

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 3, 2015

7:00 p.m.

SAU #1

Agenda

1. Accept Minutes – October 29, 2015
2. Budget
3. Strategic Plan
4. Broadband Initiative
5. Other

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Minutes

Present: John Jordan, Scott Carbee, Gail Cromwell, Barbara Miller, John Robertson, Carl Newton, George Willard, Pierce Rigrod, Myron Steere, David Martz, Rich Cahoon

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

1. Accept Minutes – September 24, 2015

John Robertson moved to accept the minutes of September 24, 2015. Carl Newton second. Unanimous.

2. Strategic Plan Presentation

Pierce Rigrod distributed the four goals and fact sheet for the Strategic Plan. He reported that the plan is still in development. The idea was to develop a plan that identified goals, objectives, strategies and actions. The process began back in December, a survey was conducted to gain input, with the goal of having a final document in hand and approved this December. One of the action items in the plan addresses how we access student performance. The document will be a living document and adjust accordingly. The second goal addresses Culture and Community; goal 3 addresses Organizational Structure (there are many organizational structures to be considered), and Goal 4 addresses Operations (capital planning; security etc., leadership, personnel, and facilities and technology).

Discussion took place about the importance of community culture and the schools are a part of that.

In past years, high performing districts were identified with a goal for ConVal to become one. Gail Cromwell asked what the status was of becoming a high performing district. Rich Cahoon said that the terminology "high performing district" has been dropped although the direction is always aiming to be high performing.

Meaningful measures of academic performance are being sought. It is a work in progress.

Financial/budgetary components will be a part of the plan. Public Forums are scheduled in December to share information.

Rich Cahoon asked those present if they believe that the ConVal School District budget has increased more than the rate of inflation. Rich Cahoon confirmed that it has not, which is often contrary to what many believe.

3. Broadband Survey and Initiative

Barbara Miller reported that the broadband survey concludes on October 31st. Barbara thanked the school district for helping to promote the survey. To date, 561 responses have been received.

John Robertson said that there are three levels of broadband service that can be purchased. He spoke about the advantages that TDS has had in the Antrim area. Fiber optic service is available in some areas. The importance of high-speed internet was discussed.

Barbara Miller said that she will return with survey results at a future meeting.

4. Opportunities for Student Participation in Towns' Activities

John Jordan said that students want to find more ways that they can get involved in their towns. Internship opportunities, volunteering, etc. It isn't community service; it is getting involved with different town committees and other ways.

River Marmorstein, student rep, said that he set a goal to get our nine town communities more involved with our schools. River asked what ideas those present might have for students and what can these students do to help the towns. He said that the Peterborough Police Department is not open to the idea of students interning. Barbara Miller shared information about a proposed School Resource Officer that never came to be and the reasons for it.

Trail maintenance and pond sampling were suggested as an opportunity to get involved. Barbara Miller spoke about SMS community service hours that were gained through a sharing of the health hazards associated with dog waste on the walking/biking trail in Peterborough.

Students present shared past experiences such as surveying ponds and the educational value in this effort.

Students serving on town committees was seen as a value to other students. Barbara Miller said that she would be happy to meet with students to share information about opportunities and committees.

Dr. Minnihan suggested that several Select Board members come to a TASC talk during the day.

5. Budget

Myron Steere reported that a budget work session is scheduled for Saturday, November 7th. He hopes to keep the budget flat but will know more after the session.

6. Co-op Sports Teams

It was reported that the Athletic Director and High School Principal have been given the ability to meet with Conant about the possibility of forming several cooperative teams. There are different ways to do this and they are investigating. Declining enrollment affects football in particular which requires high participation numbers to remain viable.

7. Other

None.

Motion to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. Second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok