

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**School Board Meeting**

**7:00 p.m.**

**SAU Office**

**Minutes**

**BOARD**

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,  
Jim Fredrickson, Bernd Foecking,  
Janine Lesser, Niki McGettigan,  
Stephan Morrissey, Kristen Reilly,  
Myron Steere, Tim Theberge  
Jerome Wilson

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.  
Tim Markley, H.R.  
David Jack, B.A.  
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.  
Colleen Roy, GES  
Kat Foecking, FES  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Jim Elder, GBS

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

**Myron Steere called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

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

**a. May 7, 2019**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to accept the minutes of May 7, 2019. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**3. Points of Pride**

Kimberly Saunders reported out on various points of pride as reported to her from administrators.

Dick Dunning reported that Sean Driscoll and his students work to put over 675 American flags out ahead of Memorial Day weekend.

**4. Public Comment**

None.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**a. Personnel**

1) Nominations- July 2019

**Stephan Morrissey moved to approve the nominations of Emily Hartshorne, Katie Page, Amelia Barnes, Jennifer Hart, Madeline Compos, Alexis Harris, Sara King, and Matthew Harris. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

2) Resignations- June 2019

**Stephan Morrissey moved to accept the resignations of Krystal Morin and Alexcina Smith. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

3) Notice of Co-Curricular Stipends

Tim Markley referenced the notice of co-curricular stipend as informational. .

4) Job Description (2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Approval)

a. Special Education Teacher

b. Preschool Teacher

c. District/Community Preschool Case Manager

**Stephan Morrissey moved to approve the job descriptions as presented. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

*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.*

Tim Markley notified the board about three CVHS teaching/administrator positions: Mary Goldthwaite-Gagne, Greg Morris, and Carol Young.

**b. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)**

- 1) Hancock Elementary School requests authorization to accept a gift/donation totaling \$3,134.50 from the Trustees of the Hancock Trust Funds, for the purpose of an All School Field Trip to the Montshire Museum including coach bus transportation.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to accept the donation as read with gratitude. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous.**

- 2) South Meadow School requests authorization to accept a gift/donation of a 3D Printer, filament, Servo Motors, valued at \$754.88 from Donors Choose, for the purpose of STEM/STEAM Robotics and EHP.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to accept with thanks. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**5. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business**

**a. Monthly Events Calendar**

Education Committee and Communication Committee were moved from June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup>.

EEAG – Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students and for Other School Purposes

Kimberly Saunders has been asked to allow a privately owned vehicle by the Town of Peterborough to transport students. They did not want to list the district as the second insured. Discussion took place.

**7. Reports**

**a. Student Representative – Molly Janoch/Marina McMahon**

None.

**b. Teacher Representative – Asher MacLeod**

None.

**c. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson**

Jim Fredrickson reported that Budget & Property committee members toured SMS prior to the start of the meeting. Elementary school costs continue to be refined, the solar project is still being working on, LED lighting is being prioritized then funding will be considered, leasing opportunities will continue to be looked at, District Use of Facilities Policy will be reviewed in June, Antrim Gym was discussed; an Antrim Trust Fund exists.

Capital Reserve Trust Fund needs to be turned back to the fund (\$600K)

Public Hearing is needed on \$75K for Athletic Trust.

David Jack said that when the FY'19 budget was developed, athletic trust funds were part of the plan to offset expenses. A public hearing did not take place; one must be scheduled so money can come back to the district in this fiscal year.

Antrim Trust Fund information was shared.

Tim Grossi continues to work on the Capital Improvement Plan over the next couple of years.

**d. Education Committee – Jerry Wilson**

Jerry Wilson reported that the committee met yesterday; multi-age/multi-grade is proposed at FES, currently under practice at DCS. In the past, combining grade levels occurred for undersubscribed classes.

Universal Preschool was discussed. Cari Coates presented research on this topic. Information on cost and resources needed was shared. The recommendation is two parts; the first phase would expand at current sites; four year olds would stay full-day. Phase II would expand by adding four additional classrooms. The intent is not that there will be a preschool in every elementary school. Information will be sent out to the board.

High school math requirements were discussed as well. The impact on schedule for students and staff was shared.

Data on course subscription and drop information was shared.

**Jerry Wilson moved to recommend the support to continue for multi-age at FES. Dick Dunning second.**

Rich Cahoon asked if continueing at FES is a step to going forward district-wide. Confirmed, based on success, this will be looked at for additional schools.

Kristen Reilly said that it will be a three-eyar implementation plan.

**Bernd Foecking abstained. Unanimous.**

Jerry Wilson said that the recommendation for math is to officially adopt the four credits of math and completion of Algebra I to graduate. An additional staff member will be needed to accommodate.

**Dick Dunning moved to authorize the Superintendent to hire one math teacher at CVHS. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous.**

Edith Bird Bass Essay Contest deadline is this Thursday.

#### **e. Communication Committee – Niki McGettigan**

Niki McGettigan reported discussion about newspaper coverage, school coverage, and website updates. Information from committees can provide Niki with information for posting. Newsletters were discussed as well. Assignments currently underway were reviewed. School funding should be a resource on our website. Finishing the communication plan for the upcoming school year was cited as a goal.

### **8. Old Business**

#### **a. Athletic Trust Fund Vote (Board Vote Required)**

A Public Hearing is scheduled on June 4, 2019.

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

- EEAG: Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students and for Other School Purposes
- JICDD: Student Discipline Out-Of-School Actions

**Rich Cahoon moved to adopt both policies as read. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

Now that EEAG has been adopted, Rich said that the question of a dollar figure and who was named as additional insured was vetted and cited as important.

Stephan Morrissey said that request to waive that policy has been asked.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to waive the policy EEAG.**

Rich Cahoon called "Point of Order"; that policy, while on the agenda for adoption, would have to be unanimous to waive.

Jim Fredrickson said that legal recommendation is to have the District named as second insured.

Rich said that it is a business decision with a recommendation. Additional insured came back with a strong recommendation from legal. The issue is that we don't want to be sued because of deep pockets in the event of an accident.

Rich further asked for a justification for the request. Kimberly said that the request is coming because there are so few students planned to attend a field trip a short distance from the school. The cost of a bus is significant. Unsure if students parents could drop them there. Cost for 8 kids is prohibitive. It is a one time request.

Could the Town of Peterborough add an additional insured; thought was they could for little money i.e. approximately \$10.00.

Since it is a municipality, wouldn't both be using Primex. Bernd Foecking suggested calling Primex.

Stephan Morrissey said that we should adhere to our policy. The group requesting could go back to Peterborough.

Niki suggested asking our bus company to pick up these DCS students when bus drops students off for school and bring them to Peterborough.

**Stephan Morrissey tabled his motion until further info is received. Unanimous. Tabled until next meeting.**

### **9. New Business**

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

- ADB: Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools
- GBEC: Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools
- JLD: School Counseling Program

Rich Cahoon asked the board to review and forward questions or concerns.

#### **b. Consolidation Consultant**

Myron Steere asked the sense of the board on hiring a consultant.

Tim Theberge asked if people feel that something is missing. Myron said that some want an independent consultant; that way it wouldn't be swayed.

Dick Dunning asked if we did not find someone to do this work in the past. Kimberly Saunders said that we once had two bids; once there was no interest, the second was far out of the price range anticipated.

Rich Cahoon said that until you define a scope of work, it is not possible to pursue a consultant.

Bernd Foecking said that all of the work that the SAU can do has been done. People feel that we need to get more buy-in from the towns; what would the impact be on housing values etc. It should go back to SAC to look at how to get the answers to these types of questions.

Stephan Morrissey said that we should hold off until the school funding issue is settled.

Janine Lesser said that the scope of work is important before moving forward. Whatever happens with school funding, we need to get our own house in order to defend with the public. She would vote to form a small committee to come up with a scope of work.

Dick Dunning thought the scope would be really connected with a town wanting to withdraw from the district. Certain questions would need to be answered. Kimberly Saunders said that in part, it is really only answering questions specific to that town. The questions are limited to how you would educate your children if you withdrew. It would not fulfill what needs to happen.

Kimberly Saunders said that in a perfect world, the scope of work would require them to come back with multiple models that include cost benefits, education benefits, and efficiencies.

Myron Steere said that if the State does fund districts at a higher level, they are going to start taking control of districts.

Tim Theberge said that work is underway to identify the cost to run each building; we need to know that first.

Rich Cahoon said that he sees this as a thousand hour project at \$100 per hour results into a million dollars. He further said that he has not heard anything about the State taking control. He has heard about consolidating districts but not closing schools.

Bernd Foecking said that we have been trying to answer an emotional question with numbers. It is not possible. Spending more time on something that we are not going to get an answer to does not make sense.

ConVal's warrant asked that before anything be brought forward to consolidate that a complete study take place. It did not say that we must bring something forward.

Dick Dunning said that until Budget & Property Committee can finish the costs and look at real numbers, this board needs to make a decision about supporting something or not. We are not making any decision. Let's get data. The impact on taxpayers is dollars. This is an emotional piece that is why we have gone nowhere.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to table this discussion until the fall. More information will be available then.**

**Janine Lesser second.**

Rich said that the board agreed to take a break after several go arounds on this topic. There are other things we could look at that don't include closing a school. Grades could be reconfigured across schools. Other things could be looked at.

Kimberly said that the Articles of Agreement say that you have to look at the organization structure every three years.

**Consensus to hold off on further discussion on this topic.**

## **10. Public Comment**

**None.**

## **11. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)**

David Jack certified that manifests listed totaling \$213,924.17 and Payroll totaling \$808,824.38 have been reviewed by him 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.

**Stephan Morrissey moved to approve the manifests as read. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Personnel**

**b. Negotiations**

**c. Legal**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to enter into Non-Public Session at 8:13 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for legal matters. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to exit non-public session at 8:32 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to seal the minutes of non-public session for 10 years. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous.**

**Stephan Morrissey moved to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok