

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

School Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Physical Location: None

Virtual Location :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86961462585?pwd=TFkyWnJkWkdU3RBQ2R2UTUxS3JhZz09>

Password: 7Jm3A3

Phone: 1 301 715 8592

ID: 869 6146 2585

Password: 335234

MINUTES

BOARD

Rich Cahoon, Richard Dunning,
Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson,
Katherine Heck, Janine Lesser,
Niki McGettigan, Kevin Pobst,
Linda Quintanilha, Robert Short, Jr.,
Tim Theberge, Stephen Ullman,
Jerome Wilson

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Tim Markley, H.R.
Carrie James, H.R.
Lori Schmidt, B.A.
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.
Ben Moenter, Special Education

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Rich Cahoon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Right to Know For Public Meeting Emergency Declaration

Rich Cahoon read the Right to Know Emergency Declaration for holding a Public Meeting.

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

a. May 19, 2020

Dick Dunning moved to accept the minutes of May 19, 2020. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

4. Points of Pride

Dr. Kimberly Saunders reported that school wrapped up May 29th for students. Staff will spend the next 10 days working on feedback on the remote learning model, debriefing, and taking feedback about opening plans.

In addition, there were great 4th grade celebrations and 8th grade celebrations throughout the district. In addition, a drive-by celebration for Jim Elder, who is retiring, took place to recognize his service to the district.

5. Public Comment

Rich Cahoon opened the meeting to public comment for interested individuals to share comments with the board. A two minute limit per person is allotted for those wishing to speak.

Emily Manns, Peterborough, listed the educational components of the proposed Solar Project as a result of comments that came out of the last discussion on this topic at the last School Board meeting.

Tina Kriebel, Peterborough, shared that she is a proponent of public education. She said that it is time for the graduation for senior students be adjusted. She said that the data is changing all of the time. She understood that a survey of students and parents was taken, but that things have already changed. She asked for reconsideration of the date of graduation.

Jadyn Vaidya, Senior Class President, said that he understands that a survey was taken and what is planned is still what the students want, which is an in-person graduation.

Jennifer Bonsu, said that her son is a senior student and she is in support of reconsidering graduation.

Greg Kriebel, Peterborough, said that he understood that the students voted. The odds of having a normal graduation are unlikely for August. He spoke about data. He suggested looking at earlier opportunities for graduation.

Zoe Werth said that she believes students would be open to another survey. They do not want a drive-by graduation. August allows the possibility for an in-person graduation. She urged that student voices be listened to.

6. Governance Note

Rich Cahoon said that last week Attorney Eggert shared information with the Board about their roles as board members.

He added that it is certain that a third board meeting will be needed in June and two in July. The third meeting will be limited to financial matters.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Personnel

- 1) Resignation Notification – June 2020
- 2) Nominations – July 2020

Tim Theberge moved to accept the resignation of Michelle Voto and to approve the list of nominations.

Carrie James added Kristen Levesque Lee as Assistant Principal at PES.

Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

b. Paraprofessional Justifications

Three Justifications as a result of individual student plans were presented; two at Peterborough Elementary School and one at ConVal High School.

Linda Quintanilha moved to approve the requests as presented. Dick Dunning second to approve the three paraprofessional justifications.

Discussion took place about what drives these recommendations and who makes them.

Kimberly Saunders shared background on the IEP Team process. While the team makes a decision, we cannot add positions to the roles without the approval of the board. If the board says no, she would go back and find the money to add the positions in the general budget. Or, a current employee would be reassigned.

Linda Quintanilha suggested a more anonymous justification moving forward.

Kimberly said that additional money is not added to the budget, it will be found within the budget.

Kevin Pobst asked if any paraprofessionals reached the end of their position as a result of a student aging out or need. Kimberly said that if that were true, she would not add positions.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

c. June 1st Enrollment

Kimberly said that kindergarten registration is ongoing, one registration session was held today.

d. School Board Requests

None.

8. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

Negotiations will meet on Wednesday, June 17th at 3:00 p.m. This meeting is not open to the public.

Education Committee was moved from June 18th to June 25th at 5:30 p.m.

School Board will meet on June 30th at 6:30 p.m.

The July calendar will be on the lighter side for meetings. The School Board will meet on July 7th at 21st at 6:30 p.m. Budget & Property Committee may meet on July 14th at 5:30 p.m. Stay tuned for updates as dates come closer.

b. Update on Remote Learning/Planning Related to Reopening Update

Remote learning ended for the school year on May 29th. Kimberly reported that work with staff will continue for the next eight days about remote learning and what the district will be doing moving forward. Several committees have been established to gather feedback.

Rich Cahoon said that the Steering Committee has asked Kevin and Alan to join and they have agreed to be on the Governance Committee.

Graduation has been set for Saturday, August 8th with Prom on Friday, August 7th. It is a planned live graduation as a result of a committee that Michelle Vote met with regularly over a period of weeks. The meetings were well attended, surveys were conducted, and a decision was made based on data gathered.

c. Communication regarding long-term costs and savings

Kimberly Saunders reported no changes in the communication on long-term costs and savings. The District continues to look at costs and make cuts. As the final financials come in, a better sense of the balance will be evident. Kimberly said that there was an Executive Order that requires dollars for temporary salaries. Meetings for all students with IEP's is required between now and June 30th and an additional meeting for these students about the upcoming school year.

d. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)

- 1) ConVal School District requests authorization to accept from: The Congregational Church of Temple, the gift/donation of \$500.00 toward the free breakfast/lunch program delivering to children at home.

Kimberly Saunders reported that the Congregational Church of Temple as agreed to assign those dollars for unpaid food service balances, first for those students in Temple.

Tim/ Theberge moved, with gratitude, to accept the donation as read. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

9. Reports

a. Student Representative – Lorien Tyne/Abby Kamieniecki

None.

b. Teacher Representative – Greg Leonard

Greg Leonard said that over the past several days, he has heard from teachers at all levels, that the number of students who have completed all of their school work is over 90%. In preparation for reopening and possible concerns, educators have appreciated the opportunity to be heard and to reflect on remote learning.

c. Education Committee – Niki McGettigan

Niki McGettigan reported that a middle school study on equity discussion took place. The acronyms commonly used were shared. Information will be organized and placed on the website. Middle school differences in time were discussed as well.

d. Equity Committee – Tim Theberge

Tim Theberge said that there was an importance of raising this to the board level recognition. The issue crosses all buildings and all communities. Members were surveyed on why they were interested in serving on the committee. Discussion took place about who to include on the committee at the meeting as well.

e. Selectmen's Advisory Committee – Tim Theberge

Tim Theberge reported having met. New members joined the meeting. Karen Hatcher will be serving as the Chair with John Robertson serving as Vice-Chair. Discussion about the role of the committee took place. Towns and schools are experiencing the same challenges as a result of COVID-19.

f. Policy Committee – Janine Lesser

Janine Lesser reported that two policies will come to the board; JLDBB-Suicide Prevention Plan and a policy on Town Payments. Janine thanked Tim Theberge and Katherine Heck for their work on the policies.

10. Old Business

a. Solar Project RFP

Rich Cahoon said that there have been expressions of interest in bidding, which have been referred to the Business Office. Kimberly Saunders said that sample RFP's are being gathered. It is the hope that an RFP will return by the end of July.

11. New Business

a. Budget Transfers – Lori Schmidt (pg. 13)

Lori Schmidt shared a list of budget transfers to date. It is standard to transfer snow plow savings. A transfer for the Systems Administrator position are simply a line adjustment. The same was shared for MRI Consulting Services.

Linda Quintanilha moved to approve the budget transfers. Dick Dunning second.

Stephen Ullman asked what the board is supposed to do with these. Has a board member ever objected to a transfer? Kimberly Saunders said that this is a way that the board oversees their fiduciary responsibility. It is policy and it is the oversight of the board.

Rich Cahoon said that RSA 32:10 is required by law if a line will be used for a different purpose.

Katherine Heck said that our policy states anything over \$10,000. The assumption was \$5K. Kimberly confirmed that policy states \$10K.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

12. Public Comment

Anne Huberman, Peterborough, applauded the board for moving quickly to get the RFP ready for the solar project.

13. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests totaling \$540,381.29 and Payroll totaling \$846,026.72 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.

Jim Fredrickson moved to approve the manifests. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

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

- a. Negotiations**
- b. Personnel**
- c. Legal**

Janine Lesser moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for matters of personnel, negotiations, and legal at 7:38 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Carrie James, Ann Forrest, and Tim Markley exited non-public at 8:27 p.m.

Public Session reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

Tim Theberge moved to seal the minutes of non-public session on all four topics for a period of 10 years. Dick Dunning second. Jim Fredrickson was absent from the vote. All twelve remaining board members were in favor on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to instruct the district to cease moving forward with the Dublin Community Preschool. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to authorize and direct the Superintendent to close the School District as directed. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Additional Superintendent Business – Kimberly Saunders reported that we are in need of two elementary school principals. One for Frankestown and one for Bennington. Her recommendation is to look for one candidate that would oversee both schools. She shared her concern with the possibility that both positions would be difficult to fill. The teaching principal model is not preferred.

Kimberly shared that the administrative model at the elementary schools has shifted back and forth over a number of years, sometimes to teaching principals, shared principals, and only principals. Teaching principals do not feel that they are able to be super successful at both the teaching and the administrative balance that is required.

Janine Lesser moved that the Superintendent advertise for a shared principal for both Frankestown Elementary and Pierce School. Kevin Pobst second. Unanimous.

Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok