

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
106 Hancock Road, Peterborough, NH 03458-1197

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 21, 2016
SAU Boardroom
5:30 PM

Minutes

Committee Members:

Crista Salamy, Linda Quintanilha, Bernd Foecking, Janine Lesser, Rich Cahoon

Committee Members Present: Crista Salamy, Janine Lesser, Rich Cahoon, Linda Quintanilha
(5:53 pm)

Others Present: Kimberly Saunders, Dr. Ann Allwarden, Myron Steere, Colleen Roy, Nicole Pease, Kat Foecking, Judi Bernardi, Brian Pickering, Mark Swasey, Parents, Students

Crista Salamy called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

First order of business is to elect a Chairperson for Education Committee.

Rich Cahoon moved to nominate Crista Salamy as Education Committee Chair. Janine Lesser second. Unanimous.

1. Approval of February 16, 2016 Minutes – 5 minutes

Rich Cahoon moved to accept the minutes of February 16, 2016. Linda Quintanilha second. Unanimous.

2. Late Start Committee Survey data --- 20 minutes Brian Pickering

Brian Pickering said that the concept of a later start time for high school and middle school students was proposed. The Education Committee gave the go ahead to continue the research. The committee worked hard to develop a fair study for families of K-12 students while surveying high school students as well.

Mr. Pickering summarized that all three stakeholders, parents, students, and staff would be in support of a later start time for middle and high school.

The question is “should the work continue?” Busing and finance considerations exist. This could be accomplished without additional monies. The momentum continues to build on this topic for the right reasons.

Kimberly Saunders said that as the athletic schedule is reviewed, the question of whether or not the Education Committee would ask for a picture of what this would look like could be asked.

Rich Cahoon asked for a spreadsheet of the tabulated results. He would like to know how each group answered the questions separately.

Brian Pickering said that there are many benefits to all of the three levels starting at the same time as well. One example would allow vertical meetings of staff.

Rich Cahoon shared his concern about the impact on elementary school.

Myron Steere asked if they started at the same time would they be bused together. That is one logistical piece to look at.

Kimberly Saunders said that a sense of whether or not there is strong interest in this switch is needed before we ask for the work on logistics etc. to be done. If there isn't interest the work should not be asked.

Rich Cahoon believed that having K-12 travel on the same buses at the same time was a non-starter.

Crista Salamy said that the work could be done to look at it each way; all start at the same time and also having elementary start earlier than middle and high school.

Janine Lesser was in favor of having the research continue on this topic of earlier start times for elementary and later for middle and high school.

Bus monitors was suggested if all schools started at the same time and students were bused together K-12.

Logistics including budgetary impact for busing, athletics was asked. Largest impact for athletics will be in October; day light savings. Athletic start times would have to be moved to 4:00 or game shortage. This model was based on a 3:20 p.m. model. Nordic ski would also be impact for a short period of time. Soccer teams would be impact as well. Mark Swasey said that he can make athletics work.

ATC contractual obligations are a consideration. Other contractual issues will be considered.

Rich Cahoon said that busing travel time for students cannot exceed one hour.

Kimberly Saunders said that they can look at a same start and also a flip start.

Rich Cahoon asked how many elementary students walk to a bus stop. We don't want them to walk in the dark.

Brian Pickering said that this information can be turned around very quickly.

Crista Salamy asked for a report to the Education Committee by May 15th with a presentation in June.

Implementation and roll out dates should be part of the report.

3. OGAP Presentation and recommendation

Colleen Roy, Nicole Pease, and Kat Foecking spoke about the Ongoing Assessment Project (OGAP). Colleen Roy said that content knowledge was key to support student learning in math. It is formative assessment in 80% of the Common Core and State Standards. How students learn math is the focus. Teachers learned about OGAP and are excited. Research on what helps students learn math was completed. Helping teachers develop strategies to improve student learning is the focus.

Nicole Pease said that the goal is to provide professional development for one cohort and grow through connections. Strategies to use in the classroom with elementary students to build solid foundations and fill in any gaps is the result.

Kat Foecking reported on her OGAP training. Young students need to develop number sense. Her student's mathematical understanding has gone through the roof. Because the right answer is not as important, students are willing to take risks. Benchmarks increase as you move along.

Rich Cahoon asked if Praxis scores are used in the hiring process. Kimberly Saunders said that one needs to pass the Praxis to be certified. Actual scores are not used in the hiring process. Colleen said that there is not a great amount of focus on math to acquire certification; it is one or two math classes. OGAP talks about how students learn to understand numbers. Kimberly Saunders said that when we build our own curriculum we can use open source resources. We know that our children are learning and we have the evidence.

The recommendation is to put all of the eggs in the OGAP basket and go to phase two and add the other modules. Training teachers K-12 is the thought.

When we hire math teachers are we hiring specialists? We do both, certified K-8 teachers with an HQT in an area and still teach two subjects.

Colleen and Nicole will train this summer to become OGAP trainers.

Linda Quintanilha moved to recommend that OGAP move forward. Second. Unanimous.

Colleen's connections through VMI have saved ConVal a considerable amount of money. More information will go to the board, in terms of a report out, next winter.

Next Education Committee meetings:

April 25th, May 9th, and June 13th were the next scheduled Education Committee meetings.

Possible future agenda items:

- Annual goals and alignment to Strategic Plan.

Linda Quintanilha motioned to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok