

**SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

**January 24, 2018**

**(The 1/24/18 School Board Video can be viewed at [www.sau17.org](http://www.sau17.org) under School Board)**

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Sanborn Regional School Board Chairperson, Peter Broderick. The following were recorded as present;

**SRSD SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Peter Broderick, Chair  
Dr. Pamela Brown, Vice Chair  
James Baker  
Larry Heath  
Taryn Lytle  
Tammy Mahoney  
Corey Masson (via remote connection)

Lauren Lanseigne -Student Council Representative

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Thomas Ambrose, Superintendent  
Michele Croteau, Business Administrator

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:07 PM by Chair Broderick with the Pledge of Allegiance led by high school sophomores, John Putnam of Newton and Erin Gillespie of Kingston. Superintendent Ambrose recognized both students for their musical endeavors; Mr. Putnam has been accepted into the NH Allstate Band on Trombone and Ms. Gillespie has been accepted into the NH Allstate Chorus as a Soprano.
2. **ACTION ON MINUTES** –Chair Broderick asked for a Motion to approve the Public Minutes of 1-3-18. Motion made by Mr. Heath and seconded by Ms. Lytle. No discussion. **Vote: All in Favor**

**Chair Broderick asked for a Motion to approve the Non-Public Minutes of 1-3-18. Motion made by Mr. Masson and seconded by Mr. Heath No discussion.**  
**Vote: All in Favor**

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**
  - 3.1 **Manifests-** Payroll Check Register #15 in the amount of \$815,252.68 dated 1-25-18. The Manifest was signed /approved by Board and Administration.

(Expenditures Manifests was signed in prior week by quorum of Board due to snow date of meeting).

3.2 Resignations- None

3.3 Nominations- None

3.4 Superintendent's Report- Mr. Ambrose congratulated High School student Andrew Gelina for winning an automotive conference as described in the following news article from the Union Leader on 1-14-18:

*LACONIA — The best high school automotive students in New Hampshire competed in a skills challenge on Saturday, and when the dust settled, Aaron Technology.*

*Sponsored by the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association and Toyota, the 2018 New Hampshire Auto Tech Skills Competition was held at Lakes Region Community College and featured two-person teams from 10 schools throughout the Granite State.*

*For successfully and accurately diagnosing four problems with a 2015 Toyota Camry, Gelina and Wesling each received \$2,000 scholarships to the New Hampshire Community College automotive program of their choice; a trophy; and the opportunity to represent New Hampshire later this year in the National Automotive Technology Contest in New York City.*

*“This is awesome,” said Wesling, who is already working in a diesel-engine repair shop and, who, until Saturday, hadn’t planned on going to a post-secondary school for additional training.*

*But after winning the N.H. skills contest, and receiving the generous scholarship, he said he was “definitely reconsidering” his options.*

*Gelina, who like Wesling, is a senior at SST, plans to enroll in the diesel/heavy equipment technology program at White Mountains Community College in Berlin.*

*Along with WMCC, which is allied with Milton-CAT and McDevitt Trucks, three other New Hampshire community colleges have partnerships with manufacturers: Manchester CC, which works with Chrysler, Ford, Subaru and Audi; Nashua CC, Honda; and LRCC, which since 1991 has worked with General Motors.*

Mr. Ambrose reported that the Special Education department received 100% compliance on their recent audit. The compliance Review was for Indicator 13 which looks at transition services in IEPs at the high school level for students ages 16 and older. Mr. Ambrose recognized the team of case managers, the High School coordinator, and the director for their hard work in ensuring 100% compliance.

### **Memorial:**

- Memorial Elementary held its CARES recognition ceremony and distributed awards to 32 students in grades K-5 who exemplified CARES attributes. Parents were in attendance.
- Teachers distributed progress reports for the second trimester on Monday to all families.

### **Bakie:**

- Bakie Kindergarten students have started a kindness challenge. See the video [here](#)
- Interim Reports will be distributed this Friday, January 26th.
- Grade 5 students are completing their Geography Bee competition this week.
- Grade 3 students are currently studying immigration and preparing for the annual Ellis Island simulation experience on February 20th. All board members are welcome to attend.

### **Middle School:**

- The middle school held its annual Spelling Bee and is pleased to announce that Tessa Holt will represent SRMS at the state Spelling Bee. The runner up was Connor Mallen.
- Eighth grade science is currently conducting their PACE assessment and have tasked students to create a hut to help reduce heat transfer and protect the penguins of South Africa.
- Sixth grade students will be traveling on a field trip to Strawberry Bank Museum on February 14th for four sessions: hearth cooking/stove cooking, Black Heritage Trail, guided house tours, and ice skating for their upcoming math performance assessment.

### **High School:**

- PTO hosting a financial aid planning night on February 12 at 6:30PM in the library.
- Erin Gillespie and John Putnam made the NH All-State Music festival. Full press release [here](#).
- Senior Andrew Gelina wins major NH Auto competition at SST. Full article [here](#).
- Student council will be running the annual Winter Carnival week February 19-23.
- Here are the themes for the week:
  - Monday: Tourist day
  - Tuesday: Seasons (Anyone can dress as any season)
  - Wednesday: Country Vs. Country Club (Seniors and Freshmen are Country, Juniors and Sophomores are Country Club)
  - Thursday: Theme day (Seniors- 2000s, Juniors- 50s, Sophomores- 80s, Freshmen- Jurassic period)
  - Friday: Class shirt/ Color day (Seniors- yellow, Juniors- purple, Sophomores- pink, Freshmen- orange)

**SAU Office:**

The District Office submitted a Performance Assessment for Competency Education Grant Proposal. The District Office received a \$15,000 check/grant to be used for professional development.

The District Office submitted a Grant Proposal in the amount of \$50,000 for Infrastructure/Safety. We have been notified that we will receive \$40,000 in funding with a \$10,000 District match. This money will be used to install a communications system, including two-way radios and a repeater, on the Newton campus.

The District Office is in negotiations with the Commissioner's Office (NHDOE) to enter into a three year professional development program to develop a personalized learning ecosystem in the Sanborn Regional School District. This program is targeted at assisting districts to realize the goals outline in State regulations for competency-based learning. More information is forthcoming.

Superintendent Ambrose thanked Mr. Turmelle for all of his hard work, adding that the Grant money is a significant savings to the District.

Mr. Ambrose reported that the administration met and discussed Snow Day Backpacks. Their group is not in favor of the backpacks for the following reasons

- Rigor of the work
- Monitoring the work (Staff and students)
- Relevance to current work (a pre-planned bag is just busy work)
- Burden on staff to plan for the snow days
- We are set up to track hours, not days.
- Students benefit from the snow day breaks.

Senate Bill 193 was heard before the House Finance Committee on Tuesday January 16, 2018. SB 193 seeks to create a "voucher" system whereby state adequacy aid is directed away from public schools. Testimony at the hearing - offered by individuals both in support and in opposition to SB 193 - stated that approximately half of all New Hampshire students would be eligible to receive a voucher under the bill. Though the bill does not currently have a fiscal note attached thereto, proposed estimates surmises that if half of NH students are eligible, the fiscal note should be in excess of \$300 million per year - This amount does not include the "stabilization grant" aid SB 193 calls for as partial reimbursement to school districts that lose a certain amount of state aid under SB 193. It is hard to anticipate the exact fiscal impact for our district.

Lastly, Superintendent Ambrose reported on the proposed study by New England School Development council (NESDEC), a demographics and facilities study would include a review of student enrollment projections with demographic enhancement, a review of facilities space to determine capacities and suitability for anticipated use, and a review and appraisal of the present and future educational needs in relation to the public

school facilities in the Sanborn Regional School District. The product of this study would provide a review of possible alternative grade level configurations, potential facility modification/closure/construction, and possible alternative uses of the school facilities in order to support the educational program and make optimal use of space.

The total fixed cost to the Sanborn Regional School District for the study detailed in this proposal would be as follows:

Enrollment Projection and Demographic Analysis: \$ 6,520

Best Use of Facilities Analysis: \$ 15,328

Total \$21,848

#### 4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 4.1 Policy- Dr. Brown reported that the next meeting will be posted on the website and that they are still waiting for the policy review summary from New Hampshire School Board Association.
- 4.2 EISA-Dr. Brown informed the group that they met this evening and has a draft document for defining student success with a mission statement, a list of skills, traits and attributes that students should master, along with indicators. They will be circulating a survey asking the community what they would like to see for skills, traits and attributes that a student should master, as well as what indicators they think would be valuable to measure. They will move forward once they have these responses and bring the document to the Board. The next meeting is February 21<sup>st</sup> and they may have a draft document by then.
- 4.3 Facilities- No Report.
- 4.4 Finance –Mr. Baker reported that he and Chair Broderick were in attendance this evening and the Business Administrator ran a tutorial on State mandated formats for accounting within the school system. They reviewed various accounting codes, how they relate to the State Manual and how they are broken out by function and object for reporting specifications.
- 4.5 Public Relation- Ms. Lytle reported that the next meeting is Monday, 1/29 at 1PM in the SAU office.
- 4.6 Personnel- Ms. Lytle reported that the group met tonight and reviewed the organizational chart in order to better understand the structure for evaluations in the building. The next meeting is Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1PM.

4.7 SST- No Report

4.8 Seminary Discussion- Dr. Brown reported that the next meeting is January 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 AM in the SAU office. Hope to have 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal at that time.

4.9 Budget- Ms. Mahoney reported that the last meeting was the Public Hearing on 1/11/18 where the warrant articles were reviewed. There were approximately 20 members of the community present, 4 of which gave feedback on the budget. A petitioner reviewed the hockey warrant article. The committee voted unanimously (7-0) to approve the proposed budget. And the hockey warrant article was not recommended with a vote of 0-7.

## 5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandra Rogers-Osterloh (Kingston) - commented "Thank-you".

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Assessment Scores/Questions- Superintendent Ambrose prefaced Mr. Turmelle's presentation by saying that they received a number of important questions that all have a right to be answered but that some pertained to educational programming and those will be covered at a future board meeting. Tonight will address answers to data specific questions. Mr. Turmelle shared the following slides presentation.

[Click here for slides](#)

Discussion centered around SAT, credit requirements for graduation.

Dr. Brown commented that in looking at data for the Standardized Assessments (SATs and SBACs), things are improving. With the 2015-16 scores for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Reading, 4<sup>th</sup> grade Math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Reading and Math and 11<sup>th</sup> grade Reading and Math, 3 of the 6 measures were below State average and now in 2016-17, 2 of the 6 are below, so 4 are above State average. Grades 3, 4 and 8 are doing well. Dr. Brown compared statistics of Oyster River School District to Sanborn in regard to student-teacher ratio saying we are lower than they are and compared to the State average, we are also lower and yet our scores are below theirs. Dr. Brown surmises that this could be

due to teacher pay and Oyster River attracting higher caliber teachers in the critical shortage areas.

Superintendent Ambrose cautioned against comparing any 2 districts because the demographics (e.g. Oyster River) can be significantly different. He agreed with the teacher pay issue and especially with the Steps being held back if the contract doesn't pass. The disparity is great between districts. Also, teachers will train here and then move on. Dr. Brown commented that she would like to see the student teacher ratio adjusted closer to Oyster River's in order to free up the money to keep it revenue neutral.

Ms. Lytle asked about the hours what students can participate in Khan Academy while at school and when can they do that. Mr. Turmelle answered Grades 9-11 and it is built into class time. She added that her own 9<sup>th</sup> grader took the PSAT and the process was very positive and the feedback valuable. She also asked about pathways and deciding on courses, when are student guided. Mr. Stack explained that much is inherently built in to classes in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, but in grades 11 & 12 they hone in more on the bigger discussions of pathways.

Ms. Lytle noted that the SATs scores are 480 (Reading & Writing) and 530 Math). Ms. Lytle also commented on the Math Coordinator position.

Mr. Masson thanked Mr. Turmelle saying he appreciated the hard work he has done.

## 7.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

### 7.1 Greenhouse Discussion

Mr. Stack introduced the discussion with a brief summary of the previous presentation a year ago at which time they received approval to finish the study. Tonight is a more complete view of the project.

[Click here for slides](#)

Discussion ensued around annual costs estimated at 18K, the biggest factor being supplies and staffing. The next steps are to have some form of commitment from the School Board so they can start fundraising.

Mr. Stack said that 3 committees would be convened to address fundraising, Construction and Curriculum. He introduced Sanborn Nurse Karen Scanlon who initially presented the idea and Facilities Director

Steve Riley who has been instrumental in developing the project. He stressed that it would be a community project.

Mr. Masson asked about 30K annually committed by the Sanborn Trustees and what other out-of-pocket expenses would need to be given today. Mr. Stack responded none today but at some point in a few years there would be a budget cost. Mr. Masson commented about the STEAM environment and fostering that for the future and welcoming other partners. Mr. Stack agreed and added that they would not compete with SST's agricultural program.

Ms. Mahoney asked about the proposed location of the greenhouse and whether that site is one tagged for future expansion. Mr. Stack reviewed the ground lots around the school.

Chair Broderick asked what Mr. Stack is looking for from the Board. Mr. Stack responded, can they move forward and start fundraising with their support. Chair Broderick asked if some part in the future would need to be a warrant and what if it was turned down. He cited the fairgrounds in Kingston. Ms. Croteau said that some authorization to move forward with donations and fundraising would be necessary and those donations in the form of service would need to be documented, all with legal review.

**Mr. Masson asked for a Motion to support the creation of a Community Agriculture Committee to assist in the feasibility development of the Greenhouse Project with 2 requirements that 1) There would be a Kingston and Newton School Board member on the committee and 2) We would get no less than quarterly reports by the committee.**

Motion fails with no Second.

**Chair Broderick made a Motion to allow for the set-up of a Fundraising Committee. No Second, Motion Fails**

**Mr. Heath asked for a Motion to proceed with the Greenhouse Project dependent on consultation with the NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) and with legal counsel to see what we need to do, how we do it and to set up a plan to proceed with the committees. Motion seconded by Mr. Masson.**

Dr. Brown appreciated the thought going into the Greenhouse Plan but would like to defer any decisions on proceeding since square footage



around the district is a scarce resource; we have real estate plans in flux and are still waiting for the NESDEC study.

Ms. Mahoney agreed with Dr. Brown and would like to defer the project. Mr. Baker commented that the expense categories are not all in the plan and asked about the disposal of the water. Mr. Riley said they would pump it out. Mr. Baker asked about consultation fees, who would oversee it and whether the location is one to consider given that the NESDEC study has not been done yet.

Ms. Lanseigne commented about the value of having a greenhouse which she experienced at Ellis School and added that there are many avenues for educating students with one. It teaches skills for science, the value of hard work and would be very beneficial at the High School.

Mr. Masson commented that it would enhance education and serve as a low cost community project.

Chair Broderick reminded the group that we are making a decision tonight to obtain information only not to approve the project.

Based on Superintendent Ambrose's comments, **Mr. Heath amended his Motion as follows: A Motion to continue to explore the legal implications of building the greenhouse, particularly with regard to the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) and contacting a lawyer to find out the pros and cons or potential pitfalls, so we can deliberate at the next meeting with more information. Motion seconded by Mr. Masson.**

Mr. Baker believed this is putting the cart before the horse with not having the NESDEC study done and paying a lawyer without the location.

Mr. Heath reminded the group that we are here for one reason; to get the best education we can for the kids. If this project can help the students learn a broader approach to education, what is a couple of hundred dollars to find out if we can do it or not.

**Chair Broderick asked to move the Motion, seconded by Mr. Heath.**

**Vote: 4 in Favor, 3 Opposed (Mr. Baker, Dr. Brown, Ms. Mahoney)  
Motion Passes**

7.2 MS-27 and Warrant

Ms. Croteau presented the School Board warrant, MS-27 and Default Budget which all need signatures so they can be posted for the Deliberative Session.

7.3 Email Regarding Electronic Communication

Chair Broderick introduced the topic of emails and the legalities of communication as School Board members. He asked Mr. Heath to present the information, given his business experience and for Mr. Masson to chime in as well.

[Click here for slides](#)

7.4 February School Board Meeting Date

The 2/21 will be scheduled as planned. If Superintendent Ambrose is absent, Ms. Croteau will handle any reports.

8. Student Council Representative's Report

Ms. Lanseigne reported that the annual Winter Semiformal is being held this Friday, 1-26 at the Austin 17 House in Brentwood. The National Honor Society is doing a Book Drive to include children's books which will be donated to the elementary school libraries. The Spanish Honor Society is fundraising for Puerto Rico's hurricane victims. The Student Council is offering a babysitting service in the library for children whose parents wish to attend the Deliberative Session on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at Sanborn Regional High School in the auditorium.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

9.1 The Newton Selectmen will be invited to a School Board meeting on either March 7<sup>th</sup> or March 21<sup>st</sup>. Chair Broderick will let the Board know which date.

9.2 Announcements

- 9.2.1 The next Sanborn Regional School Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 7, 2018 (prior to the Deliberative Session) from 6:00 PM to 7 PM in the School Board Conference Room #137.**
- 9.2.2 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 24, 2018**, and end on **Friday, February 2, 2018** at 5:00 p.m.

*The candidate filing forms may be obtained at the SAU Office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The School District Clerk will be available on the last day to file from until 5:00 p.m. at the SAU Office located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.*

- 9.2.3 The **First (Deliberative) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 7, 2018** at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Sanborn Regional High School. Snow date is February 8, 2018.

The **Second (Voting) Session of the Annual School District Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, March 13, 2018** from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the **Swasey Gymnasium** (Sanborn Seminary Campus) for Kingston voters and in the **Newton Town Hall** for Newton voters.

10. **Chair Broderick asked for a Motion to adjourn, moved by Mr. Masson and seconded by Mr. Heath.**

**Vote: All in Favor**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Minutes Respectively Submitted by:

Phyllis Kennedy  
School Board Secretary

*Minutes of the School Board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the School Board.*