

## SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January 7, 2015

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday January 7, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ms. Janice Bennett, Chair, in room 137 at Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH. The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:           Janice Bennett, Chair  
  Jon LeBlanc  
  Corey Masson  
  Wendy Miller  
  Dustin Ramey, Vice Chair  
  Nancy Ross  
  Isabella Dunham, Student Council Representative

ADMINISTRATORS:                   Dr. Brian J. Blake, Superintendent of Schools  
  Carol Coppola, Business Manager

EXCUSED:                               John Morano  
  Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services

The meeting began with a salute to the flag.

### REVIEW AGENDA

### MINUTES

Mr. LeBlanc made a motion to approve the December 17, 2014, public and non-public meeting minutes. Mr. Masson seconded the motion. Ms. Bennett asked if there were any omissions or corrections. Mr. Masson stated that a lot of the material concerning the budget was not noted in the meeting minutes. He asked how this could be accomplished. Dr. Blake stated that this would be duly noted and that Mr. Masson may prepare an addendum to the December 17, 2014, meeting minutes. Mr. Ramey requested that the following be added to his comments under "b. Budget": **We, as a district, can't keep/sustain the percentage increases that we have seen.** Under Administrative Report **Dan Armitelli should be Dan Ianatelli** All in favor to approve the December 17<sup>th</sup> public and non-public meeting minutes with the noted corrections.

**MANIFEST**

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #12 -\$325,000; Payroll #13 - \$778,563.01.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT** None

**STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT** Isabella reported that the students are working on Winter Carnival. They are currently working on theme days. Winter Carnival is February 16 – 20<sup>th</sup>. Isabella also reported that she started conversation with the Student Council on working with the Diversity Club.

**SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Negotiations: Mr. LeBlanc reported that they have come to a tentative agreement on the Support Staff contract. Some details still need to be gone over. The School Board will discuss the negotiations later in the non-public meeting.

Budget Committee: Ms. Ross reported that the Budget Committee had met. Ms. Ross said the Committee discussed bringing a reasonable number to the public. Ms. Gannon (Budget Committee Member) proposed \$34,812,333.00 (after going through the budget/line items). The vote was six in favor; two opposed. The Budget Committee will be meeting tomorrow night (Thursday 1/8/15).

**SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT**

Ms. Bennett hoped everyone had a nice break. She said the budget figure proposed by the Budget Committee is a \$522,750 decrease from the original budget proposed. This number was derived at by looking at the various line items.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None

**SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT** Ms. Ross wished everyone a happy new year. Ms. Ross reported that the Budget Committee has done a nice job getting the word out to the public. She was wondering if the SB can do more to get the word out to the public. She stated that November through January is a short time for the budget discussion. Ms. Ross spoke of transparency. She stated she is not looking for answers, but was wondering if the process can be improved. Mr. Masson said he agreed with Ms. Ross. Mr. Masson said it's all about disclosing, simplifying and disseminating the information to the public. Ms. Bennett stated she thinks the SB is very transparent. She doesn't know if transparency is the "right" word. She thinks there needs to be a better word. Mr. Masson stated maybe there's too much information presented and it's not all being captured. Ms. Coppola suggested an Executive Summary – a document which would stand on its own.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. 2015-2016 School Calendar: Dr. Blake presented the 2015-2016 school calendar. He stated that the District tries to meet up with the SST calendar so students don't miss out on classes. August 31, 2015 is the first day of school for students. August 27th and 28th are Staff Workshop days. He stated there are 181 student days and 185 teacher days. Mr. Masson asked how many All Staff workdays there were. **Two.** Dr. Blake reported that there is a Professional Staff day in November. In March there is an All Staff workshop. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the draft 2015-2016 Sanborn Regional School District Academic School Calendar. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Dr. Blake explained that there is a staff meeting every Wednesday after school. This time is for PLC (Professional Learning Community) and time for group meetings. Dr. Blake asked the SB what their thoughts were on having school start late as opposed to the early release days that the District now has for workshops. Mr. Masson thinks it a great idea. Mr. LeBlanc stated it may be an issue for parents who work.

b. SREA Support Staff Contract will be discussed during the non-public meeting.

c. Warrant Articles: A draft of the 2015 School District Warrant was distributed. Dr. Blake opened up the discussion by stating he would like to see the voting in Newton moved back to the Memorial School, where it is more conducive to voting and a safer location. Dr. Blake said he would be pursuing this with the Town of Newton. A discussion followed on the Warrant Articles. **Article 5** would **Expand the use of the Facility Use Revolving Fund** to be used for maintenance, technology cost, and **improvement** of the District facilities **and grounds**, with said receipts to be withdrawn from the revolving fund and disbursed monthly, as needed. **Article 6, Establish Capital Reserve Fund for the Sanborn Seminary Building.** The article proposes a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be named Historic Seminary Building Fund for the purpose of funding the renovation and necessary maintenance needs of the Sanborn Seminary building and grounds in the amount of \$100,000.00. **Article 7, Establish Capital Reserve Fund for Technology.** The article proposes a capital reserve fund in the amount of \$100,000.00 to be named the Technology Fund for the purpose of funding the technology needs to the district. It was explained that technology changes so quickly, the money would be available for upgrades. Both Articles 6 and 7 would be funded from the fund balance and no amount would be raised from additional taxes. It was also explained that the articles would be funded in order of article number on the School District Warrant. (Article 6 would be fully funded before Article 7; there would be no "splits".) These items will not be funded yearly. There would need to be a warrant article each year to continue funding these reserve funds. There was some discussion concerning the order of Articles 6 and 7. Mr.

LeBlanc made a motion to approve the Warrant Articles as written and presented. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Miller made a motion to switch the order of Articles 6 and 7 so that **Article 6** would be **Establish Capital Reserve Fund for Technology**. **Article 7** would be **Establish Capital Reserve Fund for the Sanborn Seminary Building**. A discussion followed. Ms. Miller stated she would like to see a Technology Reserve Fund before the Seminary Reserve Fund. Mr. Masson agreed. Mr. Ramey stated that the order of the articles should stay as presented. No vote taken.

Mr. Masson made a motion to rescind the motion to consider the switch in order of Articles 6 and 7. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. 3 in favor; 3 against. Motion fails.

Ms. Ross made a motion to accept Articles 6 and 7 as Warrant Articles in the order as written/recorded in numerical order as written. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. 4 in favor; 2 against. Motion carries.

Ms. Miller was concerned that she wasn't able to vote as she wanted. It was explained to Ms. Miller that the Warrant Articles will come up at a future SB meeting, and SB members would be able to express at that time whether they support a warrant article or not.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT** none

**WRITTEN INFORMATION** On January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Kingston Town Hall, there will be a public hearing for a proposed solar project at the Kingston landfill which will benefit both Kingston and Newton Schools.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** Ms. Gannon stated she feels the SB has been very transparent in the budget process. Ms. Gannon stated that she does not know that the public knows/understands what the SB does. Ms. Gannon commented on the discussion of the Warrant Articles and thought it was very confusing. Ms. Gannon stated it needs to be clear to the public that the Warrant Articles proposed will be funded by the fund balance (left over money), not new taxes.

**SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT** Mr. LeBlanc apologized for the confusion surrounding his motion on the warrant articles. Ms. Bennett stated she takes the blame as SB Chair and she apologized for that.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next **regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional Budget Committee** will be held on **Thursday, January 8, at 7:30 PM, Room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston.**

The next **regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, January 21, 2015, at 7:00 PM, Room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston.**

**The Budget Committee Public Hearing will be held Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at 7:00 PM, at the Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium, Kingston.**

The next **regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM**, Room 137 at the **Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston.**

The **Filing Period** for positions on the Sanborn Regional School Board, the Sanborn Regional Budget Committee and the District Moderator will open on **Wednesday, January 21, 2015, and end on Friday, January 30, 2015 at 5:00 PM.** The candidate filing forms may be obtained at the SAU Office from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The School District Clerk will be available on the last day to file from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the SAU Office, located at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

The **First (Deliberative) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **February 4, 2015, at 7:00 PM** at the Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium, 17 Danville Road, Kingston, NH.

The **Second (Voting) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on Tuesday, **March 10, 2015, from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM** in the Swasey Gymnasium for Kingston voters and in the Newton Town Hall for Newton voters.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 IIa and c**

Ms. Ross motioned to enter into non-public session at 8:55 PM. Ms. LeBlanc polled the Board. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail M. LeBlanc

School Board Secretary

*Minutes of the School Board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the School Board.*