendation to move forward with the proposal.

The intent is for the device to be the best tool for the action/study at hand for learning.

Discussion took place about funding. The budget, as it relates to the three new elementary school administrators, was discussed. As a result, Fiona Tibbetts was opposed to the hiring of the FES position but favored the technology purchase proposal. Tom Ferenc spoke in favor of the tech spending.

Jon Ingram summarized that the board is being asked for \$169,000 for tech purchases and one position.

Mr. Ingram spoke in favor of the proposal.

**Myron Steere moved to fund the \$129,000 for technology from money available.**

**Stephan Morrissey second.**

Butch Estey spoke about the recommendation of the Superintendent. Mr. Estey assured the board that a lot of thought went into this recommendation.

Rich Cahoon reported that the Ed Committee has been looking at this for one year. Every question has been explored. It is a question now of funding. Mr. Cahoon asked for consideration of this to move forward.

Stephan Morrissey reminded the board that it was near unanimous when the default budget was discussed that this was cited as important.

**Gary Backstrom opposed. Motion carried.**

**Jon Ingram moved to fund the Para position for \$40,000. Crista Salamy second.**

Discussion took place about the process of cutting the position and then second thinking that decision.

Jon Ingram shared the thinking on resources that went into technology decisions and asked that the same thinking go into this decision.

Myron Steere asked if there were other considerations to be cut that did not make the cut list. He cautioned the need to put money into the capital reserve fund.

Marian spoke about the potential of \$300,000 in the health insurance delta for a number of reasons. Nothing can be put into the reserve in 14/15 unless the voters approve.

**Fiona Tibbetts and Myron Steere abstained. Motion carried.**

Crista Salamy further reported out from tonight's Education Committee meeting on the Elementary School Report Card.

#### **d. Ad Hoc School Board Goal Committee – Pierce Rigrod**

Pierce Rigrod reported that the committee developed five goals.

- Pass a budget
- Arrive at a fair and equitable contract with the CVEA
- Strategic Plan
- Effective Communications
- Become a highly effective driven board

Board development in terms of learning opportunities was discussed. Developing a standard reporting of committee work was discussed. Next meeting on the June 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

Marian Alese certified that manifests 23f14053 and 54 and 98-101 totaling \$282,614.60 and Payroll 25 & 261, and 251 totaling \$3,090,514.17 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 approve the manifests as read. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Negotiations**

**Myron Steere moved to enter into non-public discussions in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 9:10 p.m. for matters of negotiation. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Myron Steere moved to exit non-public session at 10:00 p.m. Gary Backstrom second.**

**Myron Steere motioned to seal the minutes for 5 years. David Martz second. Unanimous.**

**Myron Steere motioned to adjourn at 10:01 p.m. Second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok

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	Antrim	Bennington	Dublin	Francestown	Greenfield	Hancock	Peterborough	Sharon	Temple	Other	Total
AES	131	30		7		1	2				171
BES	1	50		1			2				54
DCS			67				1				68
FES		6		63							69
GES	1	4	2	1	89		1		1		99
HES		2				57	6				65
PES	1	2	4	1	3	2	240	7	3		263
TES								5	59		64
GBS	108	52		38		61	1				260
SMS	1	1	37	4	58	1	258	4	54		418
CVHS	130	90	52	64	69	62	309	10	71	2	859
TOTAL	373	237	162	179	219	184	820	26	188	2	2390

[illegible]