

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

CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Immediately following Public Hearing that begins 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,
Dan Harper, Katherine Heck,
Michael Hoyt, Thomas Kirlin,
Janine Lesser, Erin Pils-Martin,
Liz Swan

Lucy Jackson, Student Rep.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Supt.
Dr. Ann Forrest, Asst. Supt.
Brian Cisneros, B.A.
Tim Grossi, Facilities
Larry Pimental, PES
Tim Conway, SMS
Heather McKillop, CVHS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Dick Dunning called the School Board meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Points of Pride

Kimberly Saunders reported out on Points of Pride as reported to her by administrators.

Kimberly Saunders recognized Liz Swan, outgoing School Board member representing Temple and the ConVal School District for her years of service on the Board.

Kimberly also recognized Katherine Heck, outgoing School Board member representing Greenfield and the ConVal School District for her years of service on the Board.

Dick Dunning said that Liz and Katherine will be greatly missed. The majority of people do not understand the number of hours that board members put in. He said that he appreciates their insight.

3. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Brian Cisneros certified that Manifests totaling \$1,589,719.98 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.

Katherine Heck motioned to approve the Manifests as read. Jim Fredrickson seconded. Unanimous.

4. Public Comment

Tom Kirlin spoke as a citizen of Frankestown. He said that he was asked about the meeting on March 6th at the Dublin Library. People asked how it happened and if it was a School Board event.

Alan Edelkind said that it is not a School Board event.

Dick Dunning said that the Board does not respond to Public Comment and he did not want to take exception.

Tom Kirlin further asked to inquire about your (Dick's) presence for a mandatory meeting with teacher.

Kimberly Saunders said that a meeting was asked for but it was not required. She was asked by the Board Chair to see if staff would come, not required, to listen to information.

Tom Kirlin asked the topic and what was discussed. Was there any opposing position board member invited?.

Dick Dunning asked Tom to respond to the Board Chair directly, not in Public Comment, and an answer could be provided.

5. Reports

a. Student Representative – Lucy Jackson

Lucy Jackson reported that the week before vacation was Spirit Week; it was very spirited. In addition, Lucy shared various student recognitions.

b. Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Katherine Heck said that reconfiguration and budgets were discussed at the last SAC Meeting. The lawsuit and education funding were discussed. The formula for funding apportionment is required in the Articles of Agreement.

c. Policy Committee – Katherine Heck

Katherine Heck reported that the Policy Committee met last week. We have significant work ahead in terms of policy updates and legislative changes. She encouraged board members to make sure they read the policies in the packet or join the Policy Committee.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Acceptance of School Board Meeting Minutes

1) February 20, 2024

b. Personnel

c. March 1st Enrollment Update

The Consent Agenda was accepted.

7. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Monthly Events Calendar

The Monthly Events Calendar for March was reviewed.

b. School Board Requests

Kimberly Saunders reported being all caught up on School Board Requests.

8. Old Business

None.

9. New Business

a. Expense and Encumbrances (Board Vote Required) – Brian Cisneros

Brian Cisneros referenced the Expense and Encumbrance report.

Tom Burgess motioned to approve the Expense and Encumbrance Report and the encumbrances therein. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

b. Budget Transfers (Board Vote Required) – Brian Cisneros

Brian Cisneros referenced \$446,660.00 in budget transfer requests.

Katherine Heck moved to approve the budget transfers as presented. Erin Pils-Martin seconded. Unanimous.

c. Policies – 1st Read (Board Vote Required)

IKL: Academic Honesty and Integrity

IHBAM: Special Education Procedures Manual

The above two policies were referenced for first reads. Comments and questions should be sent to Kimberly.

d. Calendars SY'24-25

Next year's draft calendar was referenced. Kimberly shared her surprise that parents really wanted an extended recess from December into January.

Erin Pils-Martin motioned to accept the calendar as presented. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

e. Graduation Date

Kimberly Saunders said that June 8th is the date that graduation is being asked. There will be no rain date so if it rains it will be inside, otherwise outside.

Liz Swan motioned to approve the date of graduation on June 8th. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

f. Request to Accept Gift/Donation

1) Pierce School requests authorization to accept a new electric range stove/oven for the kitchen valued at \$600.00 from The Pierce School PTO for the purpose of replacing the current appliance for use by student cooking classes, after-school programs, community suppers.

Katherine Heck moved to approve the generous gift from the Pierce School PTO. Erin Pils-Martin seconded. Unanimous.

g. School Board Candidates for Chair and Vice-Chair – Q&A

Tonight, is the night that those running for Chair and Vice-Chair take the opportunity to speak.

Alan Edelkind said that he is running again for Vice-Chair. It has been an honor and he has learned an awful lot. Doing things for a School District is very different from business.

A lot of work has been done on the reconfiguration project. He feels he has worked very well with Dick and Kimberly and working hard to represent the entire District.

Dick Dunning said that when he first came on the Board he said that he did not want to be Chair. He then Chaired several committees and became Board Chair. He felt that he could be helpful. He has one more year on the Board. He found working with Kimberly has been rewarding to him. Working with Alan has been a treat. The board members work well together whether they agree or disagree. Everyone has been open and honest. He thanked everyone for the opportunity.

10. Public Comment

Doug Sutherland, Hancock, said that it has been a very long year for this board. He wanted to express his gratitude and appreciation for their work. He shared thanks to all on behalf of him and his family and making tough decisions. He said that he knows that the board is putting children first.

Tom Kirlin asked the board to consider making a public statement that says we will not close any elementary school until any plan is complete.

Dick Dunning said that as a board member, you can always ask the board to do something at a board meeting and have the board respond at a board meeting, but not in public comment. We don't respond to public comment and want to be fair to everyone.

Dick closed the public hearing at 7:31 p.m.

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

- a. Negotiations**
- b. Personnel**
- c. Student**
- d. Legal**

Katherine Heck moved to enter into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,II for matters of legal and personnel at 7:35 p.m.

Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Katherine Heck moved to exit Non-Public Session at 8:13 p.m. Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous.

Tom Burgess motioned to waive attorney client privilege about the disposition of real property. Katherine Heck seconded. Unanimous.

Katherine Heck moved to accept the discussion as presented by the board to extend the contract and compensation that was agreed upon by the board.

Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous.

Katherine Heck moved to reenter Non-Public Session at 8:17 p.m. for matters of personnel and negotiations. Unanimous on a roll call vote.

Janine Lesser moved to exit Non-Public Session at 8:26 p.m. Erin Pils-Martin seconded. Unanimous.

Erin Pils-Martin moved to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session(s) for a period of five years. Tom Burgess seconded. Unanimous.

12. Adjourn

Erin Pils-Martin motioned to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Liz Swan seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok