

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**  
**106 Hancock Road**  
**Peterborough, New Hampshire**  
**CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**School Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 2, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Physical Location: SAU #1 Board Room**

**Livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHerLRrX1GU>**

**Minutes**

**BOARD**

Rich Cahoon, Keira Christian,  
Richard Dunning, Alan Edelkind,  
Jim Fredrickson, Katherine Heck,  
Greg Kriebel, Janine Lesser,  
Kevin Pobst, Liz Swan,  
Tim Theberge, Stephen Ullman,  
Jerome Wilson

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.  
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.  
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.  
Carrie James, H.R.  
Heather McKillop, CVHS  
Tim Conway, SMS  
Stephanie Syre-Hager, AES  
Amy Janoch, Learning Recovery  
Kat Foecking, GBS

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Tim Theberge called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**2. Points of Pride**

Kimberly Saunders shared various points of pride as reported to her by administrators.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

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

**a. Legal**

None.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes**

1) October 19, 2021

**b. Personnel**

1) Co-Curricular Notifications

Kimberly Saunders said that when co-curricular nominations are brought forward they are at a point in time.

The Consent agenda was adopted with a noted edit to the name of boy's hockey coach.

**6. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business**

**a. Reopening Update**

Kimberly Saunders reported that the COVID Dashboard went down but work is underway to update that.

Dr. Saunders reported on the rates of positive cases across our nine towns, school district, and area. There is no recommendation for change to the learning model from the COVID Monitoring Team.

We are in the process of applying to be able to provide rapid tests by our nursing staff. The application process is not cut and dry. The nurses have been able to access the vaccination pieces for the State in general areas.

**b. Learning Recovery Presentation - Amy Janoch**

Amy Janoch, Director of Learning Recovery, shared information related to work in the area of learning recovery.

Four focus areas include creating a supportive learning environment, focus on acceleration, provide high intensity tutoring, and expanding learning time for students.

The need for support in specific areas is a high priority. Plans to support students at their level have been implemented. "First 8 Weeks" Curriculum included eight staff who are working together to assess the implementation through staff self-assessments and revise curriculum based on results. All schools continue their work on positive behavior interventions and supports.

At the middle school level, universal teams to oversee multi-tiered system of supports for behavior have been established. Staff have taken a school culture assessment to identify strengths and areas of need.

At the high school, staff worked to identify the social emotional needs of students. They modified the school wide self-management rubric to reflect focus areas. One staff meeting a month is dedicated to professional development focused on student's social and emotional growth.

The focus on acceleration is one to help students access grade level material.

High-Intensity Tutoring has been part of the plan. ConVal needs additional tutors. Amy Janoch reviewed the work done in this area as well as what more is needed.

Expanded Learning Time, before and after school, is becoming more and more imperative.

The work that is being done is a shift from time as the constant to learning as the constant.

Janine Lesser asked about the number of tutors at the high school. Is that because it has to be subject specific?

Amy Janoch said that they are not replacing teachers.

Katherine Heck spoke about cost allocations previously planned. e.g. summer planning and training. Amy Janoch said that this work did occur. Money allocations were shared.

Liz Swan asked about the math and literacy coaches and asked where they are at the elementary level. Math is at Antrim and Literacy is at Bennington. Math will add Peterborough as well. Each have gone to all of the elementary schools to start the conversation.

Liz further asked what the qualifications are for a tutor. Certified tutors and paraprofessional tutors with expertise in areas of instruction for certified tutors and experience in classroom instruction for the paraprofessional tutors. A level of expertise is what is looked for. Training to connect well with the classroom will be provided.

Greg Kriebel suggested that students in need should be identified first before allocating funds per school.

Amy Janoch said that this was a starting point.

Ann Forrest said that tutoring is highly connected to classroom work. Decisions on classroom-based assessments drive the need for tutoring.

Kimberly Saunders said that we have a system to try to address students who are one or two years behind. Significant learning issues may need a different type of system. Educational decisions need to be made with data and intentionality.

How are students identified for tutoring? The systems we have in place right now are set up to identify students who are really struggling or significantly behind. The district is looking at the current system in place and bringing in the new element based on classroom assessment to identify specific students who would benefit from tutoring during the length of a unit. It may be two weeks or up to six weeks.

Kevin Pobst said that a large number of students was originally discussed as in need of intervention support. He said that it appears that the system may not be able to address the scale of need.

Ann Forrest said that we have not been able to secure a math or a literacy coach at the high school. The numbers were from an initial survey. Principals have provided clarity to share with teachers. We are still advertising for these positions. Tutoring is only one piece of this. When there are a large percentage not meeting assessments, we go back to the classroom to look at identifying priority standards, coaching the teachers, and other supports.

Alan Edelkind asked, related to assessment, where we are now compared to where we should be. Are we comfortable that we will be able to meet the goals for the learning recovery program?

Amy Janoch said that what has been put into place is extraordinary since work began. Ms. Janoch said that she anticipates that goals will be met. She said that this is too important and this is an opportunity to make shifts in how we support children.

The source of funds for all of these efforts requires substantial and meaningful focus.

Kimberly Saunders said that we sent out surveys and learned that the school environment and social/emotional areas were important to parents.

Rich Cahoon asked about the word "certified" that was used as a requirement for tutors. He asked if there is a point where certification might not be required. Amy Janoch confirmed and said that "skilled" would be the better term.

Liz Swan asked about planning for next summer, what does Ann see in terms of planning and need.

Amy Janoch said that the expectation was to provide programming for all levels. There was a period of crunch time and what could be put together was. She agreed that planning for summer should begin early.

Dick Dunning shared his concern with math and coaching. A positive change in math scores has not resulted. He said that the areas with the highest needs should be the focus. It is difficult, if not impossible, to get to all of the students across all of the schools.

Rich Cahoon spoke about the artifacts required for the monitoring period of the grant. Kimberly said that redacted minutes of meetings will be submitted as artifacts.

### **c. Monthly Events Calendar**

Selectmen's Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### **d. November 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment Update**

Kimberly referenced enrollment data. Information presented should be the data carried for the remainder of the year with slight increases and decreases.

Rich Cahoon noted FES reflects a grade 2 and 3 combination. Kimberly said that was inaccurate.

## **7. Reports**

### **a. Teacher Representative – Cheryl Jessie**

None

### **b. Strategic Plan Committee – Tim Theberge**

Tim Theberge reported that presentations from all of the subcommittees were shared. The Wellness Committee requested additional direction and a board member assigned to it. This has been resolved.

Tim asked members of the public interested in serving on the Wellness Committee to step forward. The committee would love to have you.

### **c. Equity Committee – Rich Cahoon**

None.

### **d. Selectmen's Advisory Committee – Tim Theberge**

Tim Theberge reported that discussion on the proposed budget as well as changing demographics around the ConVal School District. This led to affordable housing discussion. Selectmen's Advisory Committee showed interest in engaging others in the Strategic Plan process.

### **e. Policy Committee – Katherine Heck**

Katherine Heck reported that three policies come tonight for a first read. Work on additional policies occurred this evening. Updates to JICD were also made.

## **8. Old Business**

### **a. Legislative Update**

Tim Theberge said that LSR's are being turned into draft legislation.

### **b. 5<sup>th</sup> Board Goal Discussion**

Tim Theberge spoke about prior discussion that occurred about the potential for a fifth board goal. The recommendation is not to add a fifth goal or the board will continue to support the District's efforts to implement Preschool for All.

Alan Edelkind said that this does not belong at the board level and suggested not having a fifth goal and shared his rationale. Katherine Heck agreed that a fifth goal was not needed.

Kimberly Saunders asked if this was an intent not to support Preschool. The board confirmed that that is not the intent at all.

## **9. New Business**

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

IGE: Parental Objections to Specific Course Material

DAF: Administration of Federal Grant Funds

EEAEA: Mandatory Drug and Alcohol Testing – School Bus Drivers and Contracted Carriers

Tim Theberge referenced the above three policies for a first read.

Tim Theberge yielded to Dick Dunning for a concern.

Dick Dunning said that he received a letter from a parent asking why we are not having a "B team" for basketball at the middle school level. He was told that it was budgetary related.

Kimberly Saunders said that she believes that it was an issue with finding coaches and that it has since been resolved.

## **10. Public Comment**

Selena White, Temple, shared her concern about the vaccination of students to attend public school. She is aware it is not required now but is concerned about the future. She said that it is not the right move in her opinion. She referenced an email about the vaccine that she received from Monadnock Community Hospital about the effectiveness.

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

Kimberly Saunders certified that manifests listed totaling \$2,121,591.58 have been reviewed by the Business Administrator 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. Jim Fredrickson second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Negotiations**

**b. Legal**

**c. Personnel**

**Janine Lesser moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 8:31 p.m. for matters of negotiations, legal, and personnel. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous.**

**Dick Dunning moved to exit non-public session at 8:55 p.m. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous.**

**Janine Lesser moved to seal the non-public minutes for negotiations for 10 years. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**Janine Lesser moved to seal the non-public minutes for personnel for 10 years. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**Janine Lesser moved to seal the non-public minutes for a student matters in perpetuity. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous.**

**Katherine Heck motioned to waive the penalty in Article 12.4 of the CVEA contract for an employee discussed who has left the district. Jerry Wilson second. Unanimous.**

**Jim Fredrickson moved to accept the tentative agreement between the CVEA and the ConVal School Board dated October 19, 2021 that modified the current bargaining agreement FY 23-25**

**Jerry Wilson second.**

**Dick Dunning, Rich Cahoon, and Keira Christian abstained. All others in favor. Motion carried.**

Jerry Wilson reported that he is stepping down from the ConVal School Board effective November 30th or sooner if a replacement can be found. His hope is that the replacement can be found to allow input in the budget process. He shared his appreciation for all of the work that has been done and wished the board well.

**Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Liz Swan second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok