

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 3, 2014

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday September 3, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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
 Wendy Miller
 Nancy Ross

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

EXCUSED TARDY: Dustin Ramey, Vice Chair (7:10 PM)

EXCUSED: Corey Masson
 John Morano
 Isabella Dunham, Student Council Representative

The meeting began with a salute to the flag which was then followed by a moment of silence in honor of David Ingalls and Bruce Anderson, who passed away in an accident this past weekend. Both Mr. Ingalls and Mr. Anderson were big supporters of the Sanborn Regional School District.

REVIEW AGENDA

MINUTES

Mr. LeBlanc made a motion to approve the August 20, 2014, public and non-public meeting minutes. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Three in favor; one abstained: Ms. Ross.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #4- \$361,946.57; Payroll #5 - \$723,426.97; Payroll #5a - \$2,762.21.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Dr. Blake asked his Principals and Leadership team to report on opening day, summer projects, enrollment and goals for the year. Bob Ficker, Director of Technology, reported that summer is the busiest time of year for the Technology Department. Some of the work completed

included: Installed SCCM, a software program that allows the schools to do imaging for free; the District website was updated; server upgrades began at the Middle School; ten laptops were installed District-wide and 130 laptops were installed at the elementary schools. The Technology Department moved the SAU technology equipment to the high school; moved a Special Education class at the high school. Healthdesk software was upgraded. The District bandwidth was increased at all locations. Dr. Blake spoke of the challenges the Technology Department faced in the moving process of the SAU Office space from the old Seminary campus to the high school. He thanked Mr. Ficker and his staff for all the hours put in over the summer. Mr. Ficker noted that there has been no turnover in the Technology Department for a number of years. He commended his staff , “very sharp people”.

Mr. Brian Stack, High School Principal, thanked the SB for having him tonight. Mr. Stack distributed an events calendar and the District music calendar of events. Homecoming is Saturday, September 20th. Mr. Stack reported on the Career Pathway Learning Community Program which is in its second year. He stated that the first day of school for students was “great”. There were 708 high school students on the first day. Mr. Stack reported that this year’s opening day enrollment was slightly smaller. Fremont had 43 freshmen students attending first day. In the past, there have been up to 60 Fremont students. Mr. Stack explained that this was a “bubble” year for Fremont – not a trend. The high school welcomed ten new staff. “We have people coming to us now.” He told a story of one interview candidate who drove seven hours to interview at the high school and then drove seven hours home. (She was hired and now she and her family live in Kingston.) There is a new bell schedule at the high school, and classes are now full year. The SAU office staff moved into the high school. He thanked the custodial and technology staffs for making the moves possible and smooth. Ms. Bennett asked if Fremont would be back to their freshmen enrollment number of 55 – 60 students and Mr. Stack replied yes.

Mr. Sandy Rutherford, MS Principal, reported that the MS was off to a great start. He stated that students and staff “hit the ground running”. He reported that the custodians did a great job getting the school ready. There were 379 students on opening day and 60 staff members. The MS welcomed four new hires: one speech language therapist, two unified arts teachers and one special ed paraprofessional. Grading policies were upgraded; there will be a meeting Friday to discuss this more. The first MS dance is scheduled for Friday. The Ferry Beach field trip is scheduled for the end of October with 110 students signed up. The MS Open House is next Wednesday. Mr. Rutherford said he looks forward to a great year. “We have a great staff.”

Mr. Jon VanderEls, Memorial School Principal, and Ms. Deb Bamforth, Bakie School Principal, thanked everyone for having them tonight. They reported that their buildings were in excellent condition and stated this was a tribute to Mr. Riley and his staff's commitment. They thanked Mr. Ficker and the Technology Department for their hard work. They reported on an Assessment Summit held at Sanborn over the summer. Over 100 educators attended. They spoke of the commitment of their staff. "We have a group of staff able to share practices they practice every day. "Success is seeing kids arrive with a smile and leaving with a smile." They spoke of Writing Assessments. Bakie hired three new paraprofessionals and a new front desk/reception person. Memorial hired a new case manager and four new paraprofessionals. Next Thursday is Memorial School's Passport to Learning open house and Bakie School will hold their open house the following week. Ms. Bamforth and Mr. VanderEls spoke of the benefits of full day kindergarten – students are familiar with the routine, writing skills are improved and staff noticed an increase in student's stamina. Both Mr. VanderEls and Ms. Bamforth stated they are looking forward to a great school year.

Ms. Hume-Howard reported on the three day Assessment Summit held at Sanborn during August and the State's Policy Committee on Assessment Summit held at Sanborn the day before the Assessment Summit. 87 Sanborn teachers attended the Assessment Summit as well as 35 out of district teachers. The Assessment Summit was mostly funded through grants. "Positive experience". "Great three days". Ms. Hume-Howard reported that one of the speakers was unable to attend at the last minute. Ms. Hume-Howard spoke of the great job the Sanborn teachers did filling in and making a presentation.

Ms. Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services, spoke of the summer program and the amazing job the custodians did getting the high school ready for the program. 150 students attended the summer program. Eighteen teachers and eight paraprofessionals were employed for the summer program. She referred to an NPR article which reported that it takes students two to three months to recover from the summer break. She was happy to have so many students attending the summer program. Ms. Pomykato stated that the custodians are the "unsung heroes of the district". She spoke of the positive impression of SRSD and that people are now choosing to come to Sanborn to teach. Ms. Pomykato thanked the Technology Department for all their help getting the summer program set up, and she also thanked the high school team for welcoming the SAU office staff.

Mr. Steven Riley, Director of Facilities, was not able to attend tonight's meeting. Ms. Carol Coppola, Business Manager, spoke of the outstanding job the Facilities Department does and their apparent pride in a job well done. She reported on completed projects throughout the District: the Bakie roof project was completed; window dressings were installed at the Memorial, Bakie and High Schools. Clutch roller shades were installed. This project had an

added security function as well. People can see outside of the classroom, but cannot look into the classrooms from the outside. Asphalt repairs were completed at the HS and MS. The server room was moved at the MS and air conditioning was installed in the new server room. The skylights at the MS will be replaced. The Facilities Department is working on a water treatment system plan for the MS and Memorial School. Movers were hired to move the “big stuff” for the SAU office move to the HS. The facilities staff moved the smaller items. Dr. Blake commented on the pride of the Facilities staff and how it instills pride in the rest of the Sanborn staff. “Thank you Mr. Riley and company.”

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT none

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Ross reported on the recent SB Work Session. She said they were asked to complete a “personality test” before the work session and to bring their results with them to the work session. She commented that in some cases the results were “spot on”. The purpose of the test was to learn how to better work as a team. “Why we’re here” was discussed – the education of students. They discussed working collaboratively. Dr. Blake stated it was a very productive meeting. “Good, honest conversation”. Roles of SB members and the role of the Superintendent were discussed. It was felt that everybody came away with a better understanding of each other’s roles. The positive aspects of Kingston Days was discussed – a good opportunity for SB members to get to know one another. Ms. Ross stated she had the opportunity to attend the opening day for new faculty and staff. Paul Leather, Deputy Commissioner of Education, NH Dept. of Ed., attended the opening day ceremony. Ms. Ross stated she was happy that the SAU office move to the HS was successful. She stated the HS provides a safer, better workplace.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bart Noyes said he was very pleased with the recent edition of the Essential News. He said the latest edition of the Essential News highlighted the extraordinary accomplishments of the District over the past year. He asked that the SB consider an updated version in December to set the tone for the budget season. He feels that it is important to begin the budget season highlighting the accomplishments of the district. Mr. Noyes spoke of the SB Meeting Minutes. He said his intent was not to be critical. He praised the content of the June 18th meeting minutes. He commended the writer/recorder of the minutes. This should be used as an example of meeting minutes, “this sets the bar”. He feels that the June 18th minutes should be the example set for the coming year. He stated that after reading the minutes “he felt he was there” at the meeting. He stated that for 25 years he’s wanted this kind of detail. He stated that his interpretation of the right to know law was more detailed meeting minutes – not just whether motions carried or not.

Ms. Cheryl Gannon welcomed everyone back. She stated she was glad to hear about the “great opening day”. She stated she knows students enjoy summer, but they also look forward to going back to school. She spoke of the upcoming budget season. She urged the SB to get the public involved and see what’s going on in the District and with the budget process. She stated she is looking forward to putting together a budget that the community will support. Ms. Gannon is a member of the Budget Committee.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Ramey thanked the Administrators for coming out to tonight’s meeting. Mr. Ramey apologized for being late to tonight’s meeting. Ms. Ross spoke of the days she looks forward to in the school year. One of those days was today – when the Administrators report about their summer work and the first day of school. She commented that the enthusiasm never wanes – she thanked all the Administrators for their reports. Ms. Miller also thanked the Administrators for coming out. She also praised the Principals getting on each of the buses on the first day of school and welcoming the students.

At 8:05 PM the meeting broke for a five minute recess. At 8:12 PM the meeting resumed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13a. 2015-2016 Budget Calendar Timeline: The 2015-2016 Budget Calendar was discussed.

Mr. Ramey made a motion to approve the 2015-2016 Budget Calendar. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. All in favor

13b. Seacoast Charter School: After discussion with the Financial Director of the Seacoast Charter School, an addendum to the Seacoast Charter School lease was presented- Addendum B. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve Addendum B; Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. After a discussion, it was agreed that the following modification be made to section 2, original lease document: “This addendum is not intended **to replace or correct** any part of the original lease agreement entered into on June 15, 2011 . . .” All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

DOE-25 and MS-25 were distributed to SB members. Ms. Coppola gave an overview of the two documents. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve DOE-25 and MS-25 as prepared. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT none

WRITTEN INFORMATION Event calendars, Career Pathway Learning Community Program hand-out and the HS Redesign Plan were part of the SB packages.

PUBLIC COMMENT none

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Ross said she realizes everyone leads busy lives, but wanted to remind the SB members to be visible within the community. She noted that not all school activities were on the events calendars received and asked Dr. Blake to please let SB members know of upcoming activities. He replied he would.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next **regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, September 17, 2014, at 7:00 PM, Room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston.**

At 8:48 PM Ms. Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. 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.