

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, September 1, 2015**

**School Board Meeting**

**SAU #1**

**Board Room**

**7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD**

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,  
Butch Estey, David Martz,  
Linda Quintanilha, Pierce Rigrod,  
Crista Salamy, Myron Steere,  
Fiona Tibbetts, Jerome Wilson

Patrick Cogan, CVEA  
Linda Compton, CVEA  
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  
Dr. Ann Allwarden, AES/Pierce School  
Jim Elder, GBS  
Nicola Fraley, FES  
Amy Janoch, HES  
Ben Loi, PES  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Nicole Pease, DCS  
Brian Pickering, CVHS  
Colleen Roy, GES

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

**Butch Estey called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

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

**a. August 18, 2015**

**Myron Steere moved to accept the minutes of August 18, 2015. Dick Dunning second. Linda Quintanilha abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.**

**3. Points of Pride**

**SMS**

Over 150 students participated in the 5th grade /new student orientation on Aug. 26th from 10-2pm. There was a great parent turn out as well. Thanks to our 40 student mentors who welcomed our new students to SMS to have a positive start to the school year.

**Pierce School**

At Pierce School's first whole school assembly, staff members reviewed the three core values that have been in place for many years--*Be safe. Be kind. Do the right thing.* They then introduced a new fourth core value--***Have courage.*** Examples of having courage include:

- Try your best even when things are difficult.
- Ask questions even when it feels hard to ask them.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Give a different answer.
- Explore a different side or point of view.
- Defend your choices.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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The assembly then ended with an exciting unveiling of Pierce School's new mascot--the Bennington Black Bear! Black bears are adaptable, intelligent, and curious. They are also playful. They like to swim and love to climb trees. These characteristics seemed a perfect match to the students who attend Pierce School.

In athletics, high school boys and girls soccer all won vs. Goffstown. At GBS, Principal, Jim Elder dressed up as a present on opening day. PES has a new climate committee who worked to welcome all new students to PES.

Butch Estey reported that Brendan Minnihan has been selected to sit in the Gallery and visit the Pope in Washington, DC.

Dr. Minnihan reported that all of the schools were visited on opening day.

Butch Estey reported that he toured CVHS on opening day.

#### **4. Public Comment**

None.

#### **5. Consent Agenda**

##### **a. Personnel**

##### **1) Nominations**

**Myron Steere moved to accept the nominations of Griffen Fletcher, Rachel Bowman, and Aidan Holding as listed. Pierce Rigrod second. Unanimous.**

#### **Stipend Positions – Notification**

Tim Markley referenced this information for notification only.

**Resignation – Myron Steere moved to accept the resignation of Maureen Montanus. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.**

##### **b. Enrollment - August 27, 2015**

Tim Markley referenced September 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment information. The first day of school enrollment reflects the number of students that attended school on the first day and not our enrollment.

Dr. Minnihan reported minor pluses and minuses.

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

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

##### **1) April 2016 School Board Meeting Dates**

The proposed School Board meeting schedule was reviewed. In particular, the April 2016 schedule was discussed and will remain as stated; first and third Tuesday.

##### **b. Review draft Mission, Vision, and Core Beliefs**

Dr. Minnihan shared a draft of the Mission, Vision, and Core Beliefs. "Learn, Explore, and Give" might be an example of brevity.

Dr. Minnihan reported that Administrative Council met and created ideals, he asked for input.

Discussion took place about maintaining language to include the partnership with our member communities. School Board members were asked to send thoughts to the Superintendent

#### **7. Reports**

##### **a. Teacher Representative – Patrick Cogan**

Patrick Cogan and Linda Compton, Co-CVEA Presidents, recognized Tina Perreault as a great teacher for her willingness to change and take on multi-age class last minute.

##### **b. Student Representative – River Marmorstein**

River Marmorstein reported that they are trying to get everyone on Student Council involved in something. The year in general is being discussed. Students are happy to be back at school.

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**c. Strategic Plan Committee – Pierce Rigrod**

Pierce Rigrod reported out that the committee is in the process of drafting and reviewing goals, objectives and strategies. Pulling the pieces of the plan together, along with the capital components is being worked on to draw together. The next meeting is September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Community forums will be planned.

**d. Education Committee – Crista Salamy**

Crista Salamy reported that they have met twice; two recommendations for the board include the forming of cooperative sports for ice hockey to merge Monadnock with ConVal. This would include referees, ice time, and transportation. It is a two year agreement. If numbers decline on both sides it can be renegotiated. The approximate cost is roughly \$34,000 for each team, girls and boys, with a cost savings of \$10K in the first year.

Brian Pickering reported that Monadnock has committed for boys because they know that they have the numbers but they are unsure about the girls at this point.

**Crista Salamy motioned to look at splitting the cost for ice hockey with Monadnock in a two year agreement plan. Myron Steere second.**

Butch Estey said that the motion states to share the cost but did not say to form a cooperative. He asked if the intent is for a cooperative. Crista Salamy confirmed. Myron Steere confirmed.

Dr. Minnihan said that he thought that Mark Swasey asked for the Boards permission to continue to investigate forming a cooperative for boys and girls ice hockey. They are looking for a vote to proceed and not a vote to form the cooperative.

Rich Cahoon said that the NHIAA requires a vote to explore the cooperative and another to approve the formation of a cooperative.

Rich Cahoon said that at this point the request has changed dramatically from three days ago.

Marian Alese suggested a motion to enter into negotiations with Monadnock to form a cooperative for both girls and boys ice hockey.

**Crista Salamy and Myron Steere withdrew their motion and second respectively.**

**Myron Steere moved to enter into negotiations with Monadnock to form a cooperative hockey program. Crista Salamy second.**

Myron Steere suggested looking at the athletic programs to examine for viability as part of the Strategic Plan. Discussion took place about the projected numbers for both the girls and boys teams.

David Martz asked about competitiveness in the game; how many are competitive. Myron Steere reported that the girl's team scored two goals last year.

Dick Dunning asked that if we have 22 boys who want to skate, why we want a cooperative.

Brian Pickering said that joining with another school will allow the team to be more competitive.

**In favor: Pierce Rigrod, Jerome Wilson, Rich Cahoon, Linda Quintanilha, Dick Dunning, Myron Steere, Fiona Tibbetts, Crista Salamy**

**Opposed: David Martz**

**Motion carried.**

Crista Salamy reported that because of South Meadow's increased enrollment; particularly in the "specials"; there are 28, 29, and sometimes 30 students in a classroom. Putting the money back for the art position that was reduced was asked. This is an Education Committee recommendation.

**Crista Salamy motioned to put the money back for the art position. Myron Steere second.** Marian Alese reported that it could be \$60K to \$100K depending on salary and benefits. Ms. Alese said that you cannot put the money back as an appropriation.

Linda Quintanilha asked if the two extra positions that are budgeted for are gone. Marian Alese confirmed.

Marian Alese said that tomorrow is the first payroll. The position changes were fairly dramatic this year.

Ms. Alese said that she suspects that there is a salary delta and would know more in several days.

David Martz asked what we are actually doing. Butch Estey said that we are being asked to put the art teacher position back into SMS.

Rich Cahoon said that there are 13 fewer students this year and asked why this is a surprise and coming up now. Dr. Minnihan said that a position was reduced making the situation difficult. This year, with more students, it is untenable.

Dick Dunning shared his support for this request and cited safety as an issue.

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Marian Alese said that it is likely that between salary deltas and food service benefit savings that money may be there.

**Unanimous.**

Crista Salamy reported that the Education Committee is working on their output goals in the Strategic Plan.

**e. Negotiations – CVAA Agreement – Butch Estey**

Butch Estey reported that the CVAA Agreement has to be discussed. Tim Markley will work to set a date to convene a meeting.

**8. Old Business**

**a. 2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Adoption Policy (School Board Vote Required)**

DBJ: Transfer of Appropriation

**Rich Cahoon moved this policy for adoption. Myron Steere second. Unanimous.**

DK: Payment Procedures

**Rich Cahoon moved this policy for adoption. Myron Steere second. Unanimous.**

David Martz said that the word “then” should be added to the fourth line to read “...then the District’s Treasurer will sign all checks....”.

Marian Alese reported that this would be opposite of the practice in place for the past 40 years.

Myron Steere asked if the auditors approve our process. Marian Alese confirmed.

David Martz asked what happens to the check if the manifest is not approved. Rich Cahoon said that we take it up with the Superintendent. We have a valid purchase order for goods or services provided so we have to pay it. That vote would be a vote of no confidence for the accounting.

Marian Alese said that we are doing what we have been doing for many years. If the board is okay with tabling this, she will ask the auditor.

**Linda Quintanilha moved to table the approval of this policy until further information from auditors. Second.**

EEA: Student Transportation Services

Rich Cahoon changed the 5 day appeal process to 15 days.

**Rich Cahoon moved to adopt as amended. Second. Unanimous.**

JEB: Entrance Age

**Rich Cahoon moved to adopt this policy as read. Myron Steere second.** The change was to allow for a waiver process. **Unanimous.**

**9. New Business**

**a. 1<sup>st</sup> Read Policy**

DGA: Authorized Signatures/Check-Writing Services

ECA: Building and Grounds Security

KCB: Community Involvement in Decision Making

KMA: Relations with Parent Organizations

Rich Cahoon asked the board for feedback on the above four policies as first reads.

**10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)**

Marian Alese certified that August manifests totaling \$408,912.72 and Payroll totaling \$875,868.26 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 process prior to their submittal to the School Board.

**Myron Steere motioned to accept the manifests as listed. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Negotiations**

None.

**b. Personnel**

**Myron Steere motioned to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for matters of personnel at 8:04 p.m. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Myron Steere moved to exit non-public session at 8:23 p.m. David Martz second. Unanimous.**

**Myron Steere moved to seal the minutes of non-public session indefinitely. Second. Unanimous.**

**Linda Quintanilha motioned to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. Richard Dunning second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok

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