

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

April 17, 2013

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday April 17, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by School Board Chairperson Ms. Jan Bennett, in room 137 at Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH. The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Janice Bennett, Chairperson
 Rebecca Hallisey, Vice Chairperson
 Renee King
 Jon LeBlanc
 Wendy Miller
 Dustin Ramey
 Nancy Ross
 Molly Statezni, Student Council Representative

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

The meeting began with a salute to the flag.

School Board Recognition

Dr. Blake reported that Mr. Doggett RSVPd that he was not able to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Doggett requested that Ms. Pomykato bring the "plaque" by his store on her way to Newton one day.

REVIEW AGENDA

Under School Board Committee Reports: add **b. PR Committee**

MINUTES

Minutes of the April 3, 2013 (public and non-public) were reviewed. Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Hallisey seconded the motion. Ms. Hallisey requested the following additions to the April 3, 2013, meeting minutes. **In regards to the presentation by Mr. Stack and Mr. Rutherford on drug and alcohol issues at the MS and HS some of the questions asked by the SB members included: What drugs are mostly found? Marijuana. When are students using the drugs? Mostly on the weekends, not in school. Who is supplying the drugs/alcohol? Parents and the community. The feeling is that some parents**

rather have their kids drinking at their homes where they won't get hurt. Students are getting prescription drugs from parent's medicine cabinets. Do dog searches usually find anything? Rarely, the students keep the drugs in their cars, not in their lockers. The school can't search the student's cars. Is there a system in place for student informers? Do students know how/who to report drugs/alcohol to? No, there is no system in place for students to report to. However, students can talk in person, email, send an anonymous letter. There is a huge reluctance on the student's part to report on other students. Students are scared of repercussions. One of the SB members suggested a Tip Line be put in place. Mr. LeBlanc asked if the administrators had seen e-cigarettes in the schools. No. Ms. Ross asked if the student's luggage is checked before the senior trip? Yes, before all trips, regardless of the trip. Under School Board Comment. Ms. Hallisey attended the MS play. Carol Meisenheimer did a great job. On page 3, under written communication, it should read "Ms." Ross. The time frames on the Non-Public Session minutes were not accurate. All in favor to accept the SB minutes with corrections/additions.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #24 - \$226,942.45; Payroll #21 - \$763,014.03.

Dr. Blake reported that he received an email from a SB member inquiring whether the SB members could receive the manifest earlier than Wednesday afternoons. It was explained that the deadline in the business office is Monday at 10:00 AM for payment requests. The manifest report is generated from the check run. Dr. Blake stated that an option would be to form a finance sub-committee that would meet before the SB meetings. The finance sub-committee would be the one signing off on the manifest, not the entire SB.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr Blake introduced Ms. Ellen Hume-Howard and Mr. Michael Turmelle who did a presentation on Competency Based Learning. A hand out entitled, "A District Guide to Standards and Competencies" was distributed. "When all schools use the same standards, there is consistency across the District in what is being taught and learned." Credit is awarded based on competency. Ms. Ross asked if competency was based on the end of the year expectations or by grading period. It was stated that the students are graded by grading period. Some board members expressed concern that there is a feeling in the community that students couldn't fail at Sanborn. Mr. Turmelle responded that it is correct that students are allowed to retake tests at Sanborn, but not because Sanborn won't fail students, it's so students have the opportunity to truly learn the subject matter. Extended learning opportunities were discussed online courses are available as well as after school instruction. At some point in the future, teacher evaluation will be based on student learning. Ms. Miller stated the SB needs to get this

information out to the community. The Common Core goal is to get kids college and career ready. Molly Statezni, the Student Council Rep was asked what she felt about Competency Based grading. Molly stated that (in her opinion) the teachers don't talk about competency. She said emphasis is based on summatives, formatives don't count. She expressed some frustration about the process of averaging grades. The SB members thanked her for her honest answers and told her they did not mean to put her "on the spot".

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Molly reported that the HS was celebrating Earth Week this week. The students had a recycling contest – each grade level has a bin. The winning class would be treated to a freeze pop party. A winter clean out is underway – giving community members an opportunity to donate clothes which in turn the Student Council will donate the clothes to a charity. Students celebrated blue and green day – students dressed in green and blue. The Student Council is working on a plant sale to be held sometime in June with the proceeds to go to a homeless shelter.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

The Facilities Committee met. Options for the SAU Office permanent housing were discussed. Ms. Hallisey reported that the PR Committee had met. Discussions included how to improve the public perception of Sanborn. Also discussed was the SB continuing to work towards transparency to the public. It was suggested that the District Facebook pages be consolidated to one Facebook page. They discussed Mr. LeBlanc's suggestion that SB minutes be emailed to community members. The June edition of Essential News was discussed. Topics for the next Essential News include: how to improve community perception of the schools; getting info out to the community and being more proactive about getting info out to the community.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT Ms. Bennett stated she appreciated the work done by Ms. Hume-Howard and Mr. Turmelle concerning Competency Based Learning. "This is a huge change nationally in thinking." "Hope for the best."

PUBLIC COMMENT Mr. Bart Noyes asked the SB members to make a motion to direct the Superintendent of Schools that all SB meetings be taped and made available to the public. Ms. Gannon stated this was her first SB meeting since leaving the SB. She welcomed Mr. LeBlanc and Ms. King. She wanted to recognize Mr. Doggett and thank him for his many years of service. "Very generous of him to offer his services." "Mr. Doggett always gave lots of lively discussion", she did not always agree with Mr. Doggett, but there was lots of opportunity for debate. Ms. Gannon asked if the drug and alcohol hand out from last SB meeting was available online? She asked about the progress of finding the SAU office space. She thanked Molly for expressing her opinion so honestly.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT Ms. Ross stated that she was a guest at the Bakie School. She met with the second grade students who interviewed her concerning her years of service to the School Board. Ms. Ross stated that it was “wonderfully done”. Two students met her at the office and escorted her to the second grade wing. “Students were spectacular, lots of great questions”. Ms. Ross stated that she was pleased to be invited. The students were “respectful, so well behaved”. Dr. Blake reported that he had been a guest at the Bakie School as well. Students asked him about previous jobs before he became Superintendent. “Pretty neat, a lot of fun” stated Dr. Blake.

Ms. Miller attended the parent information night at Memorial School regarding the SASS Program. She stated it was an informative night for parents. The subject dealt with sexual assault. “Very informative.” Ms. Hallisey attended the violin concert at the HS. “Really nice, beautifully performed.” The concert was followed by a reception. The money was raised for the HS Music Boosters Club. Ms. Bennett stated that Yvette Nicole (parent) did a wonderful job coordinating the program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Filming Project: Dr. Blake reported that he is waiting for bids for installing cameras in the SB room. He has found a vendor that is able to store/host the recordings of the meetings. The plan would be to have a link on the SRSD website that would bring you to the taped SB meetings. Ms. Bennett made a motion that the next SB meeting be filmed. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

a. School lunch prices: Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the school lunch pricing for FY 2013-2014 in hand out 14a. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor of approving the increased 2013-2014 school lunch pricing.

b. School Board Retreat: Dr. Blake (after speaking with Chair Bennett) proposed that the SB have an off-site retreat or work session SB meeting. It would be an opportunity for SB members and members of the Leadership team to discuss where the District is heading and produce some goals to guide the SB/District. It would be an opportunity to collectively discuss high level topics and the challenges that lie ahead regarding the changes in education and how to meet these changes. “How do we deal with declining enrollment?”; “Facilities?”; “What is the collective vision for the school district?” Ms. Bennett responded that it is always valuable to have a group problem solving collectively. All in favor to meet on Wednesday, May 15th from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Kingston Library Meeting Room.

c. MS Extra-Curricular Athletic Nominations. Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the Spring Coaching Positions for the MS in the April 11, 2013 memorandum from Mr. Rutherford. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor to accept the nominations for the MS Spring coaching positions. Mr. LeBlanc asked how/if coaches are evaluated. It was reported the Athletic Director does evaluations at the end of the season for the sport.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

Dr. Blake received an email from a staff member inquiring about the possibility of her child attending full day kindergarten at Sanborn. The staff member does not live in the District. Dr. Blake asked for comment/discussion about staff member's children attending kindergarten in the district. Would this be one avenue for additional revenue? Would it benefit the district by retaining good staff? Do we charge tuition or not? Offer a reduced tuition? The SB members discussed the email request and it was decided that the topic needs more discussion.

WRITTEN INFORMATION: The upcoming calendar of events was distributed. A final report from the State of NH Dept. of Educ. was distributed to the SB members concerning the Title I program. In closing the report read "I commend the Title I staff for the knowledge and expertise they bring to the program, striving to meet the individual needs of the students every day. Title I at Bakie and Memorial is clearly making a difference in increasing student achievement. Keep up the GREAT work!" Ms. Pomykato spoke of an audit of the Special Ed. Program. The HS received 100% compliance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bart Noyes thanked the SB for moving forward on filming the SB meetings. He feels that there are important elements that should be recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on Wednesday, **May 8, 2013, at 7:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School**, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board work session** will be held on Wednesday, **May 15, 2013, at 6:00 PM, in the meeting room of the Kingston Library**.

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Budget Committee** will be held on Tuesday, **April 30, 2013, at 7:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School**, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

Non-Public Session- RSA91A:3 II a Administrative Salaries

Ms. Ross motioned to enter into non-public session at 9:58 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.