

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Communication Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Physical Location: SAU 1 Board Room

Minutes

Committee Members:

- Keira Christian
- Alan Edelkind, Co-Chairperson
- Jim Fredrickson
- Janine Lesser, Co-Chairperson
- Liz Swan

Present: Keira Christian, Alan Edelkind, Jim Fredrickson, Janine Lesser, Liz Swan (elect.)

1. Call to Order

Alan Edelkind called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes – February 17, 2022

The Minutes of the February 17th Communication Committee were approved.

3. Elect Chairperson(s)

Alan Edelkind and Janine Lesser put their names forward for Co-Chairpersons.

Liz Swan asked how it has worked out for both Janine and Alan as co-chairs.

Liz said that where she sits, it would be more advantageous to have one Chairperson. She said that she felt that there was lack of clarity. If there is one distinct person to carry the message there will not be any perceived push/pull. Having one leader would help with clarity with bringing forward.

Janine Lesser said that it is good to bring forward two perspectives. She further said that she and Alan have discussed this and would like to go forward as Co-Chairpersons.

Alan Edelkind said that he is comfortable with the way things are now.

Janine Lesser asked Liz to let them know when she feels that there is a push/pull. They will try to be clear.

Jim Fredrickson moved to nominate Janine Lesser and Alan Edelkind as Co-Chairs. Keira Christian second. Unanimous.

4. Next Community Forum ideas

Alan Edelkind said that the next Community Forum will take place at the end of April.

Keira Christian proposed not holding it over April vacation on the week of the 23rd. The first week in May was suggested while being cognizant of Advanced Placement testing that might be utilizing the space needed for the forum.

Alan put two ideas forward; we are bored with the budget. The first suggestion was Learning Recovery.

Learning Recovery seems to be bubbling up. People have questions about what we are doing with Learning Recovery. Keira Christian also suggested a focus on the Summer Program.

Second, Alan brought up safety as a topic. People are concerned about safety, drug issues, and kids acting out. It would be good to let people know and it dovetails with Learning Recovery. Once people are satisfied that safety is there and kids are learning, we become positive about what we are doing.

Janine Lesser agreed. Talking with the public about what the actual problem is and what is being done while linking it to Learning Recovery is valuable.

Liz Swan said that the social/emotional wellness about Learning Recovery is actually what is being discussed. Strategies for kids in the classrooms is part of this.

Alan Edelkind asked who would be best to head this up at the forum; administration? Alan thought that administration would be best to address these topics.

Keira Christian said that she hesitates to ask the administration to do this.

Since it is a Board forum, Alan suggested a partnership of administration and a board member.

Two or three will present on Learning Recovery and a focus on Social/Emotional tied to safety.

Calling it Social/Emotional in the schools and have the Director of School Counseling be the lead on this topic was determined as the best option.

Having a Resource Officer in the District has been proposed. Address it head on. Administration would be utilized here as well. Is there someone on the board that might weigh in as well?

Jim Fredrickson suggested a topic on the modernization of the schools. Asking people to think about it and let them know that they will be solicited for thoughts about moving forward. What will the classroom of the future look like?

Liz Swan favored giving the introduction to the modernization project as a topic.

Jim Fredrickson said that it helps plant the seed for a bond in the near future.

Alan Edelkind shared that he has been thinking about getting information out to people prior to the forum within a week in advance. People will be able to see what is being done and formulate good questions. It can be a subset of the presentation to let people know what will be discussed. Participation will increase when people know the topic.

Alan said that people were allowed to remote in for the last meeting. He said that the committee needs to go to the next phase to allow remote attendees to have the same opportunities as those in person. Working out the forum such that those in person are addressed first. Remote next. Allowing people to talk while remote is valuable.

Do we have the technological capability to do this for the forum?

Liz Swan said that technology does exist to allow public interaction remotely. Zoom is one of the platforms; while the Superintendent is not in favor.

Liz recommended taking what was done last time and perfecting that process and streamline the process.

Alan said that he sees Liz's point. Janine Lesser asked if there is a way to allow follow-up comments. Liz said that YouTube comments would be timely.

Liz Swan said that the YouTube possibility might be revisited with Kimberly. Mark Schaub should be there as well.

Brenda will check on the best week to hold the forum in conjunction with the high school schedule. The third week in April or first week in May were suggestions.

5. Other

None.

6. Adjourn

Janine Lesser motioned to adjourn at 5:47 p.m. Keira Christian second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Marschok