

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

**CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD**

**School Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2022  
7:00 p.m.**

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

**Livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbNwmDGV6i8>**

**Minutes**

**BOARD**

Tom Burgess, Keira Christian,  
Richard Dunning, Alan Edelkind,  
Jim Fredrickson, Katherine Heck,  
Greg Kriebel, Janine Lesser,  
Kevin Pobst, Crista Salamy,  
Liz Swan, Tim Theberge,  
Stephen Ullman

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.  
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.  
Lori Schmidt, B.A.  
Carrie James, H.R.  
Heather McKillop, CVHS  
Tim Conway, SMS  
Larry Pimental, PES  
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 were reported to her by administrators.

**3. Student Representative – Abby Kamieniecki**

None.

**4. Public Comment**

None.

**5. Consent Agenda**

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

1) March 15, 2022

**b. Personnel**

1) Co-Curricular Notifications

**c. April 1, 2022 Enrollment Update**

**d. MS-22 Signing**

The Consent Agenda was accepted as presented.

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

**Janine Lesser moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II at 7:06 p.m. Second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Janine Lesser moved to exit Non-Public Session at 7:42 p.m. Dick Dunning second. Unanimous. Dick Dunning moved to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session for a period of 5 years. Stephen Ullman second. Unanimous.**

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

### **a. Monthly Events Calendar**

Food Service Committee will not meet on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

The future of Equity Committee was discussed. The crossover with Education Committee was discussed.

Liz Swan asked that the Equity Committee be amended to a Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee.

Dick Dunning said that on April 18<sup>th</sup> both Education and Equity Committee members could meet to discuss the future.

### **b. School Board Requests**

One outstanding request related to the website was noted.

### **c. Field Trip Request**

Kimberly Saunders referenced an overnight field trip request to Concord, NH.

**Katherine Heck moved to approve the field trip request as presented. Keira Christian second. Unanimous.**

## **7. Reports**

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

None.

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

Katherine Heck reported that a new Chair was elected; Crista Salamy.

First and second reads come before the board tonight.

Policy DK will be coming forward to the board for a first read.

DAF will come for a first read with updates to assure that ConVal is compliant.

### **c. Education Committee – Dick Dunning**

Dick Dunning reported that a Learning Recovery Update was shared at the meeting. There are opportunities, before and after school, that have not been as successful as hoped, due to limited staffing.

In school tutoring is in place at AES and PES with math, as well as FES and DCS in literature. Limitations existed as well. Difficult to measure growth.

A summer opportunity is promising. Enrichment activities are a draw when included in this programming.

Intensified instruction was a thought to impact growth.

### **d. Communication Committee- Janine Lesser/Alan Edelkind**

Alan Edelkind reported that Co-Chairs were elected; Alan Edelkind and Janine Lesser will continue in their roles as such.

The Community Forum was discussed. May 12<sup>th</sup> is the date set for the next forum. Alan referenced notes about the forum. The plan for the forum was shared.

Presentations will include Learning Recovery, Social/Emotional Wellness and Safety in the schools, and Modernization of facilities. Modernization is in early stage discussion. It may be replaced with a presentation and update on preschool.

### **e. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson**

Jim Fredrickson reported that discussion about Capital Improvement Plan and a related policy was discussed. Getting this into place is a major objective of the committee. The RFP for architectural services is planned to go out this week.

### **f. Food Service Committee – Dick Dunning**

Dick Dunning reported that we are under what we budgeted for to date. Committee membership was discussed. A student, staff member, and parent will be sought to join the committee. They do not meet regularly but will in the coming months leading up to the summer.

Two policies; JCL and JLCF will go under review with recommendations anticipated.

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

Tim Theberge reported a new member representing Greenfield joined the committee; Mike Borden. John Robertson was re-elected as Chair with Jeff Brown as Vice-Chair. The committee has a growing interest in being more involved and becoming a true partner with the district.

## **8. Old Business**

### **a. Legislative Update**

Katherine Heck provided an update on legislature. Many bills were laid on the table or were killed. Specifics were provided on various bills included topics on cooperative school districts, retirement funding, vaccines, Education Freedom Accounts, and remote meetings to name a few. Kimberly Saunders cited downshifting for retirement back up as important. HB1671 regarding regional agreements and alignment of calendars was overshadowed by an amendment for a legislative parking garage. HB1381 relative to penalties for those who are noncompliant with NH Retirement passed. Others were noted. The management of Education Freedom Account Scholarships moving from a private management firm to the DOE was discussed. 10% of the freedom account is associated with management fees.

### **b. Reopening Plan**

None.

### **c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Adoption (Board Vote Required)**

- JICG: Tobacco Products Ban Use and Possession in and on School Facilities and Grounds  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- GBED: Tobacco Products Ban Use and Possession in and on School Facilities and Grounds  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- ADC: Tobacco Products Ban Use and Possession in and on School Facilities and Grounds  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- IK: Earning of High School Credit  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- ILBAA: High School Graduation Competencies  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- IMBC: Alternative Credit Options  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**
- IHAM: Health Education and Exemption from Instruction  
**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this policy as read. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

## **9. New Business**

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

- IHCD/LEB: Advanced Coursework/Advanced Enrollment  
Comments, concerns, and questions should be sent to Crista Salamy ahead of the next meeting.

### **b. HealthSmart Program Adoption (Board Vote Required)**

Ann Forrest referenced information about this program. ConVal uses this program K-4. For consistency in programming and quality, we would like to continue using it K-8. It is aligned to National Health Education Standards and meets 15 Characteristics of an Effective Health Education Curriculum and supports teachers to meet the competencies.

**Dick Dunning moved to adopt the HealthSmart Program. Katherine Heck second.**

Health Education teachers deliver the programming.

**Unanimous.**

### **c. Great Brook School Handbook Addendum**

Tim Theberge referenced information about a recommended change to the handbook that is proposed to take place immediately if approved. Current and Proposed GBS Handbook Language was read.

Kimberly Saunders highlighted the process that allowed the proposed change to come before the board tonight.

Alan Edelkind asked if GBS and SMS currently have the same language. Confirmed.

Dick Dunning said that he is not in favor of accepting this change. He appreciates the process the students went through. The lack of consistency is a concern. There are many reasons for students not to wear hoodies and bandanas in school. Concerns around substances and other alliances were cited. Dick Dunning further said that students need to understand that there are decisions that are made for students to abide by but it is okay to ask for change. A consistent policy is important.

Dr. Kriebel said that students have done due diligence and have done their research. If approved and is a failure, it could be rescinded. He was in favor of the change.

Katherine Heck shared her appreciation for the process that students underwent and that of administration. She shared concern with the inequity between the two middle schools. She was not in favor of moving forward with this change.

**Stephen Ullman moved to adopt this change. Keira Christian second.**

Stephen Ullman said that he liked the idea that students were involved in the process. Stephen further noted that the individual teacher has a say in this.

Kevin Pobst said that he respects that this is a civics lesson and that kids followed a process with parents and staff. He shared two objections; the first was the equity between the two middle schools, and second, any policy based on individual teacher discretion places teachers in a bad position.

Greg Kriebel asked if SMS was reached out to about this change. SMS was not reached out to. This was a student generated change proposal at GBS.

Tom Burgess said that it appears that staff weighed in and were included in the process which causes him to be in favor of the proposed change.

This would be the rule until the end of the current school year.

Janine Lesser said that it could be revisited at the end of the school year.

Liz Swan shared concern from an equity concern between the two middle schools. Exceptions should be made for medical and religious reasons.

Greg Kriebel agreed that equity is an issue but the work was done in one place. It could be rolled out if it is a success.

Keira Christian favored using this as a trial period to see how it impacts the culture.

**In favor: Stephen Ullman, Tom Burgess, Keira Christian, Greg Kriebel, Tim Theberge, Janine Lesser, and Crista Salamy.**

**Opposed: Jim Fredrickson, Alan Edelkind, Dick Dunning, Liz Swan, Katherine Heck, and Kevin Pobst. The motion passes 7-6 in favor and places this in effect immediately.**

### **d. Budget Transfers (Board Vote Required)**

Lori Schmidt referenced proposed budget transfers.

**Dick Dunning moved to approve the budget transfers. Liz Swan second. Unanimous.**

### **e. Town Appropriations and Payment Schedule**

Lori Schmidt referenced District Apportionment and Payment Schedule.

Katherine Heck asked for additional time to review this data. Fund balance estimates will be anticipated information. Confirmed.

Jim Fredrickson focused on the importance of explaining this information and the impact on district assessment.

Confirmed to hold and wait approximately one month.

Tim Theberge referenced two additional items:

A petition in Temple regarding the locations of preschools. It will be on the agenda for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

When presented, preschool locations are PES, AES, and GES. The intent and discussion that has been underway for months was for them to be located where they currently are. It is most efficient to offer services at a single or fewer location. Any town can access this programming.

Draft RFI toward an RFP relative to looking at previous and potential future consolidation efforts. Tim Theberge pointed the board to consolidation information on a shared drive.

#### **10. Public Comment**

None.

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

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests listed totaling \$1,901,881.33 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. Jim Fredrickson second. Unanimous.**

Tim Theberge said that the ATC is up for renovation and we are in the queue for that work. ConVal's opinion is that we are a single regional center. The State feels that ConVal is the only site and Conant and Mascenic are sending only. ConVal sends students to both Conant and Mascenic. If this opinion stands, Mascenic and Conant would not receive renovation funding.

A joint letter stating the position that all three structures should be considered was voted in favor of last night. Tim Theberge asked the board for the same type of direction to draft a letter and signed by three districts.

**Katherine Heck moved to support a joint district letter. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

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

**a. Negotiations**

**b. Legal**

**c. Personnel**

**Katherine Heck moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 for matters of negotiations, personnel, and student matters (legal) at 9:07 p.m. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous on a roll call vote.**

**Dick Dunning moved to exit Non-Public Session at 9:51 p.m. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

**Dick Dunning moved to seal the minutes for Non-Public Session for a period of 5 years. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

**Dick Dunning moved to approve allowing students discussed to continue in ConVal and waive tuition for remainder of the current school year. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

**Greg Kriebel moved to waive the staff retirement notice discussed. Katherine Heck second. Unanimous.**

**Stephen Ullman moved to approve the compensation agreement for the Superintendent. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.**

**Stephen Ullman motioned to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Katherine Heck Second. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok