

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

December 17, 2014

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday December 17, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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
 Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services
 Carol Coppola, Business Manager

EXCUSED: John Morano

The meeting began with a salute to the flag.

REVIEW AGENDA

MINUTES

Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the December 3, 2014, meeting minutes. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. Ms. Bennett asked if there were any omissions or corrections. In the first paragraph under corrections, *“up over” implies must greater increase. **Must** should read **much**.* On page 2, first paragraph 3rd line, *“Mr. VanderEls **started** . . .” should read “Mr. VanderEls **stated** . . .”* Under Negotiations the date for the next scheduled meeting was incorrect. On page 4, line 7 Mr. **Miller** should be changed to Mr. **Masson**. All in favor to approve the December 3rd meeting minutes with the noted corrections.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #11 -\$293,615.64-; Payroll #13 - \$803,133.69.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT Mr. Sandy Rutherford, MS Principal, introduced two 8th grade students: Courtney Collibee and Dan Armitelli who gave a presentation on bullying. The students announced that December was Random Acts of Kindness month at the MS. The students spoke of a white board at the middle school where positive messages are posted. Ms. Ross asked the students if they observed a noticeable change in the environment in lieu of the white board and the bullying program. The students said yes it has had a positive difference. The students spoke of a student having a hard time and of the students who reached out to that person. They spoke of the gratification of seeing the “look on his face”. Students have been recognized for being kind. Ms. Bennett spoke of the forum she attended the past week at the high school on the heroin problem in NH. “This is only going to be a good thing.” Ms. Bennett said the program at the MS might lead to students making better decisions in the future. Ms. Ross asked Mr. Rutherford if he had any statistical data at the end of the year? Yes. Mr. Rutherford said he would share the information at the end of the year with the SB. Next Ms. Jen Belcher and Lauren Petraitis, Advisors for the Diversity Club introduced the students from the Diversity Club. They reported that there are approximately twenty students who regularly attend the Diversity Club meetings. Rachel, the President of the Diversity Club stated it was their intent to improve the culture and climate at the HS. Twelve of the club members attended the Stand Up to Bullying Summit in Manchester. Rachel stated that it is the long range plan of the club to begin a mentoring program between the HS and MS. Kelsey Bunker produced a video which was shown of the Diversity Club. The video was produced at the HS in the Modern Media Class. The question was asked what is the percentage of the students who participate in the club had faced diversity? 80% was the response. It was stated that meetings are a safe place for students to share. Not all students faced diversity; they participate because they want to help others. Ms. Ross asked how long the Diversity Club has been around? Six years – it’s typically a wide range of students, with various amounts of participants. Ms. Ross told the students they are tremendous role models. “I applaud you all.” “Do you practice what you teach?” Rachel – definitely! All of us are confident. Ms. Ross asked if there were other clubs like the Diversity Club? No. Dr. Blake said that the Life of an Athlete touches on diversity.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT Isabella reported that the Student Council just wrapped up the 12 Days of Caring. The students collected items for people in need – clothes, toys, books. The clothes were donated to Wonderland Thrift and the canned goods were distributed to the food pantries.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations: Mr. LeBlanc reported that there has been a tentative agreement with the Support Staff contract. The contract is being reviewed by the Union. It will then be brought before the SB. Mr. LeBlanc stated that the contents of the contract are confidential until ratified.

Budget Committee: Ms. Ross reported that the Budget Committee had met. She stated the Budget Committee Chair had asked everyone for a recommended figure for the budget. Ms. Ross stated there were different figures discussed. Someone recommended the figure come in below the default budget, others wanted to come in at the default budget. No vote was taken. There will be a Budget Committee Meeting tomorrow and if there is not a full consensus, then the majority will decide. Ms. Ross was asked if she knew the reasoning for wanting to come in below the default budget. She stated some were concerned about the unemployment rate in Newton. A comment (at the Budget Committee Meeting) was made about the poverty rate in Newton. Ms. Ross stated that the Superintendent's Budget has no new programs. "Nothing to cut."

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT

Ms. Bennett reported that she had attended the forum at the HS on the heroin crisis. Ms. Bennett reported that the forum was well attended and well done. She stated she left the forum with more questions than answers. She spoke of the need of funding in NH for substance abuse. Ms. Bennett commended all the people who attended the forum who are relentless in their search for answers.

PUBLIC COMMENT Ms. Cheryl Gannon stated she had attended the forum at the HS. She stated that the people who got up and admitted to being in recovery or having family members in recovery were very courageous. Ms. Gannon said that now that Sanborn has received the grant money, she is hoping that young people find a better way to cope. She stated she thinks the Diversity Club may play a part in helping students. Ms. Gannon said she appreciates what the District is doing in addressing the problem.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT Mr. Ramey stated he attended a concert at Raymond High School. He stated that a staff member he spoke with spoke of Raymond being in a curriculum and grading transition and that Raymond was looking to SRSD Curriculum Director Ellen Hume-Howard as a mentor. He said he knew good things were going on at Sanborn, but it was nice to hear it in person. Mr. Ramey asked if they could discuss a WMUR report on the top 50 schools in NH at a future SB meeting. **Yes.** Ms. Bennett said she heard of a legislation bill that would require pharmacies to take back old/unused medications and destroy them. She said this would be a way for people to get old prescriptions out of their medicine cabinets (she tied this in with the forum she attended). Ms. Miller thanked the National Honor Society at the HS. The NHS sponsored a free gift wrapping night. Ms. Miller brought four bags of gifts to be wrapped!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

a. Policies: Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the second reading of Policies CBI-R Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools; CBI-R1 Evaluation of the Superintendent Survey Form; GCGB Professional Staff Sub Pay; JLCC Communicable Diseases; and KFR-Use of Facilities – Fee Schedule. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. Mr. LeBlanc said he had one minor change he'd like to see on Policy CBI-R. On the survey evaluation of the Superintendent replace Jan Bennett's name with School Board Chair. Also change the "1" on the evaluation to an "E" for exhibit. All in favor to accept the second reading of Policies CBI-R Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools; CBI-R1 Evaluation of the Superintendent Survey Form; GCGB Professional Staff Sub Pay; JLCC Communicable Diseases; and KFR-Use of Facilities – Fee Schedule with the above noted changes.

b. Budget: A discussion was held on the Superintendent's proposed budget. Mr. LeBlanc asked what budget items belonged to the SAU office. Some of them included portions of transportation, some equipment, utilities, some non-union support staff, legal fees. Mr. LeBlanc asked what ACP is. ACP = Additional Compensation Program. It was explained that teachers can write proposals for programs they would like to try. The program has to include students, they need to keep track of their time and at the end of the program, they have to produce a product. Mr. Masson asked about the cost fluctuations in the five year CIP. It was explained that different items have different costs. An item needs to be paid for in the year it is purchased. They cannot split the costs of items between years. Mr. Masson asked what items were cut from the budget and how many times those items have been deferred. Ms. Ross suggested the Proposed Budget be cut by \$36,160.00 (this figure was repeated in the budget by mistake). Mr. Ramey stated there was not a lot of room for cuts. No vote was taken. It was agreed that the SB recommends the Superintendent's proposed budget.

Warrant Articles were discussed. In 2007 a warrant article was approved for a Revolving Fund. Part of the Warrant Article states that the money may be used for all facilities which rent is generated. The SB is recommending that the language of the warrant article be expanded to allow for the use of the funds be for all the buildings in the District. The Warrant Article would be worded "to support improvements through-out the District". No decisions were made on the Warrant Articles. There is currently approximately \$300,000.00 in the Revolving Fund. Warrant Articles will be discussed at the next SB meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT Dr. Blake received correspondence from NHASA for nominations for Champions for Children due in February.

WRITTEN INFORMATION none

PUBLIC COMMENT Ms. Gannon reported that the public SB packets did not include copies of the Policies which were voted on tonight. She said it would be appreciated if copies of the policies were included in the packets.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT Ms. Ross asked SB members to complete the Budget Committee Survey if they hadn't already done so. Ms. Ross wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Ms. Bennett asked if everyone had received an email document on comparative salaries of teachers in the state. Not everyone did. Ms. Bennett will forward the article to the SB members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next **regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional Budget Committee** will be held on **Thursday, December 18, 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 7, 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 next **Policy Committee Meeting TBD.**

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 IIe

Ms. Ross motioned to enter into non-public session at 9:48 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.