

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January 2, 2013

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairperson Nancy Ross in room 137 at Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH. The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Janice Bennett, Vice Chairperson
 James Doggett
 Cheryl Gannon
 Rebecca Hallisey
 Wendy Miller
 Dustin Ramey
 Nancy Ross, Chairperson

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

EXCUSED: Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services

The meeting began with a salute to the flag. Following the salute to the flag, Ms. Ross asked for a moment of silence in respect to the victims of the Newtown school shootings.

Ms. Ross began the meeting by commending Dr. Blake on his handling of the public concern regarding the Newtown school shootings. Dr. Blake's handling of the news media and the parent concerns were "handled beautifully". The lines of communication were kept open. Letters went home to parents. Ms. Ross stated, "I have nothing but praise for Dr. Blake".

REVIEW AGENDA

13. Unfinished business – 2013 Warrant Articles - will be discussed at the next SB meeting.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 5 and 10, 2012 meetings were reviewed. Mr. Doggett made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Bennett seconded the motion. In regards to the December 5, 2012, meeting minutes Ms. Ross asked that on page 3 regarding her response to Ms. Gannon's question concerning the "extras", that "**Although these are federal mandates, does not mean the federal government pays for the "extras"**" be added to the paragraph. Ms. Bennett asked that in response to Ms. Hallisey's question on activity fees that "**anecdotal**" be inserted before discussion. It should read, "An anecdotal discussion was held . . .". On page 5, Ms. Gannon asked that **School Board Comment** be added above the first paragraph.

Concerning the December 10, 2012, minutes Dr. Blake introduced **Ms. DeAngelis** not Ms. Daniels as noted. Ms. Ross polled the board to accept the minutes as corrected. All in favor.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #17 - \$766,772.77
Payroll - #13a \$417.63 -; Payroll #14 - \$712,263.01

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Blake reported that there are Emergency Response Plans in every school. He spoke of the National Incidence Command System which enables local and federal agencies to communicate with one another in the “same language”. He reported that there are a number of online courses that the administrators have available to them. Some of these online courses include: Safety Procedures, Assaults, Bomb Threats, Hostage Situations, Secure Campus Procedures, Lock Downs, and Suicide. He reported that every school in the District participates in one safety drill per month.

In October 2011 Emergency Plans were prepared and are in place in all schools. Dr. Blake passed around some of the Emergency Plans for the SB members to review. Each school has emergency numbers on hand. He further stated that all school buildings are locked during the school day. Currently, the District is looking at the cost of installing bullet proof glass in the schools. Classroom doors currently lock from the outside (in the hallway). The District is looking at the costs of changing the locks so that doors can be locked from inside the classroom. The Bus Company, First Student, has extensive protocols in place regarding emergencies. Currently, First Student will not drop students in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade at a bus stop if there is not someone there to meet the student. Dr. Blake emphasized that there are extensive protocols in place to keep “our kids” safe. The high school has a safety officer in place during school hours. Dr. Blake then asked the SB members their opinion of the NRA suggestion that an armed officer be placed in every school. Ms. Gannon asked what the qualifications were of a safety officer. Dr. Blake responded that the high school safety officer is a trained, former police officer. Dr. Blake also responded that there is police presence at all the schools at the beginning and the end of the day. Ms Gannon asked if there is a job description for the safety officer? Yes. Dr. Blake reinforced that there are safety plans in place for the District as well as an additional “layer” in place concerning emergencies at Seabrook Power Plant. Administrators are trained in securing their buildings or shutting down/bringing down a building (shutting down electric, water, heat) in an emergency situation. Ms. Miller asked if there is a protocol in place for when students are outside? Yes, a reverse evacuation would take place. Ms. Gannon asked if students know not to let anyone in the schools? Yes Ms. Bennett asked if there were any alarms sounded when an outside door is opened? No. Dr. Blake responded that systems are in place for student safety and reviewed regularly. Ms.

Gannon asked if substitutes are trained in the front office on admitting people into the school. Dr. Blake responded that the schools do not hire subs in the office. Staff members cover lunch and breaks and they are trained. Dr. Blake also responded that there are “panic buttons” in select offices which go directly to the Police Departments.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Bennett reported that the Negotiations Committee had met and the SB would be going into non-public session following tonight’s meeting to discuss the tentative agreements. Ms. Gannon reported on the Budget Committee. She also referred to an email that the SB members received prior to tonight’s meeting. Ms. Gannon stated that there was overwhelming concern amongst the Budget Committee about whether the negotiated contracts would pass. She spoke of the Budget Committee’s concern that the budget needed to be reduced in order for the contracts to pass. She stated that the Budget Committee had a lot of discussion on what to cut from the budget. Several BC members felt that full day kindergarten should not be implemented. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the Budget Committee Meeting. Ms. Ross asked if cuts were based on enrollment, not academics. Ms. Gannon responded yes. Ms. Gannon was asked what the rationale (of the BC) was for not endorsing the full day kindergarten? Ms. Gannon responded that some BC members felt that full time kindergarten is “day care” and that by offering full time kindergarten, members in the community would be losing employment Ms. Gannon stated that the BC is concerned about the economy and did not want the proposed budget to take support away from the upcoming contract vote.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENT

Ms. Ross wished everyone a happy new year. She also reminded the SB that the packets they received are due the end of January.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Miller thanked Dr. Blake for all the updates on the recent Newtown news. Ms. Hallisey also thanked Dr. Blake for the open lines of communication. “It was well received” in the community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. 2013 Warrant Articles will be discussed at the next SB meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2013-2014 Calendar - Mr. Doggett made a motion to accept the 2013-2014 school year calendar with the Superintendent's recommendations. Ms. Bennett seconded the motion. All in favor to accept the 2013-2014 school year calendar with the Superintendent's recommendations.

b. Policies. Mr. Doggett made a motion to accept the reaffirmed, revised and new policies from the January 2, 2013 Policy Committee Meeting. All in favor to accept the reaffirmed, revised and new policies from the January 2, 2013 Policy Committee Meeting.

c. SAU Office/Charter School Discussion – Ms. Coppola reported on the current lease with the Charter school. The Charter School has no intention for further growth and no need for more space. Dr. Blake spoke of some of the concerns with the current SAU office space which include air quality, structural integrity and the lack of private space for confidential discussions. Ms. Ross asked Ms. Coppola to explore alternatives and financial costs to repair the SAU office building and the costs of building a “free standing”, separate structure. Mr. Coppola replied that she is currently exploring alternatives. She is in the process of getting “facts and figures”.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT: Ms. Ross reported that she received a letter from Ms. Judy Rubin asking about the status of the Seminary building.

WRITTEN INFORMATION: Memorial School Newsletter, Monthly District Activities calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENT none

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Gannon attended two concerts – the MS Band and the Bakie concert. She stated they were “tremendous, excellent, nice selection of music”. The Bakie recorder concert was “excellent”. Ms. Gannon commended the District music program. She also reported that there was a “celebrity guest” – Ms. Bennett performed an oboe concert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on Wednesday, **January 16, 2013, at 7:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.**

The **Budget Committee Public Hearing** will be held on **Wednesday, January 9, 2013, at 7:00 PM** at the **Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium, 17 Danville Road, 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 23, 2013**, and end on **Friday, February 1, 2013, 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, 178 Main Street, Kingston.*

The **First (Deliberative) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 6, 2013, at 7:00 PM** at the **Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium**, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

The **Second (Voting) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 12, 2013, from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM** in the Swasey Gym (Sanborn Seminary Campus) for Kingston voters and in the Newton Town Hall for Newton voters.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – Talbot vs. Concord

Mr. Doggett motioned to enter into non-public session at 10:05 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.