

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2019
SAU OFFICE, 39 HARVARD STREET**

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 39 Harvard Street, SAU 30, Board Room. **PRESENT:** Bob Champlin, Dawn Johnson, Heather Lounsbury, Barbara Luther, Malcolm Murray, Stacie Sirois, Assistant Superintendent Amy Hinds, and Business Administrator, Christine Blouin. **ABSENT:** Aaron Hayward and Dr. Brendan Minnihan

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Malcolm Murray called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, April 12, 2019 at the SAU office and on the District's website, along with being sent to each of our schools, the Laconia Daily Sun, Laconia Library, and City Hall, in accordance with RSA 91-A.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Stacie Sirois to approve the minutes of April 2, 2019 as presented, seconded by Barbara Luther. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

DESTINATION IMAGINATION OF LACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL- SONYA ROBERTS: Mrs. Roberts informed the Board that the middle school Destination Imagination (DI) team won first place in their division and challenge at the regional and state competition earning them an invitation to the Global Finals competition in Kansas City, Missouri on May 21st. Laconia Middle School students, Rhea Ganchi, Sierra Johnson, Mia Lynch, Dylan Couture, Kaitlyn Durfee, and Arianna Jones-Douthart talked about how being part of DI has helped them with collaboration and career choices. The team discussed their recent challenge titled the *Monster Effect Challenge* using technical and STEAM elements. Mrs. Roberts explained how the team is currently fundraising to help with the travel costs. The team needs \$15,000 for travel and accommodations and if the Board knows of any businesses willing to help, please email Mrs. Roberts. Mr. Champlin congratulated the team for their accomplishments.

ROLLING THUNDER- JOSEPH DOWNING: Mr. Downing introduced fellow members, Mr. Robert McGuigan and Mr. John Domenicis and gave an overview of the history of Rolling Thunder, stating they are a 501C (4) organization Veteran advocacy group with over 400 members. He said in the United States there are 93,000 POW/MIA Veterans not accounted for and 300 of those Veterans are from New Hampshire. Mr. Downing talked about the history of the POW/MIA flag and opportunity the district has to display a flag and a chair of honor at Laconia Middle School, Huot Career and Technical Center, and Laconia High School. The cost of each flag ranges from \$30-\$60 and a chair of honor cost from \$600-\$800 with installation. Mr. Downing concluded his presentation stating that displaying the POW/MIA flag and chair creates an awareness and promotes knowledge to students in our District. Stacie Sirois inquired about the rules for handling the flag and Mr. Downing said it would be the same as the handling of the American flag.

PBIS-MCKENZIE HARRINGTON - BACOTE: McKenzie Harrington-Bacote introduced Principal Tara Beauchemin, Assistant Principal Dave Bartlett, Principal Michael Fredericksen, and Principal Alison Bryant. Ms. Harrington-Bacote gave an overview of the multiple grants the Office of School Wellness administers and their purpose. Principal Beauchemin presented Elm Street School's referrals, interventions, ACES screenings, Staff PD on student trauma, zones of regulation in K-2 this year and implementation in grades 3-5 next year. Mr. Champlin asked Principal Beauchemin how she felt about the referral data she presented and Mrs. Beauchemin said the behaviors have decreased over the last 5 years and she feels like they are going in the right direction.

Principal Bryant gave an overview of the interventions at Laconia Middle School and talked about their wrap around supports. Mr. Murray asked if she could define wrap around supports and Principal Bryant said it's support in school for students and out of school for their family as well. Ms. Harrington-Bacote interjected stating that social workers serve in the capacity of wrap around supports. Mr. Champlin asked Principal Bryant if she was happy with her referral data and she said no, but there is a silver lining, the new School Resource Officer (SRO) has been at LMS for 3 weeks and is a great fit. The new SRO is working on a variety of issues and is another set of eyes in the school.

Assistant Principal Bartlett gave an overview of the referrals at Laconia High School with a six-year comparison. The six-year comparison showed that Laconia High School's referrals have dropped significantly from 2,955 six years ago to about 670 this year. Assistant Principal Bartlett continued to explain the behavior tiers at LHS. Mr. Champlin asked if Laconia High School was happy with the decrease in behaviors and Assistant Principal Bartlett said yes. Principal Fredericksen added that the drop in referrals is due to having the right people and they deserve credit work the work they do.

LACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM PROPOSAL- FORMER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS, JOE CORMIER AND MIKE SEYMOUR: Joe Cormier presented on behalf of four former School Board Members requesting a dedication of the Laconia Middle School Gymnasium to former School Board Member, coach, and mentor, Mr. Bob Dassatti. Mr. Cormier stated Mr. Dassatti was an advocate for Laconia children and led many activities through Lou Athanas Youth Basketball League and Laconia Pride AAU. Mr. Dassatti was a great father, husband, leader, and a terrific School Board Member. Mr. Dassatti was known for community service and always saying, "it's about the kids". Mr. Cormier said that if the dedication is approved, there will be a Lou Athanas basketball tournament planned for the dedication with a tentative date of June 22nd. Mike Seymour added that Mr. Dassatti was instrumental in seeing the new middle school building to fruition and that he had a positive impact on young women in the community. Having Mr. Dassatti's name on the court at LMS would prompt a conversation that carries on the legacy to be a better student, coach, and athlete. Stacie Sirois shared an anecdote about how she and Mr. Dassatti spent a week at LMS comforting students after a tragedy in the community seven years ago. Mrs. Sirois added that she proposed a dedication to Mr. Dassatti on a wall versus the floor. Mr. Seymour said that

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would not preclude the committee from having something on the floor as there can be a couple of things done for the dedication. Mr. Murray asked for art examples to discuss at the next School Board meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET & PERSONNEL: Bob Champlin reported that Budget and Personnel met on April 11th. The Budget will be presented to the School Board on May 7th and then to City Council on May 13th. Mr. Champlin said he received great feedback from Administrators and the Superintendent transition is going well. Mr. Champlin talked about the breakdown of teacher's years of service, non-tenure vs. tenured and reported that Business Administrator, Christine Blouin, is currently working on job descriptions.

FACILITIES/CIP: Heather Lounsbury reported that the Facilities Committee met tonight and talked about the bid for the Performance Contract with Siemens and the financing to move forward with Bank of America at a percentage rate of 3.139%.

POLICY: Stacie Sirois reported that the Policy Committee met tonight and will be bringing 2-3 policies forward.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: The Strategic Planning Committee is in a holding pattern.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: There was no legislative update.

BOARD MEMBER INPUT: Dawn Johnson reported that Laconia VFW Commander reached out to her regarding the Memorial Day Parade seeking more involvement from the school district.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT: Malcolm Murray Thanked the Budget and Personnel Committee's work on the Administrator's contracts. Mr. Murray said last Friday went well with handing out the contracts to the Administrators with Steve Tucker. Mr. Murray also said that from now until the end of the school year there are a lot of activities and events and that if Board members can attend any of them please do so.

CALENDAR

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| School Board Meeting | May 7, 2019 | SAU 30 at 6:30 P.M. |
| Budget Presentation | May 13, 2019 | City Hall at 6:00 P.M. |

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent, Amy Hinds, reported that the Maker Fair at the Belknap Mill on April 11th and the Real Initiative event on April 16th were successful. Ms. Hinds also reported that a student from the Huot Career and Technical Center will be competing in the Skills USA National competition for Plumbing and Heating.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **POW / Other Flags:** The Board discussed the POW/MIA and said they will need to speak with Principals as well. Mr. Murray said LMS needs a new 4x6 flag and that he is willing to take care of the cost for the POW/MIA flags at LMS and LHS. Mrs. Sirois said she is support of the flags, however, there needs to be more information about the chair of honor.
- **Laconia High School 2020 Field Trip to Disney/Universal Studios in Florida:** The Board discussed the Laconia High School's field trip request and how they raised funds to make the trip possible.
- **\$15,000 Donation from NH Charitable Foundation to Support Music Education:** The Board discussed the donation from the NH Charitable Foundation.
- **\$5,000 Donation from Stand Up Sachems to Support LHS After Prom Activities:** The Board discussed the donation from Stand Up Sachems and the events planned.
- **19/20 School Year Calendar Change:** Ms. Hinds reported that the election date for November that was given to the Superintendent's Office is incorrect and that the correct voting date is November 5th. Ms. Hinds said the approved 19/20 School Year calendar will need to be amended.
- **Bids for Performance Contract:** Ms. Blouin reported that the district received bids for the Performance Contract financing of about 4.8 million dollars with over \$500,000 in savings in interest. Ms. Blouin said they expect to close financing in three weeks and projects are planned to be completed by the first day of the 19/20 school year.
- **Resignation:** The Board discussed resignation of a Huot Technical Center teacher.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

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ACTION ITEMS

- **POW / Other Flags:** Motion made by Stacie Sirois to display a POW/MIA flag at Laconia Middle School and Laconia High School, seconded by Barbara Luther. The vote was unanimous.
- **Laconia High School 2020 Field Trip to Disney/Universal Studios in Florida:** Motion made by Stacie Sirois to approve the field trip to Disney/Universal Studios in school year 2020 as presented, seconded by Dawn Johnson. The vote was unanimous.
- **\$15,000 Donation from NH Charitable Foundation to Support Music Education:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to accept the donation of \$15,000 from the NH Charitable Foundation as presented, seconded by Stacie Sirois. The vote was unanimous.
- **\$5,000 Donation from Stand Up Sachems to Support LHS After Prom Activities:** Motion made by Stacie Sirois to accept the donation of \$5,000 from Stand Up Sachems as presented, Seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.
- **19/20 School Year Calendar Change:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to amend the 19/20 School Year calendar to reflect the election date of November 5th, 2019, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.
- **Bids for Performance Contract:** Motion made by Stacie Sirois for Laconia School District to enter into an 18-year lease purchase agreement for \$4,747,023 at an interest rate of 3.139% with non – appropriation clause with Bank of America and further authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign and execute the contract and associated documents, seconded by Dawn Johnson. The vote was unanimous.
- **Resignation:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to accept the resignation of Matthew Towle, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Stacie Sirois to adjourn, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk