

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

School Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Physical Location: None

Virtual Location :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86456177975?pwd=bWJUUXFoS3E0SjJxdIV5KzA3ekFTQT09>

Password: 2azWMd

Phone: 1 301 715 8592

ID: 864 5617 7975

Password: 162234

Minutes

BOARD

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

Greg Leonard, CVEA

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Carrie James, H.R.
Colleen Roy, GES
Amy Janoch, HES
Heather McKillop, CVHS
Kat Foecking, GBS
Kristen Levesque Lee, PES
Nicole Pease, DCS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Rich Cahoon called the meeting to order at 6:31 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.

Tim Theberge moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 6:34 p.m. for matters of negotiations and legal. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to exit non-public session at 7:37 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to seal the first non-public session for a period of five (5) years, not to seal the second non-public, and to seal the third non-public session for a period of five (5) years. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.

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

a. July 7, 2020

Dick Dunning moved to accept the minutes of July 7, 2020. Tim Theberge second. An amendment to remove the statement under the Selectmen's Advisory Committee report was made. Jerry Wilson and Rob Short, Jr. abstained. All others in favor. Motion carried.

b. July 14, 2020

Dick Dunning moved to accept the minutes of July 14, 2020. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous.

4. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders reported out on the opening of the Extended School Year (ESY) program. She said that it has gone well and has provided some insight. It has allowed us to screen staff and students as they come in to learn. She commended the incredible job on behalf of nursing staff and other staff.

Stephen Ullman recognized two former ConVal graduates from Antrim.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Governance Note

None.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Personnel

None.

b. July 1st Enrollment

Kimberly Saunders noted near 150 kindergarten students are anticipated.

Janine Lesser asked if these are permanent students or temporary. Kimberly said that it appears they are permanent.

Stephen Ullman spoke about the 34% decline in enrollment over a period of years. He said that we have three elementary schools that have just four teachers. How many other employees have to be present at schools with those enrollments? Kimberly Saunders said that a school nurse, PE/Health Teacher, School Counselor, and Principal. They have to have the services of these positions which is why we have so many itinerant staff.

Jerry Wilson noticed a bit of disparity over the number of students assigned to a teacher in various buildings. Perhaps it is time for our Equity Committee to look at this distribution.

Kimberly asked if Jerry is talking about a contractual concern or equity concern for students. Jerry said that for students it seems a skewed.

8. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

The school board will meet on Tuesday, July 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym. It would be a hybrid/in-person meeting. Niki suggested a trial run to assure it runs smoothly. She shared the challenges of distancing while speaking and coordinating remote participation.

Budget & Property will meet on Tuesday, July 28th at for jumpstarting the 21-22 budget process calendar and process.

b. School Reopening Update

Kimberly Saunders reported finishing final drafts of the reopening framework. The guiding document is over 50 pages long. An Executive Summary has been created and she is hoped that will be shared at the end of this week. We are in the process of creating detailed plans based on the guiding documents. They frame the return of school and creation of classes in decreased size. Pods of students would be created. For K-8, staff would be constant. At the high school, simultaneous work through a combination of remote and in-person education and learning is planned. We are not looking at a two day on, two day off schedule. High school students would come in four days per week. Elementary would come in consecutive days in a row. Potential calendar changes are under discussion. Finally, the administration and teachers aiding the administration have been amazing in the work they are doing, and thinking differently about how solid education can be delivered. Ionization systems and filtration systems for air handling will be asked. Leveraging outdoor class space under tents is under discussion as well. Pushing out the plan to allow families to make informed decisions is imperative.

9. Reports

a. Teacher Representative – Greg Leonard

Greg Leonard reported that the teachers are involved with administrators across the district looking at the different plan possibilities for reopening. Those recognized were Tom Morris, Michelle Hautanen, Riley Beliveau, Rachael Bowman, Ashley Jones, and Greg Leonard. It has been a collaborative process. Administrators, SAU Staff, Principals, Assistant Principals, and teachers have been doing an incredible job putting plan designs together. Mr. Leonard said that it is a difficult task.

b. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson

Jim Fredrickson reported a general discussion on the 20-21 budget and the impact of COVID-19. A freeze was placed on the budget. The use of Trust Funds, instead of budget money, to reduce the 20-21 budget was voted.

Discussion on letters received from current and past students about mental health was discussed.

Kimberly Saunders reported that a meeting was held with students who emailed on this topic. Information from these students was gathered.

Heather McKillop confirmed that it was great to meet with students along with the new Director of School Counseling to hear some of the concerns. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled to discuss how to move forward in a positive direction.

c. Policy Committee – Janine Lesser

Janine Lesser reported that the Policy Committee met tonight. Going forward, adopting using the inclusive use of pronouns was confirmed. Specifically, around replacing his/her with their. Preference to dropping the pronoun altogether was confirmed.

Payment procedure policy will be sent to legal. Health and Safety protocol policies were discussed as well.

The definition of "exemptions for religious reasons" will be investigated and defined further.

10. Old Business

a. Antrim Agreement (Board Vote Required)

Jim Fredrickson reported that a verbal agreement is in place. The share of the annual cost of recoating the floors was worked out. The basic change in the agreement was that Antrim would share in the cost of utilities for the gym. Quarterly

invoices will be sent. Jim said that he and Antrim agree with the contract. It will be in effect July 1, 2020 and subject to annual review.

Stephen Ullman moved to adopt the agreement as proposed. Janine Lesser second.

Mutual agreement about cost share was confirmed.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

b. Solar RFQ Update

Lori Schmidt reported that the recommendations for wording were included. The RFQ was sent to three vendors who reached out to us plus one additional vendor.

The deadline for response is August 5th at either noon or 2:00 p.m.

11. New Business

a. Requisition Approvals (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt reviewed the list and addendum list of requisitions for approval.

Dick Dunning moved to accept the requisitions presented. Tim Theberge second.

Are any of the COVID related expenses reimbursable? Some will be able to go into CAREs, we will pursue every dollar that we can.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

12. Public Comment

None.

13. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests totaling \$111,172.55 and Payroll totaling \$455,413.63 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 as read. 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

None.

Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok