

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road

Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Physical Location: SAU #1 Board Room

Livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/ConValEvents>

Minutes

BOARD

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

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Lori Schmidt, B.A.
Cari Christian-Coates, Student Serv.
Amy Janoch, Learning Recovery
Shawne Hilliard, DCS/HES
Kris Levesque-Lee, PES
Tim Grossi, Facilities

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Janine Lesser called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,II

Alan Edelkind moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II for student matters. Crista Salamy seconded. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Doug Sutherland motioned to exit non-public session at 7:24 pm. Jim Fredrickson second. Unanimous. Alan Edelkind moved to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session in perpetuity. Jim Fredrickson seconded. Unanimous.

2. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders reported preparing for staff to return. A full complement of professional development opportunities is planned. The CVEA negotiated an extra day of training with Wadleigh Starr & Peters. Kimberly Saunders reported that she will be sharing an update with staff on the lawsuit. Suicide Prevention Training will also occur. Looking forward to staff returning next Thursday.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes

1) August 2, 2022

b. Personnel

1) Resignations

2) Nominations

The Consent Agenda was accepted by the Board.

5. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. School Board Requests

Kimberly Saunders reported several requests outstanding - preschool data collected should be finalized in the next week. SWIS data can be completed this week. RFI for consolidation needs to go out once the board gives thumbs up. Placing times on agendas for committees to assure breakdowns on the agenda to allow for efficiency.

A request on the report out on goals was made. Is a written report requested or an administrative presentation? Written report was favored.

b. Monthly Events Calendar

The Policy Committee previously scheduled for August 16th had previously been cancelled. The Communication Committee meeting on August 18th was cancelled.

Food Service/Wellness Committee will meet on Monday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m.

The Request for Information (RFI) for consolidation will be sent out. It provides an idea of who ConVal is and what we are looking for. The RFI is looking for interest. It is not an RFP. Not just consulting firms but the potential for universities with experience to conduct this work is sought.

6. Reports

a. Teacher Representative

None.

b. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson

Jim Fredrickson reported discussion on budget guidance, a safety review (the recommendation to conduct a safety audit), and two policies that need to be addressed. Much of the time was spent on budget guidance. Jim read an email that outlined options for budget guidance; status quo, planned updates, baseline salary for 23-24, capital improvements, updated trust fund summary documents, and escalation/inflation range (as practical). Conversation to continue moving forward.

Janine Lesser reported the desire to put another structure in place to guide the development of the budget. Janine referenced a suggestion from Katherine Heck that will be shared with the full board.

Contracts that have escalation clauses would include transportation and food service aside from the CVEA contract. The transportation contract does not include fuel.

Fuel, water, electricity, maintenance, life safety, health insurance are annual agreements that will be impacted by escalation.

The CVEA contract increases are below the inflation rate.

c. Education Committee – Stephen Ullman

Tom Burgess reported having met last night. The major item discussed was the elementary Social Emotional Learning (SEL) First 8 weeks of school. This committee is in support of this program which began before COVID and is needed even more now. The goal of the program is to empower students to self-regulate their own behavior and to reach out when they are frustrated. It is a full-year program to bolster the confidence of young people in elementary school. It gives young students the tools to communicate.

Janine Lesser said that it is up to the board to approve this curriculum.

d. Policy Committee – Crista Salamy

Crista Salamy reported that Policy Committee met today for a policy work session and moved 23 policies forward with 8 for a first read and one to rescind. Others will be worked on and come forward.

7. Old Business

a. School Board Evaluation/Discussion

Janine Lesser reported that only eight school board members are present tonight with five missing. She suggested moving this to a future agenda at the first meeting in September. Those present agreed to allow for a better discussion.

b. School Board Goals

Janine Lesser reported that only eight school board members are present tonight with five missing. She suggested moving this to a future agenda at the first meeting in September. Those present agreed to allow for a better discussion.

c. 2nd Read/Adoption Policies

- GBCD: Background Investigations

Kevin Pobst moved to adopt this policy as presented. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

- JICD: Student Conduct

Kevin Pobst moved to adopt this policy as presented. Jim Fredrickson seconded. Unanimous.

d. Renovation/Architect

Jim Fredrickson reported that a summary was presented to the board in August. Since then, the building committee met and developed a recommendation from those who submitted.

More will be shared with additional school board members in non-public session.

A communication should be developed as soon as the board votes.

8. New Business

a. School Handbooks

Kimberly Saunders reported that School Handbooks were placed in a Google Folder for advance review for the boards approval.

CVHS – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the CVHS Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

GBS – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the GBS Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

Keira asked if the principals agree with the hat policy where GBS would allow them and SMS is not ready to do that. SMS is not ready to agree with the hat policy.

Unanimous.

SMS - Kevin Pobst moved to approve the SMS Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

AES – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the AES Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

Pierce School – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the Pierce Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded.

Unanimous.

DCS – Alan Edelkind moved to approve the DCS Student Handbook. Tom Burgess seconded. Unanimous.

FES – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the FES Student Handbook. Alan Edelkind seconded. Unanimous.

GES – Kevin Pobst moved to approve the GES Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

HES- Doug Sutherland moved to adopt the HES Student Handbook. Alan Edelkind seconded. Unanimous.

PES – Kevin Pobst moved to adopt the PES Student Handbook. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

TES – Crista Salamy moved to adopt the TES Student Handbook. Doug Sutherland seconded. Unanimous.

b. First 8 Weeks of School

Keira moved to approve the curriculum “First 8 Weeks of School”.

Tom Burgess seconded. **Unanimous.**

c. Policies 1st Read

- IHBB: Programs for Gifted Students

- IHBAF: Child Find

Any questions or comments, please contact Policy Chair, Crista Salamy.

d. Expense and Encumbrances (Board Vote Required)

Crista Salamy moved to accept the Expense Report and encumbrances therein. Jim Fredrickson seconded.

Lori Schmidt reported that the process of changes in personnel are underway which impact functions and subcategories. Salaries and benefit lines are in good order.

Lori reported that fuel and electricity are the two major factors relative to inflation. Mitigation put in place will help with costs in certain areas. Communication with the board will be ongoing as things move forward.

An audit for FY'22 is scheduled to begin on August 29th.

Unanimous.

SB420 passed and establishes extraordinary needs in perpetuity. An estimate for review was provided. There will be requirements to provide an accountability. A special meeting will be required. Training for this is on September 12th. Funding targets communities with high property values and low incomes. More to come on how the funds will be handled. Estimated amount is \$120,000 for the four towns identified in the district.

Kimberly Saunders reported that she is looking forward to this training and in particular the term “in perpetuity”. She said that there is no guarantee that these dollars will continue.

A public hearing should be scheduled for anticipated revenue from \$27,545.00 from Primex. Need to accept and expend these funds. September 6th was scheduled as the date for the Public Hearing.

e. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)

1) Peterborough Elementary School requests authorization to accept an Outdoor Shade System valued at approximately \$18,340.00 for the purpose of creating an outdoor learning space from the PES PTO.

Jim Fredrickson moved to accept the donation as presented. Tom Burgess seconded the motion.

Kevin Pobst shared the memory that a similar structure was erected in Dublin as a pilot.

Kimberly reported that this is not a pavilion style it is a permanent shade structure.

Tom shared the boards gratitude for the PES PTO generous gift.

Unanimous.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests listed totaling \$1,472,450.77 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.

Jim Fredrickson moved to approve the manifests as read. Alan Edelkind seconded the motion. Unanimous.

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

a. Negotiations

b. Legal

c. Personnel

Alan Edelkind moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 8:25 for negotiations, student and legal. Kevin Pobst seconded. Unanimous on roll call vote.

Jim Fredrickson moved to exit Non-Public session at 8:58 p.m. Keira Christian seconded. Unanimous.

Keira Christian moved to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session for 10 years. Tom Burgess seconded. Unanimous.

Kevin Pobst motioned to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Doug Sutherland seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok