

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at the Harvard Street, SAU Board Room. Present: Chairperson Scott Vachon, Stacie Sirois, Chris Guilmett, Joe Cormier, Mal Murray, Bob Dassatti, Beth Arsenault, Superintendent Bob Champlin, Assistant Superintendent Terri Forsten, and Business Administrator Ed Emond.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Scott Vachon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on November 24, 2009, at the SAU office and on the district's website, along with being sent to each of our schools, "The Citizen", Laconia Library, and City Hall, in accordance with RSA 91-A.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion made by Joe Cormier, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Bob Dassatti, to approve the minutes of November 17, 2009. The vote was unanimous.

### **PRESENTATION – PROJECT EXTRA!ELO'S**

Tina Green, Project EXTRA! Program director, shared a presentation to the board on Project EXTRA! and extended learning opportunities. There are over 500 students in Laconia schools that are participating in these two programs. According to Tina, these programs have been quite successful. She shared that at the elementary level there are after school and summer programs such as weird science, fitness camp, karate and math craze, just to name a few. At the middle school, dodge ball and the weight room have drawn a lot of interest. More than 40 students have been participating in dodge ball. Also popular is before and after school tutoring with over 70 students involved. Clubs seem to be the focus at the high school with chess, photography and engineering the popular ones.

The Extended Learning Opportunities have students involved in research of DNA, working at LR Public Access and Nassau Broadcasting as well as a student who worked on the mayoral campaign in Laconia. These programs are student driven and open ended in time and can be challenging for students as they are in complete control of their learning environment.

In a recent edition of Educational Leadership, an ASCD publication, Laconia High School ELO's were highlighted. Tina also shared that Project EXTRA! is working with Boys and Girls Club of Laconia, Lakes Region Child Care and Laconia Parks and Recreation Department to participate in a "Walk for Youth" event scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> with more details to follow.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Under Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Bob Champlin shared a quick overview on NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) with the board. New Hampshire's performance compared to the other states has consistently outperformed the schools in virtually all of the other 49 states on the math and reading components of the nationally administered uniform proficiency tests. Bob compared the NAEP tests to the NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) tests that are administered annually, stressing that the difference between the two lies in the NECAP's lack of uniformity with the similar tests outside the New England area. The NAEP tests produce uniform academic proficiency results that can be compared from state to state.

Under Oversight Committee, Terri Forsten shared that they would be meeting December 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon. Bob Dassatti asked if they could look at establishing two goals that all strategic planning groups would work towards for the year. This will be discussed further at this meeting.

**Public/Administrative Input:**

Gail Ober, Laconia Citizen, asked how it is decided who participates in the NAEP testing. Bob explained that it is a random group of students who are in a certain grade level at an individual school that are tested. An example was given such as all 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Woodland Heights School as one such tested group.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget & Personnel:** Chair Joe Cormier reported that the Elm Street School has been completed and was under budget by \$11,000.

**Facilities/CIP:** None.

**Policy:** None.

**Board Member Input:** Joe Cormier commended Pleasant Street School on their participation in the Holiday Parade that was held in Laconia on Sunday. He also shared that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration today at Pleasant Street School was quite a success.

**BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR**

Board Chair Vachon also shared that the Pleasant Street Anniversary celebration was fabulous. Several people commented to him how well this school has been taken care of.

**CALENDAR**

Oversight Committee	December 3	12:00 @ SAU
Super Saturday	December 5	8:00 @ SAU
Policy Committee	December 8	8:00 @ SAU
Budget and Personnel	December 15	6:00 @ LHS Library
Facilities	December 15	6:00 @ LHS Library
School Board Meeting	December 15	7:00 @ LHS Library
Project EXTRA! Open House	December 17	4:00 @ PSS
Brigid Kilfoyle Memorial Dedication	December 17	4:30 @ ESS

**SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

**H1N1 Update:** Terri reported that our student absences due to "flu-like symptoms" has declined and attendance is up overall at this time than in previous years. This maybe due to the increased awareness of personal hygiene. Terri will be meeting with representatives of local community health programs on Monday to discuss the details of future immunization clinics. Beth Arsenault is interested in attending this meeting.

**Thanksgiving Celebrations:** Janet Brough shared a short power point presentation of pictures showing the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner that was held for WHS families on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Over 600 meals were served with 1131 total meals served to WHS, ESS and Holy Trinity prepared at WHS.

**Super Saturday Preparation:** Bob Champlin briefly went over the preparation of materials for Super Saturday. We will show items that have been completed on the three year plan.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None

**GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dick Coggon asked if the Board went into non-public session if they would be taking any action when they come out. Scott Vachon answered that there would not be a non-public session.

Gail Ober asked for clarification about absences regarding H1N1. Terri stated that school nurses are reporting that attendance is good. Joe Cormier asked if we could look at attendance at Laconia Middle School at the end of this school year to see if the new building shows fewer students out due to illness. We will revisit this later in the school year.

**ACTION ITEMS**

None

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3II**

None

**PUBLIC SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri L. Forsten  
Clerk