

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

CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

**Tuesday, October 18, 2022
Immediately Following Public Hearing(s) at 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, Jim Fredrickson,
Greg Kriebel, Janine Lesser,
Kevin Pobst, Crista Salamy,
Doug Sutherland, Liz Swan,
Stephen Ullman

Katherine Craig, Student Rep.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Lori Schmidt, B.A.
Ben Moenter, Special Ed.
Carrie James, H.R.
Kat Foecking, GBS
Shawne Hilliard, DCS/HES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Janine Lesser called the meeting to order, after the Public Hearings, at 7:22 p.m.

2. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders shared various Points of Pride as reported to her by administrators.

3. Public Comment

Kimberly Marcum, Dublin, reported having two kids in the district; one at South Meadow School and one at Dublin Consolidated School. She said that they have been very happy with the education that her children have received. Both have thrived. The culture and care of DCS gives a strength to the students and community.

As the board works to put together the budget, she asked consideration that there is a shared principal. It is a tough situation for the two schools involved. The Administrative Assistant does so much for the community, students, and staff. She fills the role of school nurse when needed. It is no secret that the board may be in favor of consolidation or closing smaller schools.

The board allowed additional time.

Ms. Marcum asked that different viewpoints be considered when considering consolidation. It feels that this was intentional not to have two principals or a preschool.

She asked consideration of the small schools and thanked the board for all that they do.

The Board thanked Ms. Marcum for her comments.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes

1) October 4, 2022

b. Personnel

1) Resignation – October 2022

2) 2022-2023 Co-Curricular Notifications

Kevin Pobst asked for an explanation around the resignation.

Kimberly Saunders said that she would be happy to discuss in Non-Public.

Alan Edelkind moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 7:31 p.m.

Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Greg Kriebel motioned to close Non-Public Session at 7:36 p.m. Dick Dunning seconded. Unanimous.

Dick Dunning motioned to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session for a period of five (5) years. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous.

Janine Lesser asked if there were any further questions on the consent agenda? There were none. The consent agenda was accepted.

5. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. School Board Requests

A request is outstanding related to information on the shared principal model. This will be discussed during budget preparation.

b. Monthly Events Calendar

Public Hearings related to the Peterborough Elementary School roof and also the ConVal High School Parking lot were scheduled on Tuesday, November 15th.

6. Reports

a. Student Representative – Katherine Craig

Katherine Craig reported that the volleyball team won their pink night and there was a lot of community and school spirit. In addition, Boys' Soccer had their senior night tonight. Other senior nights are coming up as well. Twenty-one exchange students from Austria have arrived and are attending classes through November 1st. Flyers for mental health support are posted around the school. The Counseling Department recently held a financial aid night. Theater production for Agatha Christie are underway. Eric McGrath won player of the week. Lastly, there is a bake sale this Friday.

b. Teacher Representative

None.

c. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson

Jim Fredrickson referred to the Budget & Property Committee report in the School Board shared drive. He summarized that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was discussed and how much to include in the fiscal year 2024 budget and also trust funds. \$460K of CIP items should be in the proposed budget. Other recommendations for trust funds and \$1M for parking lot need consideration. Requesting funding for an engineering study will be asked from trust funds. New requirements are impacting the cost. How to handle the cost of the parking lot will be discussed. The consolidation/reconfiguration RFI was discussed. The Regional CTE agreement and funding was discussed. We are close to entering an agreement to do work on design for two middle schools, the high school, and CTE. Public participation on the building committee will be asked. The FY' 22 audit was discussed. Taxes will be impacted by how much we return. Extraordinary needs grant funds are going back. Next, a public hearing to accept unanticipated funds from the NH Retirement will require a public hearing. Will be scheduled soon. There is a difference in what was anticipated to receive and what has been reported in the amount of \$50K.

Budget guidance was discussed at Budget & Property. Status quo was discussed as the guidance. \$460K for CIP should be included in proposed budget as status quo to what was budgeted this year. Kimberly Saunders said that she considers this part of the budget guidance.

Dick Dunning said that it was clear that you operate under the budget that was in place for this year. He said that it was clear. It was confirmed that it was clear.

Jim Fredrickson asked how the committee reports should be handled.

Janine Lesser said that the larger points should be reported with any board action required pulled out. The report was in early to allow the board to look at it.

The Education Committee report was also uploaded into the drive.

d. Education Committee- Stephen Ullman

Stephen Ullman reported that last night's meeting concentrated on learning recovery at the high school. Summer program updates were shared. Courses were aimed at students to earn credits needed, recover lost credits, and increase student skills in content areas. 81 students were enrolled.

Stephen shared that Elizabeth Moore stated that more attended for credit recovery than ever before. Combining credit recovery with an enrichment course was popular.

Priority standards must be mastered before credit can be awarded.

Plans for Summer 2023 Academy are to continue. Increased communication will take place.

e. Policy Committee – Crista Salamy

Crista Salamy reported that Policy met tonight and will be bringing one policy forward for a first read.

Other policies will be reworded.

Principals and Assistant Principals will be met with at the November 1st meeting to discuss dress code.

7. Old Business

a. Legislative Update

Kimberly Saunders reported Legislative Service Requests are coming in fast. More to come after the election.

Janine Lesser reported receiving a letter from the Finance Committee Chair saying that the request to continue the 7.5% for retirement will be considered when they start budget development at the end of January.

Stephen Ullman said that just eleven years ago, the State was making a major contribution to the retirement.

8. New Business

a. RFI Update

Janine Lesser reported some progress but more to come and that it will be brought back to the board.

b. Expense and Encumbrances (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt reported that salary and benefit lines are looking more in order.

She continues to watch energy costs as we enter into the heating season.

Dick Dunning moved to approve the Expense and Encumbrance Report as presented. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous.

c. Field Trip Proposal (Board Vote Required)

1) South Meadow School, 8th grade students, travel to Washington, DC from April 17th – 21st, 2023 as part of the 8th grade curriculum for Social Studies.

Dick Dunning moved to accept the Field Trip Proposal as presented. Kevin Pobst seconded. Unanimous.

d. Position Justifications

Position justifications were referenced to add three paraprofessionals in the current school year to support students' needs that are directly related to IEPs.

Kevin Pobst moved to approve the staff increases as presented. Dick Dunning seconded.

Stephen Ullman asked if this isn't legally mandated.

Kimberly Saunders said that Board could choose not to appropriate money and it would have to be funded in other ways.

Unanimous.

Kevin Pobst asked for update about the consequences with challenges with the need for bus drivers.

Kimberly Saunders reported that we have had to get transportation from other places. For example, a recreation van from the Town of Peterborough was used for golf. Other efforts have allowed transportation to be juggled. Thank you to Kevin Proctor and Lori Schmidt for their efforts in this area.

Other challenges have put ConVal in a pinch with special education transportation and a bus route. If people are concerned about busing and it is athletic related, contact Mr. Proctor first. Contact Lori Schmidt with general transportation questions and concerns. If the concern is special education related, contact Ben Moenter. There are not enough bus drivers. Kimberly Saunders encouraged the public to drive a bus or become a substitute teacher.

9. Public Comment

None

10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Lori Schmidt certified that manifests totaling \$2,612,958.35 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 presented. Alan Edelkind seconded. Unanimous.

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

a. Legal

b. Personnel

c. Negotiations

d. Student

Alan Edelkind moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 8:06 p.m. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Dick Dunning motioned to exit Non-Public Session at 8:39 pm. Greg Kriebel second. Unanimous.

Tom Burgess motioned to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session in perpetuity. Dick Dunning seconded. Unanimous.

Dick Dunning motioned to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Stephen Ullman seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok