

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, in the Library at Laconia High School. 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 December 10, 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 Beth Arsenault, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Joe Cormier, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the minutes of December 1, 2009. The vote was unanimous.

PERFORMANCE – Laconia High School Jazz Band

Band Director Deb Gibson and the Laconia High School Jazz Band performed a medley of holiday music. They were outstanding and enjoyed by all in attendance.

RECOGNITION – Tonya Johnnican – WHS Volunteer

Woodland Heights Principal Lisa Green-Barber spoke about Tonya Johnnican, WHS parent volunteer. Tonya has volunteered for three years, almost every day, at WHS. She is always helping out in classrooms and the office as well as serving as co-chair person of the parent group, WHAVE. Kim Lacasse, Administrative Assistant at WHS, also spoke briefly about Tonya's volunteer efforts. She and Tonya organized a Polar Express Movie night at WHS on December 4th with over 50 families attending. This is the second year they have held this event with the Santa Fund donating 50 hardcopy Polar Express books to give to families who attend. Board Chair Scott Vachon presented Tonya with a certificate of appreciation from the Board.

PRESENTATION – Laconia Middle School Summer Programs

LMS Principal Jim McCollum shared with the Board the work that has been done at Laconia Middle School. Over 50% of the student body was recognized for high academic achievement in the recent Fall Academic Recognition Celebration. These academic improvements are the product of many factors. Tonight he shared the growing summer programming opportunities. This is funded through Project EXTRA! and now engages 40% of the student body during the summer months. Brian Connelly, Summer Program Director, shared a presentation on the programs offered. These are meaningful remediation and rigorous enrichment activities that are available to all students who are interested in improving themselves as learners and community members. Some of the programs offered are Bridges, Towers and Other Structures; Ceramics; Be A Movie Critic; Drama Camp; Kinesiology; Reading Connections; NH Aquatics; Tutoring and Summer Remediation. Please see, attached to these minutes, students' reflections that Brian shared during the presentation. Guidance Counselor Virginia Babcock offers "Keeping Your Cool in Middle School", a program for sixth grade students entering middle school. This program, started in 1990, is an orientation program highlighting strategies, skills and tours to help students "survive" their first year of middle school. Students in seventh and eighth grade have volunteered to help out, acting as role models and mentors to these new students. This past summer they had 92 students attending, which is over 50% of the incoming class. These students are better able to start school with the skills and self-confidence needed to be successful.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Under Facilities, Bob Champlin gave a presentation on "Lessons Learned" on the Laconia Middle School construction. He presented reflections on our decision to have RFS as lead design team on Laconia Middle School Building Project. They completed our three elementary buildings on time and under budget and have an outstanding reputation in our community. They have worked on numerous high performance "green" design projects. Bob stated that we have received a rebate from National Grid in the amount of \$89,178 and will be able to turn over \$142,864 of Contingency to the City. The grand total of savings to the community is \$3,224,245. Ed Emond shared with the Board his energy savings presentation. He has been able to acquire rebates, unit cost savings and, with the help of the Green Team, reduce energy consumption, which has resulted in savings to the district. He will continue to pursue additional cost savings.

Under Oversight Committee, Terri Forsten shared that the meeting held on December 3rd was very productive. The District Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan were reviewed and the committee would like to have the March 2010 Education Fair highlight this plan by showing student work.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Chair Joe Cormier reported that the Elm Street School roof has been completed with a cost savings. Joe stated that the committee was recommending approval of funding of the 5th grade technology proposal, budget transfers, supplemental appropriations and the insurance RFP from Rick Jones. Super Saturday was very successful with the schools presenting a three year outlook. Level meetings were scheduled for SAU administration on January 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. The high school and middle school meeting dates have not been confirmed but are tentatively scheduled for January 12 and 14 at 6:00 p.m. Other dates will be forthcoming. Budget transfer sheet is attached.

Facilities/CIP: Beth Arsenault reported that the committee reviewed the presentation that Bob Champlin presented on "lessons learned". The committee also discussed the energy savings that Ed Emond has received from National Grid. Facility manager Bill Caruso has changed the light bulbs at Elm Street School and Pleasant Street School from 800 watt to 200 watt bulbs. This will also be completed at Woodland Heights over vacation. Beth also stated that the Huot Center renovation is again on the list for the state renovations. The committee would like to recommend that we have this conversation again with City Council. The compressor at Laconia High School, which is 39 years old, has failed and needs to be replaced over vacation. The committee recommends that this be done.

Policy: Chris Guilmett reported that the committee met on December 8th and are working on a policy with Steve Beals and Jim McCollum regarding texting and cell phones. The committee will also be bringing forward for a first reading policy IHBA – Determining Specific Learning Disability tonight.

Board Member Input: Joe Cormier attended the Laconia High School Holiday concert that was held on December 14th. This concert included performances by the band, choir, jazz band and a guitar ensemble. These are a very talented group of students who gave an outstanding performance.

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Mal Murray, to add recommendations from Budget and Personnel to action items. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Board Chair Scott Vachon wished everyone a happy holiday season.

CALENDAR

Huot Center Business and Industry Review	December 18, 2009	8:00 a.m. @ Spirit Café - LHS
Budget and Personnel SAU Level Meeting	January 5, 2010	6:00 p.m. @ SAU
School Board Meeting	January 5, 2010	7:00 p.m. @ SAU

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Green Conference: Ed Emond reported that four members of the Green Team have received scholarships from ASBO International to attend EPA's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools (TfS) National Symposium in Washington D.C. from January 14 - 16, 2010. The members include Eric Greenfield, LHS; Brian Connelly, LMS; Andy Mercer, ESS and Stephen Dalzell, Facility Manager at LHS. They will give a presentation at a future board meeting when they return.

Brigid Kilfoyle Celebration: Laconia High School senior Renee Delaney and ESS Class of 2003 will present a plaque with the poem they wrote in memory of Brigid at Elm Street School on Thursday, December 17th at 4:30 p.m. Former principal Marie Samaha, Sally and Michael Kilfoyle and Renee and her classmates will share their thoughts as well as two scholarships to Shooters Gold basketball camp that will be presented to two students in honor of Brigid. Refreshments will be provided by Common Man Restaurant.

Project EXTRA! Open House: An open house highlighting Project EXTRA! elementary programs will be held on Thursday, December 17th at Pleasant Street School from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1st Reading Policy: Policy IHBA - Determining Specific Learning Disability - There was no discussion on this policy.

School Calendar 2010 – 2011: Bob Champlin showed the Board the proposed 2010-2011 School Calendar. There was discussion regarding clarification of dates.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

ACTION ITEMS

School Calendar 2010 – 2011: Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Stacie Sirois to approve the 2010 – 2011 School Calendar as presented. The vote was unanimous.

Budget Items: Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Chris Guilmett to approve budget transfers as recommended by Budget and Personnel Committee. The vote was unanimous. Motion made by Stacie Sirois, seconded by Beth Arsenault to approve payment to Rick Jones for insurance RFP as recommended by Budget and Personnel Committee. The vote was unanimous. Motion made by Beth Arsenault, seconded by Mal Murray to purchase new compressor for high school as recommended by Budget and Personnel Committee. The vote was unanimous.

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 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri L. Forsten
Clerk