

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

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 7, 2020

5:30 PM

Physical Location: None

Virtual Location:

Topic: Education Committee
Time: May 7, 2020 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89845707417?pwd=aUJDdWk2WGtld2lBOW9XRWVBai91UT09>

Meeting ID: 898 4570 7417

Password: 5qT715

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 898 4570 7417

Password: 882943

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89845707417?pwd=aUJDdWk2WGtld2lBOW9XRWVBai91UT09>

MINUTES

Committee Members:

Richard Dunning, Niki McGettigan, Linda Quintanilha, Stephen Ullman and Jerome Wilson

Present: Dick Dunning, Jerry Wilson, Stephen Ullman, Linda Quintanilha, Niki McGettigan, Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Dr. Ann Forrest, Anne O'Bryant, Jim Elder, Lexy Heatley, Kat Foecking, Kevin Pobst, Tim Conway

5:30 Approval of March 5, 2020 Minutes

Dick Dunning moved to approve the minutes of March 5, 2020. Stephen Ullman second. Unanimous.

5:35 Organizational Meeting

- Elect a Committee Chair

Dick Dunning moved to nominate Niki McGettigan as Education Committee Chair. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.

- Schedule regular date and time for meeting

The Education Committee will continue to meet the first and third Thursday at 5:30 each month.

5:45 Distribution of Instructional Time at the Middle School

Dr. Ann Forrest said that this is related to the equity piece and Ed 306 that relates to the distribution of educational time at each level.

Jim Elder said that Great Brook School (GBS) and South Meadow School (SMS) were two separate entities at one point. Approximately nine years ago, the two came together to move toward a closer alignment. An equity committee evolved and administration worked to continue this work.

The rationale for schedule alignment was a result of historical inequities in instructional time, the goal to integrate writing instruction across all subject areas, align the core curriculum, and provide a stable schedule for students.

A phased approach took off, starting with Dick Dunning, SMS Principal at the time. Phase I allowed collaborative middle school teams between both schools, it created common assessments, and allowed for PLC meetings.

Phase II created conditions for equity, equalized core instructional time, and began the work to align specialist instructional time.

Phase III will allow the further alignment of specials, and shared advisory resources.

The agreements made are a perfectly aligned school schedule where school begins at 7:20 a.m. and ends at 2:15 p.m.

GBS Schedule Changes include increased advisory time from 20 minutes to 35 minutes, integrated writing instruction in grades 5 and 6 in all core classes to name a few.

SMS Schedule Changes result in 6 classes per day instead of 5, combined advisory/homeroom time, changed PLUS/Intervention block to 30 minutes and an adjusted class time from 54 minutes to 50 minutes.

Proposed schedules for each school were shared.

Linda Quintanilha shared her concern with the rotating schedule at SMS for kids who need routine. Will this schedule continue? Anne O'Bryant said that feedback informs SMS that the rotation is helpful for students and staff. The rotation is logical and allows classes to be fresh rather than the same class at the same time of day every day. Linda Quintanilha said that she feels this is an equity issue for those students.

Stephen Ullman asked the definition of what Keys, SRSD, and Equity between the schools is.

Dr. Kimberly Saunders asked if these items could move to the next Education Committee meeting agenda.

Niki McGettigan asked if anyone had questions on what was presented. Items can be revisiting at the next meeting since this is an organizational meeting.

6:15 Other

Jerry Wilson reminded that the Education Committee that they are responsible for overseeing the Edith Bird Bass Essay Contest. He reported that the information has been distributed to students by the high school counseling office. He said that at least three readers are needed. The top three scores will be awarded. The submittals are blind copied for anonymity.

Distribution of instructional time at the middle schools will be placed on the next Education Committee agenda.

6:30 Adjourn

Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 5:54 p.m. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok