

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road

Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

SAU Office

Public Hearing

7:00 p.m.

Expend Capital Reserve Funds/Trust Funds

In accordance with RSA 35:1, and 198:20C, a public hearing will be held by the Contoocook Valley School Board for the purpose of expending Capital Reserve Funds and/or Trust Funds for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

School Board Meeting

Immediately Following Public Hearing

BOARD

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,
Butch Estey, Janine Lesser,
Stephan Morrissey, Linda Quintanilha,
Pierce Rigrod, Myron Steere,
Jerome Wilson

River Marmorstein, Student Rep.

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
Nicole Fraley, FES
Nicole Pease, DCS
Anne O'Bryant, SMS
Jim Elder, GBS
Amy Janoch, HES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Butch Estey called the Public Hearing to order at 7:02 p.m. (see minutes of Public Hearing). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Minutes (Board Vote Required)

a. June 16, 2015

Myron Steere motioned to accept the minutes of June 16, 2015. Stephan Morrissey second.

Myron Steere noted that on the vote of the woodworking position, he either abstained or voted no.

Butch Estey said that an abstention counts as a "no vote".

Myron Steere said that a majority is required to pass. If you have 8 and only 4 voted for it, you do not have a majority. You can revote it if you would like.

Linda Quintanilha abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Estey reported that Tom Ferenc has tendered his resignation to the Board; he recently moved to Hancock. Mr. Estey introduced Jerry Wilson, Peterborough, as the new Peterborough School Board member.

3. Points of Pride

Beautiful Mosaics created by the students of AES, Pierce, GES, FES, HES, DCS, and TES at this year's field day will be on exhibit this summer at The River Center (46 Concord Street) in Peterborough. The gallery room is open Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm. It is worth the trip to see what all of the

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.

students accomplished during the annual Field Day Art Station. In the fall, each school will receive one of the seven artworks to display in their school as a reminder of the value of teamwork.

4. Public Comment

Al Burt, Greenfield, extended a thanks to the new members of the Board. He expressed his gratitude to the new found financial wisdom the board has found. He cited the outsourcing of the food service program, as well as the “no” vote of the board to hire additional staff in the district. Mr. Burt referenced courses that he felt were undersubscribed as problematic. Mr. Burt asked for consideration for small classes to go on the internet to take virtual courses. He challenged the board to give thought to offer undersubscribed courses virtually.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Personnel

1) Nominations

Myron Steere moved to accept the nominations (of Nicole Boisvert, Stephanie Chinnery, Dr. Peter Naitove, Debra Shumway, Elise Driscoll, Abraham Ewing, Tyler Mudrick, Greg Bickford, Christianna Rivet, Derek Castor, Cassie Anderson, Darlene Jiang-Demetriou, Courtney Taylor, and Andrea Jurewich) as read. Second. Unanimous.

2) Resignations

Myron Steere moved to accept the resignation of Jean Nannicelli as read. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.

6. Superintendent’s Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

The Negotiations Committee will meet on Tues., July 28th at 5:30 p.m. at the SAU Office
The Policy Committee will meet on Tues., August 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the SAU Office.

b. Field Trip Request (Board Vote Required)

- 1) ConVal High School – Grade 10-12 students will travel to the heart of Renaissance Italy to study Art History April 15-23, 2016.

Myron Steere moved to approve the trip as requested. Stephan Morrissey second.

A discussion on chaperones took place.

Unanimous.

c. Superintendent Update Report

1) Superintendent Goals

Dr. Minnihhan shared an update on his goals. Dr. Minnihhan reported that there is carryover from last year’s goals; the technology plan is still moving forward as well as the goal related to equity in the middle schools. If the question is in terms of teacher load, they have become closer and closer. If the question about equity is programmatic, our alignment K-12 has improved dramatically. Work on communication is moving forward and getting stronger. Pierce Rigrod cited PTO participation as an area to tap into.

Linda Quintanilha shared that equity in terms of resources is often thought of; each of the schools should have the tools necessary i.e. planners, computers, etc. In addition, special education is very different in each of the two middle schools.

Butch Estey said that the evaluation system needs to be firm in place. We need to bring staff who are basic up to higher levels. Kimberly Saunders reported that principals and administrators began training in March and continued in May. The introduction for the teachers took place in June. Ten sessions will take place to look at gathering of evidence, conduct “walk-throughs” of classrooms to rate the same regardless of school or administrator. The majority of professional development days next year are devoted toward evaluations.

Rich Cahoon spoke about using statistics to measure evaluations.

Dick Dunning reiterated that doing something about the sound in this board room is important. Discussion took place about who reads evaluations and who reads evaluations of staff that work in more than one school. Lead staff conduct evaluations.

Dr. Minnihhan agreed to draft a status on his goals.

Butch Estey reminded board members that if they want to visit an administrator they must pass it through the Board Chair first.

7. Reports

a. Student Representative –River Marmorstein

River Marmorstein reported that Summer Academy appears to be going well and is fun. A group of students will attend a Leadership Conference at UNH in August.

Brian Pickering reported 140 participants in Summer Academy. Rich Cahoon asked for a breakdown of how many students are taking electives and how many recovery courses. Brian Pickering will report back.

b. Teacher Representative – Patrick Cogan

None.

c. Budget & Property Committee – Myron Steere

Myron Steere said that security was discussed at the last Budget & Property (B&P) Committee meeting. In addition, school board goals, and prioritizing the building aid opportunities were discussed. The tractor was discussed. PES has a preschool playground going in this summer.

Myron Steere moved to approve the PES preschool playground. Dick Dunning second. There is no cost to the district other than some prep work. **Unanimous.**

Myron Steere also reported that trust funds were discussed at the last B&P Committee meeting.

Rich Cahoon noted that biomass was also discussed at this meeting. Pierce Rigrod said that we are writing a five year plan for capital investments. Myron said that an evaluation of the boilers in the year of replacement is needed and will be conducted for consideration of alternative heat sources.

d. Selectmen's Advisory Committee

John Jordan reported that assessments and average daily membership (ADM) were discussed at the last meeting. SAC voted to make no changes to the formula. The effects of downshifting from the State was discussed.

Marian Alese reported that the June payment was extended into July. She suggests extending it through August and September because the tax rates will be actual in October. Myron Steere was in agreement.

Myron Steere moved to extend the payments through August and September. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.

8. Old Business

a. School Staffing Request

A revote for the woodworking position was requested.

Rich Cahoon moved to approve the hiring for a woodworking position. Pierce Rigrod second. Unanimous.

Dr. Minnihan shared a request for Dublin Consolidated School – 19 students in a K/1 classroom is the current status. Our request for DCS, given the needs of the students and recommendations of principals, is that we add a full-time para that can work in the K/1 classroom to provide support.

Myron Steere moved to add the para for DCS. Pierce Rigrod second.

Linda Quintanilha asked if we are moving to a place of co-teaching and more independence for students. Dr. Minnihan shared that the K/1 and grade 2 classrooms will be next to each other. Students who are advanced can access the second grade class.

Unanimous.

Dr. Minnihan shared the recommendation for Francestown Elementary School – the Grade 1 teacher is transferring to HES, the K/1 teacher will transfer into a reading specialist position at PES. As a result, we have a new Grade 3 teacher at FES. Dr. Minnihan asked that a K teacher and a Grade 1 teacher be brought forward.

Stephan Morrissey moved that FES have both a kindergarten teacher and a Grade 1 teacher. Myron Steere second.

Dick Dunning said that he cannot support the request. He said that he believes we can find someone to do the combined class with 10 kindergarten students and 9 grade 1 students.

Dr. Minnihan said that he is making this request because the administrators and teachers in this school have made this request.

Dick Dunning said that he cannot support the request, if the request was for a para, he would support this. Stephan Morrissey urged the board to consider the request of the administrator. Discussion ensued.

In favor of hiring two teachers; one for kindergarten and one first grade: Linda Quintanilha, Jerry Wilson, Janine Lesser, Pierce Rigrod, Myron Steere, Rich Cahoon, Stephan Morrissey.

Opposed: Dick Dunning

Motion carried.

b. Strategic Plan Committee – Goal Statements (Board Vote Required)

Pierce Rigrod reported that goal statements were developed and worked on. A draft was developed. General areas on objectives were discussed as well as resources. A timeline was developed. Today, these statements are being brought to the board. Goals and actions will be drafted moving forward.

Stephan Morrissey moved to accept the Strategic Plan final goals. Dick Dunning second.

Myron Steere asked for a definition of “best practices” included with the plan. Pierce Rigrod said that the challenge for this plan is that other plans are being developed as well. A soft launch is planned for the end of August.

Unanimous.

c. School Board Goals Update

Pierce Rigrod reported not receiving a lot of feedback on the proposed goals. Pierce said that completion of the goals can be accomplished through Google docs.

9. New Business

a. Additional Encumbrances for 2014-2015

Marian Alese reported that over the course of the year, when looking at expense reports, there has been a significant amount of money in the health insurance line as a result of several changes. Ms. Alese reported having approximately a million dollars unencumbered in the health insurance line. The question arose about encumbering and transferring some of those funds to accommodate other work. Discussion about using some of this money to do roofing or security work took place. Marian reported that she contacted the auditors and they confirm that it can take place if the board votes. Marian reported approximately \$225,000 for security is proposed and \$250,000 for roof replacement.

In the Capital Plan, we are starting roof replacement at CVHS next year. We committed to reserving \$500K to reduce taxes in the 15-16 line.

Myron Steere moved to use \$475,000 to encumber this work. Stephan Morrissey second.

Myron Steere said that with this approximate \$500k we are turning back \$1.25 million over the previous year. This smooths the impact on some of these projects with taxes.

Janine Lesser asked about the security and the need for policy. Myron Steere said that we need some minimal security work. This money will help offset our building aid.

Tim Grossi said that the process is not being circumvented but his allows the possibility for this work.

Unanimous.

10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Marian Alese certified that manifests and payroll from June 17th through June 30th 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.

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

a. Negotiations

Myron Steere moved to enter non-public at 8:33 p.m. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Myron Steere moved to exit non-public session at 8:45 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous

Myron Steere moved to accept the new hiring matrix. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.

Linda Quintanilha motioned to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Stephan Morrissey second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok