

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road

Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Physical Location: SAU #1 Board Room

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

Minutes

BOARD

William Bryk, Tom Burgess,
Richard Dunning, Alan Edelkind,
Jim Fredrickson, Dan Harper,
Katherine Heck, Michael Hoyt,
Thomas Kirlin (7:09), Greg Kriebel,
Janine Lesser, Erin Pils-Martin,
Liz Swan

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Brian Cisneros, B.A.
Heather McKillop, CVHS
Adam Caragher, GBS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Dick Dunning called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Nomination of District Clerk and Swearing in of New Board Member and Clerk

- a. Brian Cisneros - District Clerk (this occurred after Erin Pils-Martin; a. and b. were switched)

Jim Fredrickson moved to appoint Brian Cisneros as District Clerk. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous.

Bob Edwards, District Moderator, swore in Brian Cisneros as District Clerk.

- b. Erin Pils-Martin - Board Member

Bob Edwards, District Moderator, swore in Erin Pils-Martin as School Board Member representing Antrim and the ConVal School District.

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

- a. Legal

William Bryk moved to enter into Non-Public Session at 7:05 p.m. Seconded. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Greg Kriebel moved to exit Non-Public Session at 8:07 p.m. William Bryk seconded. Unanimous.

4. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders shared various Points of Pride as shared by administrators.

5. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Brian Cisneros certified that manifests listed, totaling \$2,067,132.67 have been reviewed by him 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 shared. Tom Burgess seconded. Unanimous.

6. Public Comment

Mike Williamson, Sharon, spoke about State scores for proficiency and the loss of students since COVID. Sharon residents pay \$25K for ConVal while New Ipswich pays much less. He said that students and families are suffering.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes

1) August 15, 2023

b. Personnel

1) Nominations

The Consent Agenda was accepted.

6. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

1) Policy Chair and Meetings

The Monthly Events calendars for September and October were reviewed. When Policy meets, meeting dates and a new chair will be discussed.

Kimberly Saunders reported that there are 16.75 open positions currently exist; 9 paras, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 COTA Assistant, 2.75 math at CVHS, 1 custodian, and 2 CTE positions open.

b. School Board Requests

Kimberly reported that there are no outstanding School Board requests.

c. September 1st Enrollment Update

Enrollment information was reviewed. Enrollment remains the same as last year at this point. There is currently a wait list for preschool.

d. Annual Assessment Schedule

Dr. Ann Forrest spoke about the Assessment Schedule. Policy ILBA was referenced that requires an assessment schedule be shared with the Board and all staff.

In addition to State Assessments, District Assessments are listed broken down by Fall, Winter, and Spring. The SAT is now 2 hours and 14 minutes rather than 3 hours. The SAT is moving to a different platform this year. Writing for grades 3-8 will include new writing prompts and a new scoring rubric for the narrative writing prompts.

7. Reports

a. Strategic Organization Committee - Alan Edelkind

Alan Edelkind shared information about a Press Release.

The Monadnock Ledger Transcript published information in their Viewpoints section and The Keene Sentinel did so recently as well.

A Selectmen's Letter for each town was referenced. ConVal is paying postage and town costs were outlined. Mailings will be completed by Friday.

Activities with Prismatic were outlined with meeting dates shared.

November 15th is the date of the Data Party, which is a sharing of information.

b. Selectmen's Advisory Committee – Alan Edelkind

Alan Edelkind reported that Tatia Prieto, Prismatic Services, attended and spoke with members about the work underway.

c. Budget & Property Committee – Jim Fredrickson

Passed over.

8. Old Business

a. Pierce School Playground

A "Fact Sheet" was referenced related to new law HB 467-FN.

The definition of a resilient solid surface came under debate.

A decision of the board to accept the gift from the PTO and an additional \$11K and \$840.00 was asked.

Greg Kriebel asked if this should be run through legal. Kimberly Saunders said that she could take it to legal.

Tom Kirlin suggested a locking hinge that zips together be used.

Tom Burgess moved that per laws greenlighting that this project be approved for initial funding. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

b. Budget Guidance

This will be discussed at the next Budget & Property Committee meeting and brought to the board.

c. 4th School Board Goal Consideration

Janine Lesser referenced Goal: Stand Up 4 Public Schools, as a fourth goal.

Janine said that there is misinformation and negative press in the public market place.

It is important that school board members stand up for public education and it symbolizes our belief and support of staff, administrators, and students. Janine said that she looked at marketing strategies. A commitment could be made to participate in some of the suggested activities and reported back on. Sharing what goes on in the classroom should be reported on by members.

Dick Dunning said that visiting schools is important to administration and staff. Janine suggested writing a letter to the local paper about the visit afterward. One could also attend an athletic event and report on it.

Dan Harper said that he liked the final bullet to “develop a chart listing the differences between public schools, charter schools, and private schools etc. The Board unanimously accepted the fourth goal.

d. Policies – 2nd Read/Adoption

- KFA: Public Conduct on School Property

William Bryk moved to adopt this policy as presented. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous.

- JLCF: Wellness

William Bryk moved to adopt this policy as presented. Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous.

9. New Business

a. Accept Gift/Donation (Board Vote Required)

1) ConVal High School requests authorization to accept from Terry Lantz, the gift/donation of a Yamaha Portable PA System valued at \$900.00 for the purpose of use at various high school events. (pg. 20)

Greg Kriebel moved to accept the gift as outlined. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

2) The Region 14 Applied Technology Center requests authorization to accept from Hypertherm Associates, the gift/donation of Powermax 65/85 Plasma Arc Cutting System valued at \$15,000 for the purpose of instructing students using industry standard equipment and software to cut metal.

William Bryk moved to accept the gift as outlined. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

3) The Region 14 Applied Technology Center requests authorization to accept from PI Physik Instruments the following gift/donation of metal stock valued at \$500 for the purpose of providing metal for students to practice welding on.

William Bryk moved to accept the gift as outlined. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

10. Public Comment

None.

Kimberly Saunders shared information in 21/22, Jaffrey-Rindge average cost and Mascenic was \$17,340.00. The average cost per student across NH exceeds \$19K.

Katherine Heck asked that a School Board delegate attend a meeting on Saturday, October 14th at the Grappone Center. It is a policy setting conference. Anyone interested in representing ConVal? Resolutions will be voted on. The full board votes and the delegate brings it forward. Anyone interested should let Dick Dunning know.

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

a. Negotiations

b. Student

William Bryk moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II at 8:56 p.m. Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous.

Erin Pils-Martin motioned to exit Non-Public Session at 9:06 p.m. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

Erin Pils-Martin motioned to authorize discretion on ESSER funds. Jim Fredrickson seconded. Mike Hoyt abstained. All others in favor. Motion carried.

Janine Lesser motioned to move forward with the SKIP lease. Seconded. Unanimous.

Janine Lesser moved to seal the minutes of both Non-Public sessions for a period of five (5) years. William Bryk seconded. Unanimous.

12. Adjourn

William Bryk motioned to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. Greg Kriebel seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok