

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

**CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

**School Board Meeting**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Physical Location: SAU # 1, Board Room  
106 Hancock Rd.  
Peterborough, NH**

**Virtual Location:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83748142123?pwd=STI2NVJnMHhkS2doL01VcWRqZGZBQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 4814 2123

Passcode: kCseM6

Phone: +1 646 558 8656 US

Meeting ID: 837 4814 2123

Passcode: 891162

**MINUTES**

**BOARD**

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

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.  
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.  
Lori Schmidt, B.A.  
Tim Grossi, Facilities  
Ben Moenter, Special Ed.  
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.  
Carrie James, H.R.  
Nicole Pease, DCS  
Colleen Roy, GES  
Kristen Levesque-Lee, PES  
Anne O'Bryant, SMS  
Tim Conway, SMS  
Heather McKillop, CVHS  
John Reitnauer, CVHS A.D.  
Deb Riley, CVHS  
Fabi Woods, TES

**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 for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration".

**3. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,II (6:30 pm – 7:00 pm)**

Tim Theberge moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 6:34 pm for matters of negotiations and legal. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to exit non-public session at 6:53 p.m. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to seal the minutes of non-public session for a period of five (5) years. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

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

**a. December 15, 2020**

Katherine Heck moved to accept the minutes of December 15, 2020. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

## 5. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders shared an ABC News Report on Hamilton Bennett, CVHS 2003 Graduate, who led a team at Moderna that resulted in the development and release of a COVID-19 vaccine!

In addition, Kimberly Saunders reported on the success of five CVHS German IV students who won the top slots in recent German Goethe Institut Contest. They included Anthea Curtis and Tate Doherty taking first place. Lily Heck placing second. Cameron Jordan and Elli Ward placed third. Congratulations!

## 6. Public Comment

Jada Stevens, Sophomore at ConVal, reported that her depression has gone up as a result of COVID. She is losing seeing her family and playing sports. She is willing to go remote to school but would like her sport back.

Lindsey Carey, 2019 ConVal Graduate, said that she played four years of basketball. She said that she plays college basketball in Springfield, MA and has been able to play by following guidelines and protocols with zero positive cases. Full contact play with masks was possible. Sports have been in question at ConVal and she said that it is possible to play if everyone follows the guidelines. Remote learning while playing sports would keep students safe.

Celeste Lunetta said that co-curriculars and sports are very important to the community. They help develop people as whole people. The effects of social isolation have had an impact on the community. Schools feel the gap for families that cannot provide for their kids. She said that she hopes that the board decides to allow athletics.

Brenna Leahigh said that she is a 2019 Graduate and she played on the girl's ice hockey team. She attends the University of Maine and has been able to hold practices and stay within the regulations. Masks were worn and COVID testing was part of the plan. Sports are important especially during this time. She said that the community she had through playing sports was important to her. It provides an outlet and a focus. There are options that can be taken to allow kids to play.

Scott McGovern, Nordic Ski Coach at CV, asked the board to consider that the NHIAA differentiated sports into different risk groups. He asked that be considered. He shared that he received emails from parents who reported the positive impact on their kids for just being able to get outside to practice.

Sabrina Leahigh asked if sports are not happening this year where the money allocated to playing sports this year would go.

Rich said that this is a Public Comment period not typically used for question and comments. However, he said that sports were budgeted for this year and this is not a financially driven decision. It is driven by COVID-19.

## 7. Consent Agenda

### a. Personnel

None.

## 8. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

### a. Monthly Events Calendar

1) Snow Dates for Public Hearing and Deliberative Session

**Tim Theberge moved to establish Wednesday, January 13, 2021 as the snow date for the Public Hearing on the proposed budget. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Tim Theberge moved to establish Wednesday, February 3, 2021 as snow date for the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Deliberative Session. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

### b. January 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment Update

Kimberly Saunders referenced enrollment information.

### c. ConVal School District Reopening Update & Local COVID Data Update

Kimberly Saunders reported that we continue to plan for a January 19<sup>th</sup> opening. We have carefully been looking at positive rates in Peterborough. Most are a result of long-term care communities.

We are moving forward, although still in orange, planning a return to in-person learning on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Robert Short, Jr. asked why we wouldn't move to green as a result of long-term care being the location of positives.

Kimberly Saunders said that the recommendation of the committee has not been made to move back at this time. They feel it appropriate to stay at orange.

### d. Elementary School Survey Results

Ann Forrest referenced survey results on remote learning at the elementary level. Preschool and elementary parents were surveyed. 51% of the parents responded.

The response to "How engaged do you feel your child has been with remote learning?" was higher for third and fourth grade levels. Communication also scored higher at the third and fourth grade. Parents described the amount of live teacher led instruction as just enough by 82.7%. Areas of concern will be responded to.

Stephen Ullman said that this is an endorsement for teachers that the communication with the child's teacher has been very positive.

The majority of respondents reported just enough of independent work for students. Other areas surveyed were the need for additional support; emotional support, technological support, nutritional/food, as well as other areas.

Key themes that emerged described challenges in the areas of isolation from peers, parents balancing their need to work while trying to support their children to learn, internet connectivity issues, the amount of time between teacher-led sessions, the amount of independent work, and keeping students motivated and engaged.

Areas of success were evident in the support and availability of teachers, consistent schedule, small group, teacher-led instruction, and identifying areas students are struggling.

Next steps include a review of the survey results with administrators, having administrators review the results with their staff, and responding to the needs/issues that were identified.

Several shared their thanks to staff and administration.

Katherine Heck asked if additional efforts are made to those that did not respond to the survey to engage them.

Ann Forrest said that administrators will work with staff on breaking down the results and looking at it in more depth.

Robert Short, Jr. said that one thing that should be emphasized is that we can say that ELA is 60 minutes, but he said that in his experience it is far less and that his children are out of class in 15 minutes. He said that we need to make sure that the learning that we say we are going to do is getting done. Confirmed.

## 9. Reports

### a. Teacher Representative

Rachael Heard, CVEA Representative, said that she had nothing new to report at this time. They are getting back into the groove of things.

### b. Strategic Plan Committee – Tim Theberge

Tim Theberge reported that a notice was published laying out the intent of the Strategic Plan Committee on the website. Progress is being made on the plan and it will continue to take shape. Community members have been identified to participate in the planning.

### c. Education/Equity Committee – Niki McGettigan

Niki McGettigan reported that a joint meeting took place to look at CVHS Math Department updates. Student performance data was looked at. Lance Flamino was present to provide an update on the math department and their work on the intervention model. Students are identified for intervention based on weekly assessments. Turnout rates for intervention in the first several weeks was shared. More students than typical are struggling with Algebra due to COVID and remote learning. Other ways that students can get help in off times is under consideration.

## 10. Old Business

### a. Athletic Recommendation

Heather McKillop and John Reitnauer were present to speak about athletics. John Reitnauer said that athletics was paused on December 10<sup>th</sup> as a result of moving to the “Orange Phase”. We are still in the Orange Phase and the recommendation is to remain in the pause state to allow additional time to re-evaluate. If we move out of the Orange Phase, we would look to begin our athletic program as we did earlier in the year.

Heather McKillop said that this recommendation was made with input from the COVID Monitoring Team and as a result of being in the Orange Phase. A small population of Tier I students was present previously, but once the Orange Phase was entered, it was not possible to return additional students. The recommendation is to remain paused but are ready to move forward to start winter sports when deemed possible.

**Linda Quintanilha moved to adopt the proposal as presented. Janine Lesser second.**

Tim Theberge said that he would like the board to look at allowing the lower risk sports to go ahead. The sufficient buffer for students who participate to remain at remote learning is his suggestion.

Janine Lesser agreed. As long as students are remote, we should consider letting lower risk sports move forward.

Stephen Ullman asked John Reitnauer and Heather McKillop if they saw anything in the testimony of former students that was compelling. Heather said that the NCAA has mandated, at DI and DII, that there is mandatory testing several times a week. Some can compete regionally while others have paused their season. It is a difficult decision across the board. She trusts the COVID-19 Monitoring Team.

**Kevin Pobst moved to amend the motion to recognize the differentiation by risk level.**

Tim Theberge said that wrestling would not go forward. Skiing is a no brainer. He could be swayed on basketball but it might be too close. The outside sports should move forward.

Kimberly Saunders said that the NHIAA has put the different sports into risk categories.

John Reitnauer said that lower risk sports are Alpine and Nordic, moderate are ice hockey and basketball. Wrestling is the only high-risk winter sport.

Linda Quintanilha asked if the students who are on the ski team are supervised all the way up and down the mountain and social distancing on the chairlift. We can't guarantee students will do the right thing all of the time. She said that until we can guarantee the safety of these athletes and those in their households we should not move forward. She asked if we are willing to sacrifice three months of joy for a lifetime of pain.

**Kevin Pobst moved to restart Nordic and Alpine skiing as possible as a result of being lowest in risk.**

Rich Cahoon said that we should remember the risk levels.

**Stephen Ullman second.**

Rich said that this motion would amend the initial motion but not adopt anything. It would change the motion. Kevin Pobst said that the motion is to modify Linda's motion to pull the lowest level of risk and start them and the others would wait until the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. Kevin said that he has talked to people who are using Crotched Mountain and have skied different mountains. Crotched has worked to cut off spaces that might be used for general gathering. Coaches are tuned into this. He is encouraged by the practice of these protocols.

Second, he said that we should acknowledge that athletes who are competing aren't competing in club sports. We would be foolish to think that skiers are not skiing. It is better to have as many athletes participate in school supervised athletics.

John Reitnauer said that he and his family are avid skiers. There are many ski areas in NH that are doing the correct thing and there are many that are not.

Robert Short, Jr. said that he agreed and said that basketball and hockey should be allowed to play. We are in remote now and athletes would continue remote. It hurts the athletes.

Alan Edelkind asked the logic behind not using risk levels when we decided to pause sports. Heather McKillop said that some sports could be shifting from risk levels. At the time basketball was shifting between levels and could have bound the district. John Reitnauer said that there was an amendment made, at a previous school board meeting, to have the high school administrators decide as to which levels should participate and it was decided not to go with that amendment.

Linda Quintanilha asked if kids were supervised everywhere, she said that she suspected the answer is no. We are not voting on athletics, we are voting on the plan. Are we changing the plan?

Kimberly Saunders said that the plan did not specify, it said that we would follow NHIAA guidelines, which have been slow. The NHIAA says that it is a local decision and defines categories of risk.

Linda Quintanilha said that it is the Board role to be leaders in the community. Is it the Board role to say that it is okay to take risks or not? She is terrified of making exceptions to a rule and overriding administration. She does not find this to be extenuating. It is an emotional decision. She cannot accept this amendment to the motion.

Stephen Ullman asked how would the COVID Monitoring Team react to this to allow two teams to participate.

Kimberly Saunders said that she can say that it was their recommendation to ride out the next several weeks to see what happens. John Reitnauer agreed with Kimberly.

Katherine Heck agreed with Kevin's amendment to the original motion. She said that she would not disagree with the monitoring team and the assessment of the situation. The kids are skiing anyway. She said that the skills and drills was important to students in the fall. We are in a remote period. She is watching declines in students in her household and the fresh air and outdoors helps. She would like to consider the low risk sports and skills and drills for the medium sports. This is also for co-curricular activities that are so important.

Jim Fredrickson asked John Reitnauer to remind everyone what specific activities would not happen either way.

John Reitnauer said that Alpine and Nordic would be involved with team practices five to six times each week for each sport. When the game schedule starts, they are playing twice each week and practicing in between.

Kimberly said that we would go back to what was originally presented in October which was to have students practice and begin the competitive schedule as soon as possible.

Winter Track does not have venues available this year. Skills and drills separated by cohort allow students to be involved looking toward a spring track season.

A 14-day quarantine after the last day of practice or competition would be required.

John Reitnauer asked if we are looking at beginning low level sports only? He has heard basketball mentioned.

Vote on the amendment to adopt it except as regards to allow low risk sports to go forward.

Linda Quintanilha said that she has served the board for nine years. When you start over riding administration recommendations, it is not a place the board be. Linda asked that when we publicly state that ConVal skiers must remain remote do we require the same of ski passholders?

A "Yes" vote modifies the motion to allow low level sports.

**In favor: Tim Theberge, Jim Fredrickson, Robert Short, Jr., Katherine Heck, Kevin Pobst**

**Opposed: Dick Dunning, Jerry Wilson, Janine Lesser, Stephen Ullman, Alan Edelkind, Niki McGettigan, Linda Quintanilha**

**Motion to amend defeated.**

**Back to original motion to adopt the recommendation as presented.**

**A "Yes" vote pauses athletics until the 19<sup>th</sup> of January.**

**In favor: Dick Dunning, Tim Theberge, Jim Fredrickson, Jerry Wilson, Janine Lesser, Stephen Ullman, Alan Edelkind, Niki McGettigan, Linda Quintanilha**

**Opposed: Robert Short, Jr., Katherine Heck, Kevin Pobst**

**Motion carried.**

## **b. Proposed 2021/2022 Budget**

Lori Schmidt reported board actions to include several positions have been included in the revised budget. The budget was reduced by line items put forward as offsets. Transfers from the budget to trusts have not been included.

Version 2.3 reduces two positions.

Jim Fredrickson recognized that the total operational budget would be up 5.29% with changes discussed. District Assessment would be up 8.51%. The board needs to decide how much additional budget should be transferred from the budget to the trusts.

How much the board puts in warrant articles also needs decision.

Jim Fredrickson said that the recommendation is to transfer up to \$1.2M from the budget to trusts. Jim recommended not doing \$1.2M because it depletes the Capital Reserve Fund. Adjusting the Operational Budget down by \$1.2M then the proposed budget equals the default, giving the voters no choice. Jim said that he recommends that the board come up with \$600K to transfer from the budget to trust funds.

Rich Cahoon asked Lori Schmidt what the proposed budget would be if we moved the \$1.2M from the budget to trusts.

Lori Schmidt said that it would total \$49,700,000 approximately.

Kimberly Saunders said that is not how a default works. It will not match.

Lori said that the RSA refers to one-time expenditures. There were some items that we could not purchase and expend funds this year. If it stays in the budget for next year, then it would be included in the default. She would have to review the default budget.

Kimberly Saunders said that the board needs to decide what number they are comfortable with placing on the warrant. Administration will make the cuts. We cannot go around any longer, the public hearing is next week.

Katherine Heck said that as she reviews the proposed budget, she is hesitant to bring forward a budget that is significantly greater than the previous year's budget. She said that she is not comfortable with the budget numbers as they stand knowing how they are going to impact constituents in the district and the tax rates.

Robert Short said that he agreed with Katherine. Over the last five years we have had an increase of 20% overall in the Operational Budget with a decrease in student enrollment. There is only so much our towns can handle.

Rich Cahoon noted that the district is maintaining eleven buildings.

Janine Lesser said that she is comfortable with the \$600K and the number that will get the budget to. As adequacy decreases, this has been anticipated. She asked if the new stimulus money would assist with closing the gap in lost learning.

Kevin Pobst said that he sees revenues going down 6.6%. He said that he is not comfortable with a budget going up more than 6.6%. He is uncomfortable with adding expenses to a budget that was already not small enough. He is also uncomfortable with using trust funds to pay operational expenses which should be stated in the budget.

Kimberly pointed out that administration has worked at the direction of the board at each step in this. If the board has a number in mind they were asked to provide it early. It is the eleventh hour. We have to leave today with a budget for Public Hearing.

Kevin Pobst said that the budget he is reacting to had funds added to it last time; projects and personnel. We are talking about substantial portions being paid through trusts and he worried about the following years and how it would be paid for.

Lori Schmidt said that operational expenses would be the cost for ongoing day to day operational expenses to provide an adequate education to our students.

Rich said that we talked about adding expenses and funding in the budget. We weren't talking about using Capital Reserve Trust fund to hire therapists. Every proposed use of one of the trust funds was for a proper purpose.

Stephen Ullman said that it is not surprising that the district has fiscal stress when we have elementary schools with fewer than 40 students. He asked Katherine Heck what the number she would want as a bottom line budget figure for the warrant.

Katherine Heck said that towns are decreasing their budgets by 10% or more. She recognized that our costs are very different. The Operational Budget at \$50M is the maximum.

Kimberly Saunders said that if the board provides a number, administration will prepare for that.

Rich Cahoon said that if the board provided a number, the board would not know where the cuts would come.

Linda Quintanilha said that administration has to run the organization. The fact that we are looking at trust funds, she would say that the administration should tell the board what they need. The education of our children is paramount.

Jim Fredrickson reminded the board of the discussions that have taken place. We agreed to add \$1.3M in costs.

Kimberly and Lori proposed budget offsets and trust offsets. The impression was that more would be transferred to trusts.

**Jim Fredrickson moved to find \$600K in the proposed budget to transfer to trust funds.**

**Dick Dunning second.**

Robert Short, Jr. said that some of the maintenance big ticket items were transferred to trusts. Then we voted to fund the trusts again.

Lori Schmidt said that the list was fine-tuned; if we were looking at \$600K, money would be taken from the Special Education Trust leaving over \$500K in the trust as is. For equipment, we would take \$200K leaving the balance at \$61K. Health and Maintenance Trust would maintain \$250K taking \$225K. Athletics would transfer \$234K which would leave \$156K. The sum of those items is \$622K.

The result is to reduce the proposed budget by \$601,310.00 that will come from trust fund monies. \$621K has been identified.

**In favor: Dick Dunning, Tim Theberge, Jim Fredrickson, Jerry Wilson, Robert Short, Jr., Janine Lesser, Stephen Ullman, Katherine Heck, Alan Edelkind, Niki McGettigan, Linda Quintanilha**  
**Opposed: Kevin Pobst**  
**Motion carried.**

Kimberly Saunders said that the appropriate items totaling the \$600K needs to be tied back to the trusts.  
Lori Schmidt highlighted items that might be removed from the proposed budget to the trust funds approximating \$600K. These are the specific recommendations.  
The Equipment Capital Reserve has been used on vehicles and maintenance equipment. We have not used it on computers in the past. To the extent that this is an emergency fund, we have used a lot of funds on emergency computers.  
The Health Trust account was discussed. Kimberly said that our Guaranteed Maximum Rate (GMR) is 4.2% this year. The lower it is, the smaller the "gap" between.  
Katherine Heck said that she is not a proponent of using trust money to fund long-term obligations. It is there for a buffer. She worries about depleting an account such as this.  
Lori Schmidt asked if one boiler could be moved to a trust.

**Rich Cahoon moved to enter into non-public session for matters of personnel. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Dick Dunning motioned to exit non-public session at 9:43 p.m. Tim Theberge second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

Lori Schmidt reported that the Health Trust was reduced in spending from \$225K to \$100K. She is looking to offset the \$125K. She would eliminate a transfer in the equipment fund.  
Rich Cahoon said that boilers are an acceptable use of capital reserves.  
One boiler out of capital reserve? Board confirmed.  
Adding one security enhancement back in was suggested. Trust fund monies are appropriate for security enhancements.

This leaves proposed operational budget at \$50,298,177.

**Dick Dunning moved to approve the proposed 21/22 budget as presented unless there are reasonable changes.**

Jim Fredrickson said that \$50.3M is the operational budget.

**Tim Theberge second.**

The Operational Budget would be up 4.06% and Gross Budget would be up 2.65%, District Assessment would be up 6.83%.

The increase in District Assessment if both the budget and teacher's contract are approved would be an increase of 9.23%. It is driven by a decrease in revenues.

Tim Theberge reminded the Board about the State obligation to fund education.

Rich Cahoon encouraged Board members to talk further to arrive at consensus.

Kimberly Saunders said that Gross Budget is adopted and then the warrant is created.

Katherine Heck said that her vote has to do with sustainability and longevity and nothing to do with the hard work of staff and administration. We also have a significant Capital Plan coming. In a year of economic uncertainty, the last thing she wants to see is a budget that is not sustainable over time.

Kevin Pobst said that he is opposed because there is \$1.2M that is at hand.

Robert Short, Jr. said that it comes down to a lot of buildings and it all takes costs. Our towns can't afford it anymore. We need to start the ball rolling with that future thought. It goes to the sustainability concerns.

Kimberly Saunders said that this has been an ongoing conversation for over 15 years. Previous Superintendents warned that this would be coming. There would no longer be the ability to steal from Peter to pay Paul. None of the models brought forward have been accepted. There is only one long-term solution and no one wants to have the conversation.

Robert Short said that if people aren't willing to support it than it is difficult to complain about the taxes.

Stephen Ullman spoke about the need for some orientation.

**In favor: Dick Dunning, Tim Theberge, Jim Fredrickson, Jerry Wilson, Janine Lesser, Stephen Ullman, Niki McGettigan, Linda Quintanilha**

**Opposed: Kevin Pobst, Robert Short, Jr., Katherine Heck, Alan Edelkind**

**Motion carried.**

Rich Cahoon said that this number will be brought into the budget hearing next week.

Next, warrant articles in terms of order and dollars associated.

Discussion in general:

Building Capital Reserve – Jim Fredrickson asked if two warrant articles for the same fund could be on the warrant. This is a question worth asking legal.

Katherine Heck asked that the spreadsheet that describes facilities and funding sources along with a rating system be used to make decisions on funding.

Jim Fredrickson said that the Health and Special Education are pretty well funded.

Discussion about encumbering COVID Special Education costs in amount of \$1.2M.

Jim Fredrickson proposed -

Trusts, in order, and amount:

- Building - \$500K
- Equipment - \$25K
- Athletics - \$50K
- Energy - \$25K

Katherine Heck suggested looking at the funds and what the plan is for them and replenishing them to bring them to the minimum based on those plans:

For example, the athletics trust does not have anything coming up for several years in 2024. There is \$20K in 2023 for a PES Softball field improvement.

### **Rich Cahoon called a five-minute recess at 10:38 p.m.**

Rich Cahoon asked if the approach comes down to the Building Trust and Athletic Trust.

Katherine Heck said that buildings outweigh other needs but we would schedule the others according to the need as well. The decision making and fund amounts were discussed.

Katherine Heck said that you do not want a fund to dip below the target balance.

Linda Quintanilha suggested shuffling the articles around so that we are covered in the event of an emergency.

Ben Moenter recommended putting additional monies in the Special Education Trust Fund. He suggested adding an additional \$100K in.

Rich Cahoon said that the difference in the trusts is that one is a rainy-day fund, the other will be spent.

Linda Quintanilha said that she was opposed to putting \$500K in the Building Trust and nothing back into the Special Education while taking some out. She suggested it be placed first on the list to be funded.

- Special Ed will be first for \$100K.
- Building Trust \$100K (to maintain a \$1M balance) (July 2021 would be \$1.8M and transfer out \$725K)

Rob said that \$1.6M should be target balance.

Kimberly said that the year has been horrendous. There have been twists and turns at every corner. This entire year has been about being on edge every single day. We can't predict how much money will be left over at the end of the year because we are trying to figure out what it will look like for staff and students every single day.

Rich Cahoon said that the better place to start is consideration for what might be funded.

Discussion came back to the potential to have two warrants for this trust, spaced apart on the warrant.

Katherine Heck proposed \$300K and having Energy next, Equipment, Athletics, and another Building for \$200K more.

### **Recap:**

Special Education \$100K

Building \$300K

Energy \$25K

Equipment \$50K

Athletics \$25K

Building \$200K

**Tim Theberge moved to adopt the warrant article for the trust funds as discussed and recapped. Katherine Heck second.**

**Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

Kimberly Saunders said that COVID costs were stripped out of the budget. Do we want to bring forward a separate warrant article for COVID purposes? Kimberly said that potential warrant language has been discussed with legal. If we need dollars, they could be raised with the caveat that if they are not used they would automatically return to the towns or set up a trust. We took \$1.8M out of the budget. A smaller figure would be suggested. The question is should legal put together warrant article language for this purpose? \$1.2M was suggested. Katherine Heck asked if our auditors could be consulted about the potential for encumbrance. Kimberly confirmed. This would be new money

raised and appropriated. It would be added to the budget number. Linda Quintanilha shared her concern with asking for this with the potential to be shot down.

First, confirmation for encumbering for compensatory services will be confirmed. If not, the board will look more deeply at the option for this warrant article.

Kimberly Saunders agreed to consult with legal and auditors.

Warrant article to retain a fund balance in future years –

Board members agreed, but Janine Lesser asked if given the other asks, this was the year to pursue this.

When would be the good year? It would be a good year to introduce this to voters.

Rich Cahoon spoke about how he and Marian Alese spoke about this years ago. He regrets not moving this forward then.

Legal will be asked to draft the warrant article. Katherine said that it is directly from the DRA website.

## **11. New Business**

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

DI: Fiscal Accounting & Reporting

Janine Lesser referenced Policy DI for a first read.

DJD: Local Purchasing

Janine Lesser referenced Policy DJD for a first read.

### **b. Expenditure and Encumbrance Report - Lori Schmidt**

Lori Schmidt reviewed the report with the Board. Once adjustments are made to pull grants, Lori said that she will better be able to look at accounts that are over spent.

Robert Short asked where HUB expenses would be found in this report. Lori said that they are in the 530 and 531 lines.

**Dick Dunning moved to accept the report and adopt the encumbrances therein. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

### **c. Requisition Approvals (Board Vote Required) – Lori Schmidt**

**Dick Dunning moved to approve the requisitions as presented. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

### **d. Budget Transfers – Lori Schmidt**

Lori Schmidt referenced a budget transfer to clean up benefit allocations in the amount of \$24,641.00.

**Dick Dunning moved to approve the budget transfer as requested. Jerry Wilson. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

### **e. COVID Financial Expenses Estimate**

Lori Schmidt referenced a document detailing that \$816,711.25 was awarded.

\$1.2M of expenses covered by general fund are included in the report just approved. Unsure if full encumbrance will be used.

## **12. Public Comment**

None.

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

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests listed totaling \$1,186,732.64 and Payroll totaling \$899,723.09 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 as read. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

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

### **a. Negotiations**

### **b. Personnel**

### **c. Legal**

**Linda Quintanilha motioned to adjourn at 12:12 a.m. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok