

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

School Board Meeting

SAU Office

7:00 p.m.

Minutes

BOARD

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,
Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson,
Katherine Heck, Janine Lesser,
Niki McGettigan, Stephan Morrissey,
Linda Quintanilha, Kristen Reilly,
Crista Salamy, Tim Theberge,
Jerry Wilson

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Tim Markley, H.R.
Tim Grossi, Facilities
Nicole Pease, DCS
Larry Pimental, PES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Stephan Morrissey called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

a. Negotiations

Tim Theberge moved to enter into non-public session for matters of negotiation at 7:03 p.m. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Linda Quintanilha moved to exit non-public session at 7:42 p.m. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous.

Stephan Morrissey moved to seal the minutes of non-public session for a period of five years. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.

3. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes (Board Vote Required)

a. January 7, 2020

Dick Dunning moved to accept the minutes of January 7, 2020. Tim Theberge second. Crista Salamy abstained. All others in favor, motion carried.

b. January 14, 2020

Dick Dunning moved to accept the minutes of January 14, 2020. Tim Theberge second. Linda Quintanilha abstained. All others in favor, motion carried.

4. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders reported out on various Points of Pride as shared with her by administrators.

5. Public Comment

Stephan Morrissey said that the warrant has to be finalized tonight. The board will be voting on a Power Purchase Agreement tonight. He said that he expected that the vote will be favorable.

Zoe, Peterborough, encouraged everyone to support this warrant article. She said that it is beneficial morally and sustainably. She hoped the warrant article will be recommended.

Tom Welden, Hancock, said that he had a solar system installed and the performance has been excellent. He supports Revision Energy.

Ann Huberman, Peterborough, wanted to address the rumor that the district would have to spend \$10K on engineering and other preliminaries. She said that Revision Energy has committed that they have this work at

their own expense if the roof was not favorable. It would only be a cost to the District if the Letter of Intent was signed, the warrant passed, and the District decided not to pursue.

Dori Drachman, Peterborough, spoke to the concern about how the panels will make it harder and more expensive to remove snow. If the roof is deemed to be weak enough that snow needs to be removed, the project will not be approved by the engineer. It might switch to a ground mount. If the engineering report passes, that means that the school district knows that snow does not need to be removed. We would have that information. At the very least, we would be able to save the money from not having to remove the snow.

Michelle Russell, Hancock, said that she is grateful for the school board working with her on this project. She said that she is hopeful for a favorable recommendation of this article.

Emily Manns, Peterborough, referenced a letter from the Town of Peterborough Select Board.

Melanie Russell, Hancock, shared her confusion why people would vote against this. She wants to know more about this. Maybe something hasn't been understood completely.

A student shared that she is learning about sustainability. She thinks that it would be awesome to have solar panels at ConVal and show that we are trying to make a difference.

Stephan Morrissey said that we are shared with the education of students first and foremost. Projects such as this are not quite in the mandate that the board has. He favors solar projects. But, they have to make economic sense and be negotiated such that it works to the benefit to the district and the taxpayers. The board appreciates the efforts of the groups that have been working on this proposal for some time. The board is working to make sure that whatever is decided is the best for all. Because it is in negotiations, more specifics cannot be given.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Personnel

1) Co-Curricular Nominations

Tim Markley referenced co-curricular nominations for notification purposes.

7. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

Communication Committee will meet on Thursday, January 30th at 5:00 p.m. at the SAU Office.

The School Board meeting previously scheduled on Thursday, February 20th was moved back to Tuesday, February 18th.

b. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)

- 1) Great Brook School requests authorization to accept from: Steven W. Crowe Foundation
c/o Michael Crowe, the gift/donation of \$500.00 for the purpose of Basketball Uniforms

Tim Theberge moved, with thanks, to accept the donation as read. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.

c. Research Proposal Approval (Board Vote Required)

Kimberly Saunders referenced the summary of a research proposal. She reported that she has reviewed all of the materials. CAST has an ongoing IRB and they have been approved. She asked that the proposal be approved.

Linda Quintanilha moved to approve the Research Proposal presented. Dick Dunning second.

Rich Cahoon asked if there is a survey instrument. Kimberly said yes, and parents will be notified.

Unanimous.

8. Reports

a. Student Representative – Lorien Tyne/Abby Kamieniecki

None.

b. Teacher Representative

None.

c. Education Committee – Jerry Wilson

Jerry Wilson reported that during this month, the Education Committee held two meetings. The minutes of the January 2nd meeting have already been sent out. However, he reminded the board that the issue of updates to the high school handbook, which will be presented this evening, have already been reviewed and endorsed by the committee. At last Thursday's meeting, we covered the following three agenda items.

Amy Janoch principal of the Hancock elementary school presented an overview of additions to the elementary reading curriculum. Two supplemental programs to the current Reading Street Program which is used at grades

K-5 were discussed. These included Letter Land and Keys to Literacy which provide additional materials for teaching phonemic awareness and reading strategies. Our discussion reviewed the advantages and downsides of the programs. Professional development opportunities for these programs which are available were also discussed.

Larry Pimental, principal of PES and second grade teacher Shannon Dunning presented a proposal to provide therapy dog support at PES. Citing research which supports the benefits of this type of support service, they outlined the steps and resources which are available for implementing the program. Discussion centered on how this would be implemented, potential problem areas, insurance, legal, and policies issues which might be encountered. The consensus of the committee is that this should be presented to the full board for further discussion as a pilot program which could be expanded to other buildings. Policy issues regarding this would be forwarded to the policy committee for review.

The last item covered was a demonstration on the Linkit administrative software program which is available for teachers and administrative staff. This system enables staff to access and generate a variety of student achievement reports drawing from a number of standardized testing results. The software enables staff to disaggregate the data and identify a variety comparative data reports on student, grade level, and building level results.

d. Communications Committee – Niki McGettigan

Niki McGettigan reported that a review of ongoing and new assignments was discussed. The need for a district communication person was discussed as well. The website was reviewed for updates. Niki shared work underway and work published. Encouraging the use of the website as your resource for information was focused. A handout for preschool for District Meeting is needed as well.

9. Old Business

a. Finalize Proposed Warrant

Kimberly Saunders said that there is a recommendation to remove Article 5 to raise \$543,000 for paving at the elementary schools.

Tim Grossi said that some aspects of paving have been stable while others not as much. It is not as simple as an overlay in some areas of the district. The roadway in Dublin is past an overlay. Curbing in Temple has become significant. Tim expressed his fear that the prep work will far exceed what was anticipated.

Linda Quintanilha moved to withdraw Article (5) five from the proposed warrant. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.

Linda Quintanilha moved to approve the Power Purchase Agreement. Rich Cahoon second. Unanimous.

The Purchase Power Agreement now becomes Article 5 as a result of removing the paving article.

Katherine Heck proposed a new Article. Kimberly said that a number is needed.

Katherine Heck said that the purpose would be that it would go for a buyout or other alternative energy items in the district. If it says solar buyout, it can only be used for that purpose. The reason we would do this now is that if we don't start saving for it, it might not be a possibility.

Rich Cahoon said that the language is left vague because we don't know the future. The impetus is for the solar buyout.

Kimberly said that the goal is to create a capital reserve to fund energy projects. Katherine confirmed to establish the fund and fund it. \$63,000 would be the amount.

Jim Fredrickson asked if it made sense to include energy efficiency projects; it could be for LED's etc.

Katherine struck her original language. For alternative energy projects or energy efficient upgrades or enhancements.

Rich Cahoon wanted to be clear that the impetus for this is to fund the buyout of a solar project in year six (6).

Jim Fredrickson asked if this would be funded with surplus funds. No, it would be in place to raise new funds.

Katherine revised her motion to read "to create a capital reserve for the purposes of funding alternative energy projects and energy efficiency projects.....and to raise and appropriate \$70K to start the fund".

Tim Theberge second. Language would be refined in the article.

Unanimous.

Kimberly said that there is a legal order to the warrant articles. She will confer with legal.

Rich Cahoon moved that the board vote not to recommend Article 9. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous not to recommend Article 9 (Petition Warrant Article).

10. New Business

a. Review for approval proposed revisions to CVHS's Student Handbook – Dr. Forrest Linda Quintanilha moved to approve the revisions to the CVHS student handbook. Dick Dunning second.

Rich Cahoon disclosed that he has a conflict of interest therefore he abstained. All else in favor. Motion carried.

b. Set CVHS Date of Graduation

Kimberly Saunders proposed June 13th as the date for graduation.

Tim Theberge moved to set June 13th at the date for CVHS graduation. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.

c. 1st Read Policy

- GBCA: Staff Conflict of Interest

Rich Cahoon referenced this policy as a first read.

e. Default Budget and Recommendations

Kimberly Saunders distributed information related to a potential default budget. Rich suggested that they all have an impact in terms of semantics. The considerations in the event of a default total \$1.8M.

Rich Cahoon said that this preserves the 7-8 FTE at each community school. He is not prepared to say that he would vote to cut the welding program or preschool to preserve the community school of 7-8 staff. In the past, the line split a list near 50/50. This is the price of the small schools. At some point we have to stop cutting out of the middle schools. Rich said that he would like to see another couple of dozen items on the list.

Rich further said that it is useful to have the conversation about priorities in public. He is not prepared to adopt this list.

Rich Cahoon moved not to adopt the list but ask the administration to add more to the list. Second. Unanimous.

Kimberly Saunders noted that the next time the board meets is at deliberative session. A new list will be developed.

Rich said that we are not making a commitment to this list. It may come in after Deliberative Session.

Crista Salamy exited the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Katherine Heck said that she would want to have talking points about the list. Is this the list that we go to when constituents ask questions about the default?

11. Public Comment

Steve Ullman, Antrim, suggested a glossary for the acronyms.

Bob Edwards, Antrim, said that one of the things that occurred last year at Deliberative Session was that people lined up at the microphone for hockey. A list will be prepared, but decisions will not be made until after.

12. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Kimberly Saunders certified that manifests totaling \$1,362,612.96 and Payroll totaling \$797,551.98 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.

Dick Dunning moved to approve the manifests. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.

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

a. Negotiations

b. Personnel

c. Legal

Linda Quintanilha moved to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Kristen Reilly second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok