

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

**Tuesday, August 2, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

Physical Location: SAU #1 Board Room

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

Minutes

BOARD

Tom Burgess, Richard Dunning,
Alan Edelkind, 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.
Carrie James, H.R.
Tim Conway, SMS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Janine Lesser called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Janine Lesser swore in newly appointed School Board Member, Doug Sutherland, Hancock prior to the start of the meeting. Mr. Sutherland will replace outgoing member, Tim Theberge.

2. Points of Pride

Doug Sutherland was welcomed as the new School Board member representing Hancock. School Board members and administrators present introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment

A moment of silence was recognized in memory of Lexy Heatley who recently passed. Lexy was a ConVal Administrator at Great Brook School. Kimberly Saunders said that she will be sorely missed. Hours for services were shared.

Agenda item 7b. School Resource Officer was moved up on the agenda to this point. (see 7b. for minutes)
There was no public comment.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes

1) July 19, 2022

b. Personnel

1) Resignations
2) Nominations

The Consent Agenda was accepted with one amendment to the minutes that reflected Greg Kriebel suggesting Tuesday School Board meetings and not Thursday meetings as noted.

5. Reports

a. Policy Committee – Crista Salamy

Crista Salamy reported policies coming forward for both first and second reads moving forward. A Policy Roundup Meeting will be scheduled as an all-day event to work on policy.

6. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

The monthly events calendars were reviewed.

b. School Board Requests

Kimberly Saunders reported one school board request has come in related to preschool enrollment.

c. Enrollment

Kimberly Saunders referenced student enrollment information at this point in time.

7. Old Business

a. Legislative Update

No Legislative update.

Katherine Heck noted SB410 effective date is September 6th related to Public Comment 30-minute requirement at each end of the meeting.

Kimberly Saunders said that the board needs to be prepared to hold the comment period but if no one is present we do not need to simply sit for this period.

Katherine Heck said that associations are working feverishly to make sure everyone is compliant. She said that it is important to read the summary on legislation that is sent out.

Kimberly said that this board has always had public comment periods built into the agendas. Some boards do not. At least 30 minutes must be available for public comment. This board has always welcomed public comment periods.

Janine Lesser said that she believed a three-minute minimum per speaker with a 30-minute potential.

Katherine Heck shared additional information. She suggested 7:00 to 7:30 for public comment.

Kimberly noted that this requirement only applies to school boards and no other municipalities.

b. School Resource Officer – Finalize MOU

Kimberly Saunders reported that Peterborough Police and Selectboard voted on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as negotiated and financial outline as discussed.

Katherine Heck moved to accept the MOU as proposed and have the Superintendent sign it.

Liz Swan seconded.

Greg Kriebel noted that the draft dollar figure is blank. The figure \$73,650.00 for the school district with the balance of \$23,683.00 by the Town of Peterborough.

Katherine Heck reported having attended tonight's meeting in Peterborough as a positive one.

Alan Edelkind said that this is wonderful that this will be in place. When does the SRO become active? It will be in place for the start of school.

Alan shared confusion about the role of an SRO. Schools implement the position differently. Is there a plan to put out a communication about what ConVal's implementation will look like? Kimberly Saunders confirmed it is already underway.

In favor: Alan Edelkind, Liz Swan, Stephen Ullman, Tom Burgess, Crista Salamy, Katherine Heck, Dick Dunning, Greg Kriebel

Opposed: Kevin Pobst

Abstained: Doug Sutherland

Motion carried.

8. New Business

a. 1st Read Policy

- GBCD: Background Investigations

- JICD: Student Conduct

Questions or concerns should be shared with Crista Salamy.

b. School Board Goals Discussion

Janine Lesser asked if we are prepared to discuss our goals. Administration and Superintendent goals were adopted. This can come forward again in two weeks. Preference of the board?

Dick Dunning moved to table this until the next board meeting. Crista Salamy seconded.

Kevin Pobst suggested a plan for the next meeting. An ad hoc group should look at administrative goals and boil out two or three goals for discussion.

Liz Swan suggested a shared Google Doc as a starting point.

Katherine Heck suggested using the Board evaluation tool to self-evaluate privately and this may drive conversation for future goals.

Katherine Heck will send the evaluation tool plus the 21-22 goals to the full board.

Stephen Ullman asked how different the board goals should be from the ambitious goals of administration.

Kimberly Saunders offered to assist in this area by discussing the evaluation and looking at administration's goals.

c. School Board Evaluation/Discussion

Moved to next School Board meeting.

d. Board and Committee Meetings

Janine Lesser reported that two board members suggested to change the meeting schedule of the board.

The suggestion was to meet weekly on Tuesdays with no subcommittee meetings.

Katherine Heck said that Greg Kriebel suggested originally. She referenced the work of the board through the work of the subcommittees e.g. Education, Policy, Budget & Property Committee. A shared commitment to these three areas would be important.

Greg Kriebel said that it would increase involvement by the entire board. We are relying on a small group to make larger decisions. This would allow more work at the board level and allow more input.

Janine Lesser asked when the board would meet and which committees would fold in.

Greg Kriebel said that a meeting each week is proposed every Tuesday. Eliminate other meetings during the week. Every committee would not be part of every board meeting.

Janine Lesser said that a clear picture is needed to make a motion and have a discussion. She asked if it would make sense to ask Greg and Katherine to come back with a more explicit proposal?

Liz Swan asked for a discussion on this. She wants to know more about the logistics and time meetings would take. Board members have special skills used on committees in different ways. A big conversation with thirteen individuals on the topic of communication is more difficult than that of a smaller group. Things are brought back to the full board for decision making. She asked about time management at weekly meetings.

Greg Kriebel said that he is happy to come up with a plan but asked for a sense of the board.

Stephen Ullman said he is a trustee at a meeting outside of ConVal that takes place on a Tuesday. The current structure allows intense focused discussion among fewer board members. When you get beyond five people, the task becomes more complicated.

Alan Edelkind said that within the committee structure there are a lot of ideas brought up and discarded with the consensus brought to the full board.

Kevin Pobst clarified that there would be no other committee meetings with four School Board meetings each month. He asked if the totality of hours would be less than what currently exists. He said that this would change the work that the board does e.g. the Communication Committee creates product. The Budget Committee creates product as well. It is hard for him to imagine that this would take place with a group of thirteen.

Liz Swan added that the discussions that happen outside of those meetings, in general, might be problematic with a full board.

Doug Sutherland asked if this would change the current structure of the meeting in terms of the agenda.

Greg Kriebel said that it could but it doesn't have to.

Kevin Pobst followed up that maybe the board should not produce product but rather review product. Other possibilities were shared. It would change what is done.

Dick Dunning said that a thumbs up or down was asked before Greg began work. He said that he is unsure of the practicality of this. Unsure more would be gained and more time might be needed. If there was a model that could be brought to us without much added work, he was open. Dick said that what currently is in place works.

Kevin Pobst said that a thirteen-member board is peculiar. Most have approximately five.

Stephen Ullman said that he now understands most of what takes place at Policy Committee meetings. He would be less informed otherwise. There is an advantage to the current system to acquire specialized knowledge. He preferred the current structure.

Doug Sutherland moved that the board look at a plan to incorporate committee meetings into board meetings.

Stephen Ullman seconded.

Kimberly Saunders referenced two policies included in tonight's packet. Policy can also be waived. The Reorganization meeting in March was cited in one. Administration would need to know as soon as possible should this change be adopted. Kimberly suggested that this be a goal of the board.

Kevin Pobst moved to table the motion. The intent was to discuss this when discussing goals.

Dick Dunning seconded the motion.

Discussion about tabling the motion? None.

In favor: Unanimous

Kevin said that the committee structure in place has created sub chairs of the school board. Building it into goals make sense if that is the direction.

This will be part of goals discussion at the next meeting.

e. Policy BDB: Board Officers

This policy clarifies what happens in the event of a resignation of the School Board Chairperson.

Dick Dunning said that an interim Vice-Chair should be in place.

Dick Dunning moved to nominate Alan Edelkind as interim Vice-Chair until March 2023.

Kevin Pobst seconded the motion.

Any other nominations? None.

In favor: Alan Edelkind, Liz Swan, Stephen Ullman, Tom Burgess, Katherine Heck, Dick Dunning, Greg Kriebel, Doug Sutherland, Kevin Pobst

Opposed: Crista Salamy

Motion carried.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Kimberly Saunders read that Lori Schmidt has certified manifests totaling \$324,603.72 and that Lori reviewed and found them to be proper charges against the Contoocook Valley School District for goods and/or services received and they have been properly processed prior to their submittal to the School Board.

Dick Dunning moved to accept the Manifest as read. Stephen Ullman seconded.

Opposed: None

Abstentions: Doug Sutherland.

An explanation of the manifest, review and vote was shared.

Motion carried.

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

a. Negotiations

b. Legal

c. Personnel

d. Student

Greg Kriebel moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II at 8:01 p.m. for student matters, negotiations, and personnel.

Stephen Ullman seconded the motion.

Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Stephen Ullman moved to exit Non-Public Session at 8:25 p.m. Kevin Pobst seconded. Unanimous.

Stephen Ullman moved to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session for five years. Seconded. Unanimous.

Stephen Ullman moved to authorize the Superintendent to make proper adjustments in the school assignments for students as discussed.

Alan Edelkind seconded. Unanimous.

Stephen Ullman motioned to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Dick Dunning seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok