

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
January 4, 2012

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Nancy Ross in the School Board Room, Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH.

The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Kurt Baitz
Janice Bennett, Vice-Chairperson
James Doggett
Thomas Gasse
Rebecca Hallisey
Nancy Ross, Chairperson
Katherine Ulcickas, Student Council Representative

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services
Carol Coppola, Business Manager

REVIEW AGENDA

New Business item a. Seminary Study was moved to Administrative Reports.

MINUTES

Mr. Doggett moved to approve the December 21, 2011 minutes, public and non-public, seconded by Mr. Baitz. The vote was 5-0-1 (Bennett-abstained) to approve.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #22 - \$695,321.82 and Payroll 14 - \$677,153.23.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Sanborn Seminary Study – Ms. Bennett reported that the Seminary Committee met yesterday for a four hour discussion and prepared to bring forth a recommendation to the School Board tonight. She added that she hoped for a bond hearing next week to be followed by a strong campaign in support of a renovation. She turned the time over to Ron Lamarre of Lavallee/Brensinger Architects. He presented four options for the renovation of the Seminary building with their accompanying details and costs. He also took questions from the Board as they discussed the four options (1, 1a, 2, and 3). Mr. Doggett asked about potential utility rebates. Ms. Hallisey asked about revenue from renting the upper two levels. Mr. Baitz expressed his displeasure with the lack of support from Concord and his feeling that this is a one shot deal to get the renovation done, so for him, option 1 is out, saying that the cost would be higher if they decided to do the project in phases suggested in this option. Ms. Bennett stated that this bond would be for 10 years. Mr. Doggett believes that costs won't rise for another 5-6 years. Dr. Blake said that we have a short window in which to operate with the re-negotiations for two bargaining unit contracts on the table for next year. Ms. Ross said that this building renovation is part of the Strategic Plan and suggested taking options 1 and 3 off the table and added that she doesn't want to make a mistake with this project in its timing and execution. Ms. Hallisey suggested that we act now and do it all at once with an intent to collect revenue by renting out the unused space. After further discussion, Ms. Bennett motioned to move forward with Option 2 for the Bond, Mr. Gasse seconded and the vote was 5-1 (Doggett)-0.

Ms. Ross called for a brief recess at 8:47 pm. The meeting was back in session at 9:00 pm

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

None

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT

Ms. Ross welcomed everyone back in the new year and wished a happy new year to all.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Merritt of Kingston spoke to the quote of around 4.5 million dollars given several years ago to renovate the old high school for educational purposes and wondered about the quote for option 2 given tonight for 2.2 million for doing a more extensive renovation. He stated that this reuse plan is not in line with the Strategic Plan, saying that the community wanted the campus to be a new middle school and he talked about the inadequacies of our current Middle School facility and campus. He reiterated that the Seminary campus is better suited for a new middle school, for educational purposes and that we already own it.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Bennett responded to the public speaker by reading directly from the Strategic Plan which states that the building be renovated for mixed use and for profit. She added that renovating for student use is more expensive and has a whole different price point. **Mr. Merritt** asked if any estimate was given for student use of the building. **Ms. Bennett** replied that the only price we've ever been given for educational use was for the proposed high school renovation years ago but none for a middle school. **Mr. Doggett** added that the former quote came from Lavalley/Brensinger.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

b. Warrant Articles – Dr. Blake distributed the current Warrant Articles draft for the Board to review. He referred to Article 5 and asked the Board if the \$50,000 should be changed to \$20,000 as was discussed in the last Board meeting. They agreed on the \$20,000. Mr. Baitz suggested deleting Article 5 altogether in light of the Seminary renovation bond in Article 3. The Board discussed the pros and cons of deleting #5. After discussion, Mr. Baitz motioned to withdraw Article #5, Ms. Bennett seconded and the vote was 4- 2 (opposed-Hallisey, Doggett)-0.

c. Budget – a report will be given at the next Board meeting.

d. Policies – Mr. Doggett asked that the language in paragraph four for policy GCCAD Military Leave be clarified and fixed. Ms. Bennett motioned to approve the five policies as listed on the document date January 4, 2012 for First Reading. Mr. Doggett seconded and the vote was 6-0-0.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

Dr. Blake reported on four communications received or sent to the district: He sent a letter to Mr. Wilson of the Kingston Planning Board to decline our financial participation in the impact fee study. He received an email from Principal Brian Stack to Al Magnusson commending his team for their high level of sportsmanship this season. Dr. Blake reported that Mr. Rutherford received a letter from NEAS&C commending the Middle School on its continued accreditation after its review and acceptance of the Five-Year Progress Report. He then asked for a motion to approve the acceptance of a \$1000 donation from a family to fund bullying awareness at the Memorial School. Mr. Doggett motioned to approve, Ms. Bennett seconded and the vote was 6-0-0.

WRITTEN INFORMATION

None

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Warrant Articles

Review of bond hearing

Report from Budget Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Gannon of Kingston said that in the announcements there was no public hearing date for the Budget. She also said that in the public packet there were no warrant articles included. She asked for the length of the warrant article #3 bond (10 years). She concluded by asking if the Board was interested in having the bond hearing videotaped and that she would offer her services. (yes)

Michael Merritt of Kingston said that he was curious to know if it has ever been discussed to give the Seminary Building back to the Trustees and just disassociate ourselves from it.

Mary Cyr of Kingston commented that she had just attended the PAC meeting with Mr. Stack here at the High School where they discussed the "Climate and Culture" survey results. She asked if the Board had seen the results and reported that she was struck by the disparity between the opinions of teachers and students on the quality of education and the follow-through, accountability, enforceability, and consequences for behavioral issues. She continued that she found the discipline rubric language difficult to interpret, that it was not definitive, that behavior expectations and consequences are aloof and fuzzy and she appealed to the Board to re-evaluate behavior and discipline policies and asked for clearer language. She reminded the Board that children crave boundaries and asked that discipline consequences be made effective and enforceable.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Doggett asked that a letter be sent to NEAS&C to inform them that the Middle School is comprised of students from both Newton and Kingston (the letter stated Newton only in the second paragraph).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, January 18, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Room 100, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- b. The **Public Bond Hearing** for Renovating Historic Seminary Building will be held on **Monday, January 9, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, room 100, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- c. The next **Budget Committee** Meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 5, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Room 100, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- d. The next **Public Relations Committee** Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 25, 2012** at 8:00 am at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.
- e. The next **Policy Committee** Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 25, 2012** at 9:00 am at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.
- f. The **Public Budget Hearing** will be held on **Wednesday, January 11, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Library, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

- g. The next **Facilities Committee** Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 25, 2012** at 10:00 am at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 IIc – student issue and legal

Mr. Doggett motioned to enter into non-public session at 9:51 pm. Ms. Sargeant polled the Board.

Respectfully submitted by,

Therese Sargeant
School Board Secretary

Minutes of school board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the school board