

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009
HARVARD STREET, SAU BOARD ROOM
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The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at the Harvard Street, SAU Board Room. Present: Chairperson Scott Vachon, Chris Guilmett, Stacie Sirois, Beth Arsenault, Joe Cormier, Marge Kerns, Superintendent Bob Champlin, Assistant Superintendent Terri Forsten, and Business Administrator Ed Emond. Not in attendance: Chuck Tucker

CALL TO ORDER

Scott Vachon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on February 16, 2009, at the SAU office and on the district's website, along with being sent to each of our schools, "The Citizen", the "Laconia Daily Sun", the Laconia Library, and City Hall, in accordance with RSA 91-A.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was requested to add a presentation on Light the Way. Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Marge Kerns, seconded by Beth Arsenault, to approve the minutes of February 3 as presented. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION – Light the Way

Terri Forsten shared that we sent a team to the 2009 Heads Together Conference where the District was presented with an award by Governor John Lynch in recognition of all that our district does to support our students toward improving graduation rates and preparing our youth for the workforce. The award was a lantern for the district and an in focus projector to put into a classroom.

PRESENTATION – BioTech Program at LHS/Huot

Lauren Streifer gave a "hands on" presentation of what the BioTech program has been working on. Lauren was joined by a student from Gilford. Scott Davis showed several pictures of the BioTech classroom.

PRESENTATION – 09-10 Proposed Budget

Marge Kerns provided a PowerPoint presentation that outlined the proposed 2009-2010 school budget. Following Marge's presentation, there were no comments and no questions.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Under Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Terri Forsten shared a couple of articles from the ASCD SmartBrief that talks about how participation in music at school shows higher academic results along with a higher intellectual level. Bob Champlin shared that he received an e-mail from Debbi Gibson saying that a number of Laconia High School students were selected to be part of the Tri Honor Music Society.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Marge Kerns noted that the Committee met last week to put together the budget presentation and to discuss some budget transfers.

Facilities/CIP: Beth Arsenault said that the Committee met this evening to discuss the possible stimulus package, the Jordan Institute's recent visit, the Elm Street School roof, money for Laconia High School, and the planning timeline for Laconia High School. Beth mentioned that the next meeting would be on March 17.

Policy: Chris Guilmett stated that the Policy Committee met yesterday and will be bringing the Alternative Learning Plan policy forward at the next Board meeting.

Board Member Input: Marge Kerns said that she attended a parent meeting at Laconia High School that was set up for parents of incoming freshmen to talk about the Program of Studies. She said that it was exciting to see the kids that were there talking amongst themselves about what classes they wanted to take. Beth Arsenault then shared that her committee at the State House has been looking at best practices to keep children in school. She said that Laconia already does most of the suggestions that were made to her committee.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

In his Board Chair Report, Scott Vachon mentioned the BioTech presentation and the enthusiasm that Lauren shows. Scott said that we have many reasons to be proud of the investments we make in our schools.

CALENDAR

"Got Skiis?" Exhibit Opens	February 22	Laconia Public Library
Parent Meeting for Incoming Freshmen	March 4	5:00 – 6:45 @ LHS
Joint Building Committee	March 11	6:30
Facilities/CIP	March 17	6:00

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Alternative Program RFP: Bob Champlin shared that on March 16, we will be looking to get state funding for the alternative program. He said that this year, tuition and transportation are included in the grant.

Winter Carnival: Bob mentioned that Winter Carnival is this week. He talked about the connection Winter Carnival has with student aspirations.

SAT Testing at LMS/John Hopkins Project: Bob shared that we are researching the John Hopkins Project that would have 7th grade students take the SAT. To be eligible to take the SAT as a seventh grader, the student must have a high assessment score. Bob will share more information after we do more research.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Budget Transfers: Marge Kerns reviewed the budget transfers which included adding another \$50,000 to the Special Education Contingency fund and moving some money from fuel oil to building maintenance accounts.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be taking any action if they went into non-public session. Scott Vachon answered that they would not be having a non-public session. Dick then asked if the Board would be having a non-meeting. Scott answered no.

ACTION ITEMS

Budget Transfers: Motion made by Joe Cormier, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the budget transfers as presented. The vote was unanimous.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3II

None

PUBLIC SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Joe Cormier, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri L. Forsten
Clerk