

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2015**

**School Board Meeting**

**Pierce School**

**7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD**

Gary Backstrom, Rich Cahoon,  
Richard Dunning, Butch Estey,  
Janine Lesser, David Martz,  
Stephan Morrissey, Pierce Rigrod,  
Myron Steere, Fiona Tibbetts

River Marmorstein, Student  
Patrick Cogan, CVEA

**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  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Jim Elder, GBS  
Nicola Fraley, FES

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

**Butch Estey called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**2. Pierce School Welcome-** Dr. Ann Allwarden

Dr. Allwarden introduced Robin Gregg, Diane Johnson, Christine McClure, and Janice Tyler. Dr. Allwarden reported that every year Pierce School attends an all school field trip. She shared a slide show on their recent trip to the Montshire Museum.

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

**a. May 19, 2015**

**Myron Steere moved to accept the minutes of May 19, 2015. Stephan Morrissey second. Gary Backstrom abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

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

Chairman Estey recognized Tanya Rousseau as the recipient of this month's School Board Chairman's Award.

**5. Points of Pride**

**Temple Elementary School**

TES 3rd and 4th graders have been working with the Temple Conservation Committee learning about solar power. They have made mini - solar cars and are learning about solar energy as well as engineering. It has been a great unit and community connection.

TES also studied the country of India and learned about the culture. This tied into the district goal of global citizenship. Thanks to the school board support of our residency weeks with our specialists, art and music were integrated into this awesome study which culminated into a family night Open House, complete with henna tattoos, Indian food for supper, and musical performances.

TES also enjoyed a year richer in STEM learning. On Fridays, during one quarter, the children were grouped in multiage groups for a 90 minute block of STEM activities and learning. TES teachers each taught one challenge for the groups.

*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.*

## Great Brook School

-GBS bobcats have logged 6,200 hours of community service so far this year

-We have started a canned food drive for the Antrim Pantry

-We are ending our year with a "25 Day Challenge," where students do good things for their community. This reflects how we started the year (a 21 day academic challenge), and also reflects our Great Brook, which is 25 years old.

-We had 7 students place or medal in the 2015 Middle School Connecticut Valley League Championships, where 21 boys' teams and 24 girls' teams compete in track and field events

## AES & Pierce School

The Antrim Grange recently held their Annual Community Awards Night which focuses on honoring and celebrating the "wonderful volunteers and service people who make our local communities such a terrific place to live." Linda Tenney, the amazing library media specialist for Antrim Elementary School and Pierce School in Bennington, was presented this year's Educator Award.

## **6. Public Comment**

None.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

### **a. Personnel**

#### 1) Retirements

Tim Markley referenced the retirement of Scott Jenkins for June 2015.

**Myron Steere moved to accept the retirement. Gary Backstrom second. Unanimous.**

**Rich Cahoon moved not to post this position and suggested that the ED committee will receive the CVHS Strategic Plan. Myron Second. No motion is necessary.**

Discussion took place with regard to not filling the position.

Rich Cahoon said that we have a 3 year plan for the high school that will be presented later this month. ATC planning is underway. This position no longer meets the needs of the high school; this position could be redeployed. This will be further discussed at Education Committee.

#### 2) Nominations

Tim Markley referenced the nominations of:

Ellen Gorr, DCS Education Support Teacher

Shannon Luke, PES Special Education/RTI Teacher

Jennifer Regis, GBS Grade 7 LA/Social Studies Teacher

Karrie Mitschmyer, CVHS Art Teacher

Andria Johnson, CVHS Earth/Physical Science Teacher

**Myron Steere moved to approve the nominations as read. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.**

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

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

Policy Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the SAU Office.

Bus Company Open House on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the upper lot of the SAU.

School Board Goal Setting Meeting on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the SAU

School Board meeting on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU.

Strategic Plan Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the SAU.

Selectmen's Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU.

Strategic Plan Committee meeting on Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the SAU.

Public Hearing to expend Capital Reserve funds on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU.

School Board meeting on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU.

### **b. June 1, 2015 Enrollment Update**

Tim Markley referenced June 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment data.

Dr. Minnihan asked the Board to consider enrollments for future hiring to assure the best candidate.

Soft borders could be considered. Incentives for parents to send their child to another school in specific circumstances was suggested.

### **c. End of Year Appreciation Event**

Dr. Minnihan invited the School Board to a Staff Appreciation End of Year event on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 at CVHS.

## 9. Reports

### a. Student Representative

River Marmorstein reported that there are 10 remaining class days for underclassman. Prom took place this past weekend and was a success. The Pops Concert took place on Friday night. Class elections will be held this week into next week.

### b. Teacher Representative – Patrick Cogan

Patrick Cogan reported that PES teachers Shannon Dunning and Eric Rothhaus report that students wrote poems.

### c. Selectmen's Advisory Committee meeting – Myron Steere

Myron Steere reported that updates on activities were shared in terms of Food Service, and Budget & Property items. The funding formula was questioned by one member and will be discussed at B&P this Thursday.

### d. Education Committee – Rich Cahoon

Rich Cahoon reported out on the recent Education Committee meeting discussions, which included math instructional strategies. A recommendation to pilot new instructional strategies in math in the next school year came forward. For the pilot year, it could be covered by grant funds. A report back on the results of the pilot will come forward. If successful, it will move district wide for 16/17 K-12.

**Rich Cahoon moved that the board accept the recommendation of the math study committee. Myron Steere second.**

A mix of people made up the committee. It is not a new curriculum. It helps identify why kids struggle in math. It comes from the Vermont Mathematics Initiative. **Unanimous.**

Rich Cahoon also shared that a discussion took place about Special Olympics at this meeting as well. The committee agreed to continue to think about Special Olympics and Unified Sports.

### e. Strategic Plan Committee

Pierce Rigrod reported that the process for focus groups was discussed at the last meeting. Focus group meetings wrap up this week. Survey results were reviewed. Forming a group to look at the survey detail was discussed as well. Pierce will seek out members to conduct some of this review. Themes will be narrowed and goal statements will be crafted and brought forward to the board. The final report was discussed; it must be readable and understandable.

Each of the committees that meet should consider goals as part of the annual goal setting process. Long-term capital needs were discussed as well in conjunction with building aid, which is uncertain.

### f. Negotiations Committee

Butch Estey reported that meetings have taken place. These meeting have been closed due to the nature of the conversation. Information will be brought forward soon.

## 10. Old Business

### a. Goal Setting Update

The Goal Setting meeting scheduled to take place today was rescheduled to July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

## 11. New Business

### a. HealthTrust Annual Agreement

Marian Alese referenced limited agreements from HealthTrust shared with the board. A board vote to accept the agreement for the coming year was asked.

A vote will be taken at the next School Board meeting.

## 12. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Marian Alese certified that manifests listed totaling \$880,917.87 and Payroll 308 & 84 totaling \$1,900,787.20 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. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.**

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

**Myron Steere moved to enter into non-public for matters of personnel at 8:02 p.m. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Myron Steere moved to exit non-public session at 8:12 p.m. Rich Cahoon second. Gary Backstrom abstained to exit non-public. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion to waive a required deadline for early retirement stipend for a teacher and to allow it to be paid out in one sum this year. Gary Backstrom second.**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to amend the motion to split the motion into two; accept retirement and pay stipend this year in one sum as two separate motions. Fiona Tibbetts second.**

Fiona Tibbetts said that joining the motion is inappropriate. Stephan Morrissey agreed stating that it impacts our budget.

**Myron Steere moved to re-enter into non-public session for matters of personnel. Unanimous.**

**Myron Steere moved to exit non-public. Pierce Rigrod second. Unanimous.**

David Martz asked that the policy reads that exceptions will be granted in extreme cases only. Rich Cahoon did not feel that it would discount precedent setting. This will be sent to Policy Committee for discussion.

**Vote to separate the dollars from the main motion.**

**Stephan Morrissey withdrew his motion. Fiona Tibbetts withdrew her second.**

**Rich Cahoon moved to accept the recommendation from administration that we waive this contract language.**

**In favor: David Martz, Rich Cahoon, Pierce Rigrod, Dick Dunning, Janine Lesser.**

**Stephan Morrissey opposed**

**Fiona Tibbetts and Myron Steere abstained.**

**Motion carried.**

In favor of paying it one year by June 30<sup>th</sup>:

**Rich Cahoon moved to pay both halves by June 30<sup>th</sup> this year. Pierce Rigrod second.**

**In favor: Dick Dunning, Rich Cahoon, Janine Lesser, Pierce Rigrod**

**Opposed: David Martz**

**Abstained: Fiona Tibbetts, Stephan Morrissey, Myron Steere, Gary Backstrom**

**Butch Estey voted in favor to pay by June 30<sup>th</sup> breaking the tie.**

**Myron Steere moved to enter into non-public for negotiations at 8:42 p.m. Unanimous on roll call vote.**

**Myron Steere moved to exit non-public session at 8:47 p.m.**

**Rich Cahoon moved to accept the CVAA recommendation. Myron Steere second. Unanimous.**

**Motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok