

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road

Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

School Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Physical Location: SAU 1 Board Room

Virtual Location:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89832797476?pwd=aUhNZUdScWpDZkZyNXZkTHZ2Nnd4QT09>

Meeting ID: 898 3279 7476

Passcode: zhwur2

Phone: +1 646 558

Webinar ID: 898 3279 7476

Passcode: 882961

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introduction and Swearing in of Returning and New Board Members
3. Right to Know for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration
4. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A: 3, II (If Required)
 - a. Legal
5. Call for Election of Officers – Superintendent
 - a. Committee Assignments and Requests
6. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes (Board Vote Required)
 - a. March 2, 2021 (pg. 1-5)
7. Points of Pride
8. Public Comment
9. Consent Agenda
 - a. Co-Curricular/Athletic Notifications (pg. 6)
10. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business
 - a. Election Results (pg. 7)
 - b. Monthly Events Calendar (pg. 8-9)
 - c. ConVal School District Reopening Update & Local COVID Data Update (pg. 10)
11. Reports
 - a. Teacher Representative
 - b. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson
 - c. Food Service Committee
 - d. Strategic Plan Committee – Tim Theberge
12. Old Business
13. New Business
 - a. 1st Read Policy
 - BEDH: Public Comment & Participation (pg. 11-12)
 - KE: Process for Complaints (pg. 13)
 - BDE: Committee Organization & Assignments (pg. 14-17)
 - b. Spring Sports Proposal (pg. 18-24)
 - c. Default Calculation & Direction
14. Public Comment
15. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)
16. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,II (If Required)
 - a. Negotiations
 - b. Legal
 - c. Personnel

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road

Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Physical Location: SAU 1, Board Room

106 Hancock Rd.

Peterborough, NH

Virtual Location:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82235909240?pwd=UFc0ZUNvRVdYbzZKTStZMkRETEZDdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 5797 7463

Passcode: HbarX3

Phone: +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 822 3590 9240

Passcode: 233961

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.
Lori Schmidt, B.A.
Carrie James, H.R.
Heather McKillop, CVHS
Kat Foecking, GBS
Anne O'Bryant, SMS
Amy Janoch, HES
Colleen Roy, GES
Deb Riley, CVHS
Fabi Woods, TES
Stephanie Syre-Hager, AES
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Rich Cahoon called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Right to Know for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration

Rich Cahoon read the "Right to Know for Public Meeting Emergency Declaration". A roll call attendance was taken.

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

a. Legal

Tim Theberge moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II for legal matters and personnel at 6:35 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to exit non-public session at 6:49 p.m. Linda Quintanilha second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to seal the minutes of legal, negotiations, and personnel for a period of 10 years. Linda Quintanilha second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

4. Accept School Board Meeting Minutes (Board Vote Required)

a. February 2, 2021

Dick Dunning moved to approve the minutes of February 2, 2021. Katherine Heck second. Linda Quintanilha abstained. All others in favor on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

b. February 16, 2021

Dick Dunning moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

5. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders shared various Points of Pride as reported to her by administrators.

In addition, the Girl's and Boys' Basketball seasons continue; boys playing Lebanon on Thursday and girls' home on Friday.

6. Public Comment

Don Boice and Bryson Boice, spoke requesting a change to the ConVal COVID policy for athletes playing sports. He is a three-season athlete and he hopes to take part in LAX but said that he supports his brothers and that he wants them not to have to remain remote as a result. He asked that an open mind be kept when considering this.

Corey Boyd, requested that the administration prepare reasoning on the K-8 Remote Plan. She would like to see the cost, not just staffing, projected enrollment and a three to five-year plan. Also, what the students will be missing should be included. She has heard that kids are behind and does not want to see a plan implemented that is not working.

Anna Taylor, ConVal Senior and lacrosse player, does not believe athletes should have to stay remote. She struggles with remote and said that lacrosse helps her mental health. She feels like she should be there for her team and not have to sacrifice. She suggested that a COVID Safety Monitor be in place to keep athletes safe.

Hunter Burgess offered support to Bryson and Anna on the sports program. The choices have been difficult for parents when considering the sibling policy.

Leigh Frosch asked the board to think about the faculty that has students who attend the high school. She is a teacher in the district and has students in the district. She would like for parents who work in the district to be able to go to work when they have students who play sports and not be required to teach remotely.

7. Consent Agenda

a. March 1, 2021 Enrollment Update

Kimberly Saunders reported enrollment holding steady. The kindergarten registration process is just beginning. More information will be forthcoming.

8. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

Kimberly Saunders referenced the calendar. More to come after the vote when committee assignments have been made.

Rich Cahoon raised the possibility of a schedule change to reconsider the School Board meeting schedule of meeting on Tuesdays. More discussion to come at the next meeting.

b. ConVal School District Reopening Update & Local COVID Data Update

Kimberly Saunders said that pandemic is the driving force of much of our work. Decreases in positive rates have been recognized in local and state data. No change is needed in the status of our schools.

The CDC released new guidance recently and our plan aligned well with that guidance. Random testing of staff and students was suggested by the CDC. Kimberly said that she did not recommend that for our staff.

Emergency Order 85 will be discussed. As numbers decline, we are receiving calls for students to return to buildings. It is not yet presenting concerns, but class size and the 6 feet apart piece may become problematic. She asked the Board to keep this on their radar.

Stephen Ullman asked if randomized testing is being conducted in public schools. Kimberly said that she is not aware of it other than at private boarding schools.

Katherine Heck asked if there was insight into what Spring sports might look like.

Kimberly Saunders said that we did have siblings come back to school rather than quarantine. We will be talking to coaches about athletes returning this Monday. The next plan will not include household members needing to quarantine. We are looking to make sure that we are able to have full participation as a team in outdoor sports. Logistics go with this, but we are not looking to quarantine team members or household members.

Bringing back all high school students without a cohort model is under discussion. Stay tuned.

Tim Theberge said that if we could at least bring the seniors back, if we can't do it for everyone, it would be ideal.

Rich Cahoon said that the timeline is that athletics will be a conversation at the next board meeting. Conversation about bringing everyone at the high school back will occur in April at the earliest.

c. Impact of Governor's Order on ConVal Plan

Executive Order (EO) 85 was signed on 2/19. In summary the EO outlines three things; first, if we select a hybrid model everyone has to be able to access school at least two days a week. Students receiving special services would need access to in person services if determined to be necessary. Finally, if a school was to transition to fulltime remote, anything above 40 hours needs a waiver. Following our March recess, we have a week planned for remote. Based on this information, she began to work with the Commissioner to see what fit and what did not. The high school model did not. Other districts go two days on and two days off. The other piece was the March recess. The Commissioner said that the present model of cohort is acceptable however, the quarantine period after the March recess was under discussion. Concern about a high number of students that might need to quarantine and potential lack of staff is a concern. Kimberly surveyed staff. Administration says that based on the number of people that need to quarantine, elementary schools can meet the requirements of the EO. We recommend those students return on March 29th. The remaining, if a waiver is not received, will return on March 29th but will need to be assigned to large spaces. If the waiver is granted, Tier I will be brought back on March 29th.

All buildings will be able to return completely in person on April 5th. We are waiting to hear back from the Commissioner. Those students and staff that do travel outside of New England will need to quarantine. Those staff that are 14 days past being vaccinated will not need to quarantine.

Rich Cahoon clarified that the cohort model assumes to continue. Confirmed.

Kevin Pobst asked to review again. March 29th would include SMS, GBS, and CVHS to return if the waiver is not granted. Because we won't have enough staff, we would need larger locations to physically space students.

Linda Quintanilha asked if it was not recommended that staff travel outside of New England for essential reasons only. She was surprised by over 100 staff traveling.

Kimberly Saunders said that there is no data on student travel. Guidance is that travel should be for essential reasons only.

Rich Cahoon asked if students are in the gym but remoting into their classrooms to meet requirements of the State. He asked the educational value and the potential for them to remote in from home.

Kimberly said that students want to be in school for their peers and the social piece.

Robert Short said that we planned for the break afterward and vacation plans got scheduled. He said that if we are required to be at a place working, staff should make sure they are there to work and not force the district to change because we decide not to get back from vacation in time to meet the quarantine.

Linda Quintanilha asked if we are paying teachers for their quarantine. Kimberly said that it depends on what their position is and what they do. She added that staff have rearranged their plans. In addition, staff made plans for the calendar that they were given. Only ten schools in the state were not in school at the time when this order came down. Seven of the ten were Charter Schools. The majority of public schools are in session.

Rich Cahoon said that the plan was in place and then changed by the State at the last minute.

Niki McGettigan said that it is this EO that has undermined what was going to work for both staff and students.

d. Recognition of Departing School Board Members

Kimberly Saunders recognized outgoing board members; Linda Quintanilha, who has been on the board for nine years. Linda has been an active member and a wonderful advocate for students and will be sorely missed. Also leaving is Niki McGettigan who has provided the board with heart and soul in the areas of teaching and learning.

Rich Cahoon added that these two board members have been a tremendous help to the board. Linda has accomplished much for students with special needs in the district. She has been thoughtful about equity for students.

Niki joined the board and has been a tremendous help in the community of Temple and with the board.

The board thanked them for their service on the board.

9. Reports

a. Teacher Representative

Rachael Heard said that she has nothing new to report.

b. Equity Committee – Linda Quintanilha

Linda Quintanilha reported that discussion about how students are placed in classes at the high school in particular was discussed. Inequities have been found and they are being addressed. She encouraged other board members to join this committee.

c. Selectmen's Advisory Committee – Tim Theberge

Tim Theberge reported that the conversation included Kimberly Saunders providing legislative updates relative to education. The budget was briefly discussed.

d. Policy Committee – Janine Lesser

Janine Lesser reported meeting tonight. Policy BEDH was approved as well as KE, which was renamed. Policy BDE was discussed. All three will come for a first read later in March.

Two documents were approved; a "What to Expect" for new board members to allow a preview to new board members. In addition, an operation manual for new and existing board members has been developed. It is a condensed version of operational policies.

Rich Cahoon reminded that the NHSBA does a series of training on how to be a board member. There is a fee that the district does budget for. Tim noted some information is available online for free as well.

10. Old Business

a. School Board Candidates for Chair and Vice-Chair – Q&A

Janine Lesser is a candidate for Vice-Chair and Tim Theberge for Chair

Tim Theberge said that he has been on the board going into his third year. He has put forward his name to serve as Board Chair.

Rich Cahoon said that candidates for board positions have been invited to tonight's meeting.

Niki McGettigan highly recommended Tim and thanked him for stepping up for this position. He has been a problem solver and steps up when needed.

Tim Theberge commended the work of the district on behalf of students.

Janine Lesser said that she has been on the board for six years and is up for re-election for a third term. She sees the role of the Vice-Chair to take over the duties of the Chairman if needed. She believes that a side role is to seek unity of the board and support administration.

11. New Business

a. Set Out of District Tuition Rate (Board Vote Required)

Kimberly Saunders said that the board decides yearly about tuition for students who reside outside the district. She said that there is some legislation that would open public school choice across the state.

Katherine Heck asked about how the rates are set.

Kimberly explained how the rates have been set in prior years. We regularly receive inquiries. We have told families that they can tuition into the district but might not have room in a requested school because of staffing needs.

Rich Cahoon said that the Business Administrator at the time was asked what the incremental cost to add a student would be. It was determined to be 40%, which was substantially more than the breakeven cost.

Stephen Ullman asked if adequacy follows tuition students. Kimberly said that it does not. Districts receive adequacy for those students that attend that live in their towns.

Kevin asked how we got here. Rich said that in the educator's contract is a provision that staff can send their children at 1/3 the cost. We wanted those outside of the district to pay slightly more.

The theory was that we had space and could sell it.

Kevin Pobst asked if consideration for raising the price has been given. Kimberly said that she thinks that people are staying pretty close to home.

Jim Fredrickson asked the rationale on the differentiation on staff costs for schools. Kimberly said that it is outlined in the contract.

Robert Short said that tuition is set by using figures one year old. Tuition might be aligned with projected current costs.

Kimberly said that this is completely up to the board. We can go back and look at data. We can come back with differences in what the DOE numbers are and our numbers.

Rob said that the difference would be the difference between the two budgets. He suggested thinking about the process moving forward.

Rich Cahoon encouraged that there are people that have enrolled their children under this expectation and suggested grandfathering them in if it should change.

Linda Quintanilha said that she is a proponent of looking at this if the cost is less than what is charged.

Jerry Wilson asked how this tuition rate compares to other districts. Kimberly said that most charge the full cost per pupil.

Robert Short said that if you only charge \$1,200, the district is supplementing kids from coming into the district. This makes it more equitable for those in district.

Linda said that she was not suggesting \$1,200, but less than currently charged.

Jim Fredrickson suggested that Budget & Property take a look at this next year. A deeper dive will take place.

Rich said that tuition for the upcoming years needs a decision.

Kevin Pobst moved to approve the out of district tuition rate as presented. Dick Dunning second.

KRS cautioned legislation might overturn a vote.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

b. 2021-20221 School Calendar Approval (Board Vote Required)

Dick Dunning moved to approve the proposed calendar as presented. Kevin Pobst second.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

c. Set CVHS Date of Graduation

The proposed graduation date is Friday, June 11th with a rain date of Saturday, June 12th. Rather than go to another weekend, people can know that it is graduation weekend.

Four tickets per graduate, with the potential for more if conditions permit.

Dick Dunning moved to approve the date of graduation as presented. Katherine Heck second.

Sunday would be the rain, rain date.

Will it be livestreamed? Kimberly said that it was successful and will continue.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

d. Board Position on Upcoming Legislation

Katherine Heck said that HB455 - School Choice has a hearing on March 4th. If the board has a position she can send out the links.

HB110 – Adequacy going right to towns. The intention is to offset property and tax rate reduction. It adds steps to how money moves. Does the board have a position? It is set to pass in legislature.

SB72 – Proposal on retirement. It is proposed to fund at 15%.

Rich Cahoon said NH Retirement is up almost \$4M since he joined the board. It accounts for a large part of the increase in the proposed school budget.

Tim Theberge asked if the sense of the board was to act or submit a position would a motion be made and someone be instructed to do that.

Tim Theberge moved to have Katherine Heck submit objection to HB110. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on roll call vote.

Stephen Ullman supported the restructure of New Hampshire Retirement System SB 72.

Linda Quintanilha moved to support the SB 72. Stephen Ullman second.

Robert Short, Jr. asked if this would decrease our contribution. Katherine Heck said that it would reduce the subdivision across the State. This would be helpful; \$53M across the State.

Rich Cahoon said that there is an employee contribution and State contribution.

Stephen Ullman said that we are scheduled to pay \$3.1M. He said that we would pay 85% of that if the bill was enacted. Confirmed.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to authorize the Chair to submit it upon review. Robert Short, Jr. second.

Tim Theberge withdrew since Katherine is designated. The second was withdrawn.

HB455 – Rich Cahoon said that since the state does not fund education there is the danger of drawing people to the district to be subsidized by those in the district.

Linda Quintanilha moved to oppose HB455. Dick Dunning second.

Tim Theberge said that the concept of true school choice in the public-school arena is not objectionable except when the State does not pay their share.

Rich Cahoon said that this makes a provision that special education money comes with adequacy which is less than the cost of that education. He supports the motion.

Katherine Heck abstained. All others in favor on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

e. Accept MRF from Francestown (Board Vote Required)

- 1) ConVal School District Business Office requests authorization to accept from: The Town of Francestown, MRF Surplus Funds, valued at \$1,287.10 for the purpose of covering COVID expenses for Francestown students.

Kimberly Saunders said that we thought that we would get FEMA dollars and then we didn't. Francestown is giving the district some of their MRF Surplus funds.

Kevin Pobst moved to accept the donation as presented with gratitude. Dick Dunning second.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

f. Evaluation Update

Kimberly Saunders reported a proposal to change dates for evaluations. It meets statutory guidelines and has been approved by the CBA. It is a one-year agreement.

Kevin Pobst moved to approve the proposal to change dates for evaluations. Jerry Wilson second.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

12. Public Comment

Scott Daniels thanked the board for the work that they do. He referenced a letter sent today asking for consideration of returning students to the high school. He asked the board to consider adjusting the plan to the cohort model similar to other districts that allows students to attend two days a week. It is beneficial to students for their emotional health. Contact with teachers and peers is valuable. He asked that 9-12 return at least two days per week.

Tracy Kinney said that her son got to participate in sports this winter. She asked that the sibling requirement to stay remote be overturned. Because he had to be remote it has taken a toll on him emotionally and mentally.

Don Boice thanked the board. He hears positive comments about in person learning.

Emily Daniels emphasized the importance of the needs of teens that are essential.

13. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests totaling \$247,421.87 and Payroll totaling \$1,917,101.38 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 presented. Jim Fredrickson second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

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

a. Negotiations

b. Personnel

c. Legal

Tim Theberge moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for matters of personnel at 8:38 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on roll call vote.

Tim Theberge moved to exit non-public session and to seal the minutes of non-public session for a period of 10 years. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Linda Quintanilha moved to adjourn at 9:51 p.m. Janine Lesser second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok

NOTICE OF STIPEND POSITIONS

First	Last	DAC	Position	Stipend Amt	FTE
Athletics					
Derek	Sorbello	CVHS	Lacrosse - Girls Varsity	\$ 3,557.75	1
Terrence	McNamara	CVHS	Lacrosse - Boys Varsity	\$ 3,557.75	1
Paul	Finley	CVHS	Lacrosse - Boys Assistant	\$ 2,846.20	1
Lance	Flamino	CVHS	Track - Spring	\$ 3,557.75	1
Non-Athletic					
Brian	Moore	CVHS	Select Choir	\$ 2,000.00	1
James	Wickham	CVHS	Jazz Band	\$ 2,000.00	1

ConVal School District
Voting Results - March 9, 2021

ConVal School District - Results of Voting March 9, 2021

	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
	Budget		Collective Bargaining Agreement		Special Meeting		Special Education Reserve Trust Fund - \$100,000		Building Capital Reserve Fund - \$300,000		Energy Trust Fund - \$25,000		Equipment Trust Fund - \$50,000		Athletics Trust Fund - \$25,000		Building Capital Reserve Fund - \$200,000		Accept Reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, and Officers		School Board Salaries		Retain Year-End Unassigned General Funds beginning 2022/2023	
	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y	YES	% Y
Antrim	184	56%	198	59%	202	60%	240	98%	227	106%	225	108%	222	113%	212	84%	207	83%	288	89%	256	79%	221	69%
Bennington	86	41%	103	49%	112	54%	125	87%	110	101%	116	96%	112	99%	113	99%	104	107%	155	85%	133	79%	105	51%
Dublin	197	51%	231	60%	254	67%	272	113%	282	118%	287	118%	261	123%	255	128%	265	129%	323	86%	295	89%	237	72%
Francetown	95	34%	132	47%	153	55%	155	55%	145	135%	145	135%	146	132%	141	137%	137	139%	214	61%	194	85%	153	55%
Greenfield	94	34%	122	47%	141	50%	163	62%	156	139%	156	139%	151	134%	146	138%	134	132%	218	62%	179	103%	149	54%
Hancock	270	60%	289	67%	313	72%	329	112%	314	126%	326	116%	321	120%	320	124%	308	132%	389	50%	349	94%	304	71%
Peterborough	469	57%	562	68%	581	72%	638	78%	610	209%	618	201%	626	194%	608	217%	590	227%	738	74%	660	165%	561	68%
Sharon	48	38%	57	45%	55	43%	65	51%	82	29%	63	28%	66	26%	57	34%	57	34%	77	12%	69	23%	58	34%
Temple	178	46%	205	53%	204	54%	223	61%	210	177%	223	161%	221	156%	202	179%	182	168%	298	81%	258	122%	194	52%
Total	1621	50%	1907	59%	2015	63%	2210	103%	2098	114%	2139	1092%	2126	1097%	2054	1178%	1884	1231%	2099	486%	2393	839%	1980	1176%

School Board Members

Bennington- 3 Year Term (One Position)

Keira Christian

Write-In

Greenfield - 3 Year Term (One Position)

Katherine Heck

Kayla Kokal

Write-In

Peterborough - 3 Year Term (One Position)

Janine Lesser

Rachel Maidment

Write-In

Temple- 3 Year Term (One Position)

Elizabeth Swan

Write-In

School District Moderator - 3 Year Term (One Position)

William Bryk

Robert L. Edwards

Write-In

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Policy Committee Mtg. @ 5:00 pm School Board Mtg. @ 6:30 pm	3	4 Budget & Property Committee Mtg. @ 5:30 pm	5	6
7	8 Food Service Committee Mtg. @ 5:30 pm	9	10	11 Strategic Plan Committee Mtg. @ 5:00 pm	12	13
14	15	16 Policy Committee Mtg. @ 5:00 pm School Board Mtg. @ 6:30 pm	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Equity Committee Mtg. @ 5:30 pm	24	25 Selectmen's Advisory Committee Mtg. @ 7pm	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Policy Committee Mtg. @ 5:00 pm School Board Mtg. @ 6:30 pm	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Policy Committee Mtg. @ 5:00 pm School Board Mtg. @ 6:30 pm	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Reopening Update 2/25/2021

Vaccination has been the primary topic related to reopening over the last two weeks, as well as finalizing the CVHS spring sports recommendation, evaluating space as students return to school, and examining how and when we can bring all CVHS students back into school at the same time and still follow the mitigation strategies. This report is intended to be an ongoing document that will provide the Board an overview of the present state of our COVID 19 data, our mitigation strategies, and the overall status of the plan.

Vaccinations:

Beginning on March 12th, public health networks across the state are beginning to provide K-12 school staff members with vaccination appointments. We have been busy pre-registering educators, administrators, admin assistants, coaches, food-service, bus drivers, contracted service providers, and maintenance and custodial staff. Once pre-registered, we get sections of appointments on specific days and we are asked to sign people up according to the information sent to us by the public health network. In preparation for pre-registration, we surveyed staff. Of the 383 respondents 162 staff members had already been vaccinated.

Data:

Over the past two weeks, the local data has stayed relatively consistent, with small numbers of cases in all but two of the 9 towns. Data at the county level (Cheshire, Hillsborough, Merrimack) has continued to decrease, as has the data at the State level. There have been no changes to the data that indicate that we should change our present status in any of our buildings or overall as a District.

Mitigation strategies:

We continue to examine our mitigation strategies in conjunction with the COVID 19 monitoring team. Right now, we are carefully examining the space and how long we will need to continue the present physical distancing recommendations. As students return to school, for some classrooms, space becomes a concern. Also, we are reviewing physical distancing and space as it relates to students at CVHS. We will be bringing an updated recommendation related to CVHS in April.

Overall Status:

The overall status of our plan has not changed. Our Elementary students will return from their vacations on March 29th. GBS, SMS, and CVHS will have a week of remote instruction to allow for those who are traveling to properly quarantine. All families and staff that are traveling have been notified of the travel quarantine guidance and our corresponding expectations. Students at the middle schools and CVHS will return to school on April 5th consistent with our present models. The COVID 19 Monitoring Team continues to meet daily to review data and regularly review all aspects of the Reopening Plan.

BEDH – Public Comment and Participation at Board Meetings

ConVal School Board

The primary purpose of School Board meetings is to conduct the business of the Board as it relates to school policies, programs and operations. The Board encourages residents – including our students - to attend Board meetings so that they may become acquainted with the operation and programs of the schools. All official meetings of the Board shall be open to the press and public. However, the Board reserves the right to meet and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time. The Board also reserves the right to enter non-public session at any time, in accordance with the provisions RSA 91-A:3 II.

In order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board may be heard and, at the same time, it may conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board adopts as policy the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation at Board meetings:

1. Each regular meeting of the Board should have two periods of public comment.
2. The first period of public comment should be prior to the Superintendent's Report.
3. The second period of public comment should be following New Business.
4. Each speaker will be given 2 minutes to speak. This period may be extended by a majority vote of the Board. If the 2 minute period is extended for one speaker, it must be extended for all.
5. The same person may address the Board only once during the same meeting.
6. Consistent with RSA 91-A:3 and the laws pertaining to student and family privacy rights, the Board will not place any matter on the public agenda that is to be properly discussed in a non-public session. Complaints regarding individual employees, personnel, or students, will be directed to the Superintendent in accord with policies KE and KEB.
7. All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Speakers may not use threats of physical violence, may not speak or conduct themselves in a way that incites violence or is disruptive, may not be vulgar or obscene, and need to speak to business related to the School Board and operations of the District. The School Board will not permit repetitive, harassing, or frivolous speech or comments that are off topic, antagonistic, obscene, or libelous as such statements will be considered out of order and will not be tolerated. The Board Chair may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if the speaker does not follow this rule of order. Repeated refusals to comply will result in removal from the meeting.

During these public comment periods, members of the public are allowed to address the Board. However, it is not a question and answer period. In general, the Board will not answer questions asked or respond to comments made by members of the public. Persons appearing before the Board are reminded that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, in most instances, any Board response will be deferred pending consideration by the full Board. In addition, although staff of the District are also members of the public, there are specific Board policies in place - notably GBD - that establishes that the appropriate channel of communication between District staff and the Board is through the Superintendent.

Members of the public - including our students - are strongly encouraged to ask questions or provide comments to the Board and the Administration. However, the best way to ensure your

BEDH – Public Comment and Participation at Board Meetings

ConVal School Board

questions are addressed is by submitting those questions to the members of the Board or to the Administration, via email, phone call, or regular mail.

All of the agendas and minutes of the Board meetings and all of the committees are posted on the Board's website. Committee meetings are also open to the public, but there are no public comment periods at those meetings. The Chair of the individual committees may, at their sole discretion, allow members of the public to comment at committee meetings.

Legal Reference:

RSA 91-A:2, Meetings Open to Public

RSA 91-A:3, Non-Public Sessions

Category: R

See also KE, KEB

1st Read: March 16, 2021

2nd Read:

Adopted:

Proposed Revision: March 2021

KE - PROCESS FOR PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

Category: R

See Also *BEDH*

The Board believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved by the parties directly concerned. Therefore, the proper channeling of complaints will be as follows:

1. Teacher
2. Principal
3. Superintendent
4. School Board

Any complaint presented to the Board about school personnel shall be referred back through proper administrative channels. The Board will not hear complaints from individuals until such complaints have first been brought forth through the appropriate and applicable administrative procedures. Exceptions to this provision are for complaints that relate solely to Board actions or Board operations.

In the event a complaint is made directly to an individual Board member, the procedure outlined below shall be followed:

1. The Board member shall refer the person making the complaint to the Superintendent for investigation. The Superintendent or designee may delegate the investigation, as appropriate.
2. If the member of the public will not personally present the complaint to the Superintendent or Principal, the Board member shall then ask that the complaint be written and signed. The Board member will then refer the complaint to the Superintendent for investigation.
3. If persons making complaints feel that a satisfactory reply has not been received from the Superintendent, they may request that the complaint be heard by the Board. The Board will hear and act upon the complaint only by majority vote. If the Board does hear and act upon the complaint, all Board decisions shall be final.

First Read: March 16, 2021

Second Read:

Adopted:

BDE – Committees and School Board Member Special-Duty Assignments

ConVal School Board

Category: O

Standing Committees Purpose

The ConVal School Board utilizes standing committees to consider issues, proposals, and tasks in a smaller venue to allow members to delve more deeply into issues than may be possible at full School Board meetings. The committee structure is an efficient way of allowing for more thorough consideration of policy proposals, constructing budgets, initiating new programs, reviewing curricular issues, monitoring of progress toward Board goals, and Board communication. The committees may initiate and investigate any matter within their scope of responsibility and jurisdiction. All recommendations of these committees should represent a majority vote of committee members. No vote or discussion of a standing committee will constitute the establishment of School Board policy unless so authorized by Board action at a public meeting. Additional committees may be created, or existing committees dissolved, by a vote of the Board at the annual Board organizational meeting following the annual Board election.

The following committees currently exist as part of the governance of the Board:

- Budget and Property
- Education
- Policy
- Strategic Planning
- Communication
- Equity
- Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Committee Organization

Each committee should have at least four members. The Chair of the Board, in consultation with Board members, makes committee appointments annually. These appointments are for a term of one year. All appointments will be made promptly after each Board election. An organizational meeting of each committee will be held annually promptly after each Board election and the announcement of committee appointments by the Board Chair. A Chair for the committee will be selected annually by the appointed members of the committee at the organizational meeting of the committee. Any Board member may attend and participate in any committee meeting at any time. However, the

voting members of each committee will be limited to those who have been appointed. All committee meetings shall be posted to all Board members, the Superintendent, and the public.

Committee Administration

The Superintendent or designee shall attend committee meetings whenever possible, as non-voting members. The Chair of the committee is responsible for prioritizing issues, setting meeting agendas, dates, and times, and shall be responsible for records of the meetings. Copies of these records will be maintained on file in the Board office. The Chair of each standing committee shall be responsible for reporting on the committee's business at the full Board meeting. No vote shall be taken by a committee unless there is a quorum of those eligible to vote present.

Committee Responsibility and Jurisdiction

Each committee of the Board will be charged with a specific scope of responsibility and jurisdiction. This charge of responsibility and jurisdiction will be reviewed and confirmed annually by the Board following the organizational meetings of all committees. Each committee Chair may periodically initiate review and adjustment of the committee's charge of responsibility and jurisdiction when deemed appropriate; any change to a committee charge of responsibility and jurisdiction must be approved by the School Board. All committee charges of responsibility and jurisdiction will be posted on the School Board's website. A committee of the Board shall not appoint a committee of that committee without approval of the Board.

School Board Member Special Duty Assignments

Special Duty Assignment Purposes

Individual Board members may be designated to fulfill special assignments on behalf of the whole Board to facilitate the efficient, or confidential, completion of Board responsibilities.

Special Duty Assignments

The following special duty assignments will be made to facilitate Board governance:

- Negotiations
- Student Discipline
- Employee Grievance
- Food Service / Wellness
- Review of the Manifest

- Representative to the New Hampshire School Board Association (NH SBA) Delegate Assembly

Special Duty Assignment Procedures

The Chair of the Board, in consultation with Board members, makes special duty appointments annually. These appointments are for a term of one year. All appointments will be made promptly after each Board election. The committees on Negotiation, Employee Grievance, or Student Discipline are not open to participation by Board members who have not been appointed. Nor are meetings of the Negotiations, Employee Grievance, or Student Discipline committee meetings open to the public.

Board members appointed to fulfill a special duty assignment will report to the full Board as requested to do so by the Board Chair.

Board member(s) designated to review the Manifest prior to each Board meeting will bear the responsibility of recommending approval of the Manifest at the Board meeting.

The Board member appointed as the representative of the ConVal School Board to the NHSBA Delegate Assembly will review all proposals with the Board prior to the annual Delegate Assembly and seek Board advice regarding their vote at the Delegate Assembly.

Ad-Hoc Committees of the Board

Ad hoc committees of the Board may be appointed by the Chair of the Board. The function of the ad hoc committee will be to study specific issues for a specifically limited period of time, and if appropriate, to make recommendations to the full Board for approval. The dates, times, and location of ad hoc committee meetings will be made public and the meetings will be open to all members of the Board. No vote or discussion of an ad hoc committee will constitute the establishment of Board policy, unless such authority is granted by the School Board at a public meeting.

Ad Hoc Committees with School Board Members

The School Board may form committees with members of the public, students, parents, and/or employees to do specific tasks and make recommendations to the Board. The Board Chair may appoint members of the School Board to such ad hoc committees. Meetings of ad hoc committees must be properly posted and open to the public. Board members not appointed by the Board Chair may attend and participate in ad hoc committee meetings but may not be voting members of the ad hoc committee. The Board will establish the charge of the scope of responsibility for such ad hoc committees. Such ad hoc committees are advisory and have only such authority as

specified by the Board. The Board will receive reports or recommendations from an ad hoc committee at the direction of the Board Chair. A record must be kept of the proceedings of each meeting of an ad hoc committee. That record must be approved by the membership of the ad hoc committee and kept on file at the Board offices. The Board retains the right and has the duty to make all final decisions related to such reports or recommendations of an ad hoc committee. The Board reserves the right to limit, create or dissolve an ad hoc committee at any time as it deems appropriate.

First Read: March 16, 2021

Second Read:

Adopted:

**Spring Sports Programs for the 2020-21 School Year
March-June**

**Baseball
Lacrosse
Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Unified Track and Field**



Prepared by:
John Reitnauer, Director of Athletics
Gretchen Shippee, School Nurse
ConVal Regional High School
3/16/2021

Background

Recommended procedures for ConVal High School's sports programs during School Year 2020-2021 are based on guidance from the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) and the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA). The NFHS bases its recommendations on materials from the CDC, the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) (NFHS, 2021). The NHIAA bases its recommendations on the State of New Hampshire's guidelines allowing amateur and youth sports to practice and compete, known as "Safer at Home Amateur and Youth Sports." These guidelines were vetted and approved by the Governor's reopening task force and the New Hampshire Department of Health (Governor's Economic Reopening Taskforce, 2020).

On January 27, 2021, the NFHS announced a revision to its guidance on COVID-19 transmission during high school sports (NFHS, 2021). Previously, the NFHS classified sports into risk levels, based on the ability to achieve physical distancing and clean or limit sharing of equipment between competitors. An evolving understanding of COVID-19 led the NFHS to recognize that,

"No individual or team sport can be determined to be solely HIGH, MODERATE or LOW risk based upon current available research. Coronavirus transmission rates in all sports vary based upon multiple factors and exist on a continuum. Prevailing community infection rates appear to be the strongest predictor for high school athletes being infected, and proven cases of direct transmission of coronavirus in the athletic setting remain relatively rare." (NFHS SMAC, 2021)

The NFHS now advises that when stakeholders assess the potential for COVID-19 transmission related to high school athletics, they strongly consider the following factors:

1. COVID-19 rates of participants in any given sport are directly proportional to prevailing community disease rates.
2. Participants in non-contact sports show lower rates of COVID-19 than contact sports.
3. Participants in outdoor sports show lower rates of COVID-19 than indoor sports.
4. Face mask use while participating in indoor sports results in COVID-19 rates comparable to the rates found in outdoor sports.
5. The great majority of sports-related spread of COVID-19 does not appear to occur during sports participation, but from social contact. Maximizing efforts to prevent this type of spread remains paramount. Social distancing, mask use, staying home while ill and proper hygiene must continue to be emphasized in the locker room, on the sidelines, and while traveling, dining and interacting in the community. (NFHS SMAC, 2021)

On January 21, 2021, the NHIAA Council approved the following timeline for the start of the 2020-21 spring sports season:

March 29, 2021 - Team practice/tryout sessions begin

April 12, 2021 - First date to play games

In addition to the recommendations from the NHFS and NHIAA, this plan takes into account Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #85, which states that, "All New Hampshire schools must provide in person instruction for at least two days per week for any student who wishes to elect such an option." (Sununu, 2021) The most recent information from the NH Department of Health and Human Services was also considered, including the January 2021 update of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control document, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Education Partners.

ConVal Athletics -- Spring 2020-21

Proposal

It is the recommendation of the ConVal administration and the district's COVID Monitoring Team to follow the NHIAA Council's timeline. Beginning on March 29, 2021 members of the Blue and Gold Cohorts will be allowed to combine and form teams. All ConVal High School spring sports programs would participate in a competitive limited regional NHIAA sanctioned schedule, with interscholastic competitions beginning on April 12, 2021. Any ConVal High School athlete who participates must sign a COVID waiver. Athletes will follow our current cohort hybrid model, attending in-person and remote learning during their assigned weeks throughout their competitive season, participating in the practice scheduled as outlined for their team. Family and other household members that are also members of the ConVal school community will follow their normal plan for in-person learning or instruction.

In order to ensure the safety of our athletes and the greater ConVal community, the following measures will be implemented.

Pre-season:

- All school district and athletic department COVID-19 protocols will be reviewed with the coaching staff during the required pre-season meeting, and with each team on the first day of practice.
- Each team will appoint a COVID-19 safety monitor, who will be responsible for making sure that their teammates are following proper COVID-19 protocols during practices and games.

Practices and Competitions:

To allow for sanitizing of the facilities, a modified rotating practice schedule will be used for indoor practices when they are needed, as follows.

Weeks of 3/29 & 4/12

Day	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	4:45 - 6:15 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Baseball	Girls Lacrosse
Tuesday and Thursday	Boys Lacrosse	Softball

Weeks of 4/5 & 4/19

Day	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	4:45 - 6:15 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Softball	Boys Lacrosse
Tuesday and Thursday	Girls Lacrosse	Baseball

- All coaches, athletes, and game officials must be screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to any practice or contest. Screening includes a temperature check. Coaches are responsible for self-screening as well as screening their athletes. The game administrator will screen game officials.
- When not directly participating in practices or contests, teams shall maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet between athletes and coaches.
- All staff and athletes must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth during practices and competitions.
- Equipment bags and backpacks of participants shall be placed 6-feet apart. Participants should not touch other participants' bags, equipment or water bottles, nor gather near others. Benches and/or dugout areas must not be used for storage of personal equipment or group equipment.
- Athletes and coaches shall agree to abide by any and all guidelines as established by the state and school district.
- Athletes and coaches shall follow their sport-specific guidelines as established by the NHIAA Sports Committee.
- Volunteer coaches and other volunteer assistants will not be allowed.

Visiting Teams:

- Visiting teams will be allowed to arrive for contests no more than 60 minutes ahead of start time.

- Each school will conduct participant screenings, including temperature checks, prior to leaving their facility. It is understood that anyone arriving at an away event has been cleared by their home school.
- Visiting busses will be directed to a designated parking area for their pre-screening information to be gathered. If they arrive ahead of schedule, they must remain on the bus to allow for the facilities to be adequately prepared and for any previous groups to leave the area.
- Locker rooms will not be available to visiting teams. They should plan to arrive fully dressed and ready to go.
- Visiting teams must bring their own equipment and balls.

Spectators: These limits are subject to change at any time, per the advice of the COVID-19 Monitoring Team.

- To avoid the gathering of large crowds, admissions to our facilities will only be allowed to spectators who are in possession of a sport specific ticket. Each player will receive tickets for members of their household only. These tickets will be assigned by the athletics department.
- Fans and spectators will be required to wear face coverings the entire time they are in attendance at events, and stay socially distanced by household groups.
- Spectators must be screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to a contest. This includes a temperature check. Spectators will need to sign-in before entering the venue. The game administrator or their designee will be responsible for this.
- Visiting team spectators will not be allowed to attend.
- At the conclusion of the contest all spectators will exit the venue immediately.

In the event that a participant develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- The participant needs to isolate and get tested for COVID-19.
- The participants' household members and other close contacts may need to quarantine, as outlined in Table 1 below.
- A person is considered a "close contact" to a person with COVID-19 if they were within 6 feet of the infected person for at least 10 minutes or longer. The 10 minutes of contact can be at one time or cumulative over the course of the day. (Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, 2021).
- Refer to Table 1 below.

Table 1

When a student has symptoms that may be COVID-19, should their sibling(s) be sent home and attend school remotely until the sick student has tested negative?
Management of Household Contacts (HHCs) of Persons with New and Unexplained Symptoms of COVID-19, Based on the Symptomatic Person's COVID-19 Risk Factors and Testing Status:

Risk Factor?*	Viral Testing Pending? †	Action:
Present	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic person isolates pending test result. • HHCs quarantine pending test results.
	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic person must remain on isolation until they have met CDC's criteria for <u>discontinuation of isolation</u>. • HHCs quarantine for 10 days from last day of exposure.
Absent	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic person isolates pending test result. • HHCs can remain in school/work as long as they remain asymptomatic, but if test is positive then quarantine.
	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic person must remain on isolation until they have met CDC's criteria for <u>discontinuation of isolation</u>. • HHCs can remain in school/work as long as they remain asymptomatic.

* Risk Factors for COVID-19 exposure include close contact to a person with COVID-19, travel outside of the New England area, or other high-risk activities as identified by an employer or public health in the 10 days before symptom onset.

(Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, 2021).

In the event that an athlete comes in contact with a teammate or opponent who tests positive for COVID-19:

- The athlete will need to quarantine for 10 days from last exposure and follow up with their primary care physician for further guidance.
 - Household members and other close contacts are not required to stay home as long as the athlete who is quarantining does not develop any symptoms and the household members and other close contacts remain without symptoms, as well.
 - If the athlete being quarantined develops symptoms, household members and other close contacts should follow up with their primary care physician for further guidance.
- (Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, 2021).

References

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