

The Laconia School Board held a regular meeting at the Huot Technical Center in the Meredith Village Savings Bank Dining Room.

PRESENT: Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, Heather Lounsbury, Joe Cormier, Laura Dunn, Malcolm Murray, Nick Grenon, Superintendent Steve Tucker, Assistant Superintendent Hinds, and Business Administrator Christine Blouin.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairperson, Heather Lounsbury, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, April 2, 2021 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 Board Member Grenon to approve the amended agenda to include a resignation under discussion and action and to remove ESSER III under action, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Board Member Grenon to approve minutes of March 16, 2021 as presented, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The call vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

Principal Bennett of Laconia High School informed the Board of the proposed in-person end of year events and stated they would coordinate the events while adhering to COVID guidelines. Principal Bennett introduced Laconia High School math teacher and Diploma with Distinction advisor, Lisa Hinds. Ms. Hinds explained to the Board that the diploma with distinction's theme this year is called the Passion Project. She said the project is placed based that includes research, with 21st century skills and Portrait of a Graduate attributes with the intention of a lasting legacy. She talked about the eligibility requirements, contract, proposals, action plan, journal reflection, portfolios and evidence, and the presentations.

Laconia High School Senior, Aidan Eldridge, presented on his project to raise awareness for Spinal Muscular Atrophy. He said he has two passions, engineering and service to the community. He used both to create a remote control car for a current student, Sophia. He said Avid donated a car which he modified using engineering skills to customize a remote joy stick.

Laconia High School senior, Shay Gunning-Lavoie, presented on her passion project to motivate students to choose careers in the area of math and science. She talked about the experience of teaching students at the elementary level in Laconia about coding and snap circuits. She said she was able to introduce snap circuits to the new media specialist and was able to teach her how to teach students how to use them.

Laconia High School senior, Lydia Tucker presented on her Passion Project to stimulate student morale and create a lasting impact on the school and community. She talked about using editing software for the first time to capture the Laconia High School senior experience for all students. She said this idea came to her last year at graduation to inspire underclassmen and to have as a guide for future seniors.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Board Member Cormier reported that this committee met on April 5th and discussed the Woodland Heights boiler and basketball hoops, the LEA nomination list, ESSER funds, the budget and final budget presentations, uniform donation at Laconia Middle School from Irwin Motors and a two-year grant from Home Builder Institute to the Huot Technical Center.

Facilities: Board Member Murray reported that this committee met on March 25th facility use, the Woodland Heights boiler, water heaters, Laconia High School's sewer line corrosion, Elm Street School's damaged hot water coil, Woodland Heights School basketball hoops, and the deadline for the completion of work from Siemens.

Strategic Planning/Portrait of a Graduate: Board Member Dunn reported that this committee will meet on April 13th at 3:15 PM

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force: Board Member Hayward reported that this committee met on March 15th and he then gave a statement regarding the District's Anti-Discrimination Plan, policy and staff development requirements. He said the next Diversity and Inclusion Task force meeting will be on April 19th at 3:15 PM.

Board Member Input

Board Member Cormier read a statement regarding the recent letter to the editor from Board Member Johnson.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Lounsbury reported on the 2021/22 budget timeline. The budget will be presented to the full Board on May 4th then to City Council on May 10th.

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 School Board Meeting 6:30 PM at the Huot Technical Center

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported on COVID -19 data from cities and towns, school impact and that we had three classes in the District pivot to remote this week. Superintendent Tucker reported on the tour with State Representative Pappas today, the Special Education on-site visit, Food Service audit, quarter II Paws Pride winners, 150 students completing "ah ha" moments at Pleasant Street School, quarter II Wild Cat Pride winners at Woodland Heights School, Laconia Middle School athletic recognition, Laconia High School Top Ten students, the number of students participating in spring athletics, and the anonymous donor of gift cards to local restaurants for District families. Superintendent Tucker reported that Laconia Middle School Social Studies teacher, Cathy Baylus, was named Teacher of the Year, Cynthia Bronson will succeed Marie Liimatainen as the school nurse at Pleasant Street School next year and Hillary Ayers will succeed Ann Nix as the guidance at Elm Street School next year. He talked about the resignation of our middle/high school ACTL, Angel Burke, Reaching Higher Ed, the end of year schedule for in-person events and how the District is prepared to pull back if needed. He talked about the end of year proposal of June 11th for LHS senior graduation, June 18th for the last day of school for students K-11. The aforementioned end of year school dates for students are all within the required academic hours. He proposed that teachers end the school year on June 21st adding that the administration has worked with the LEA on opportunities for them to meet their required days. This would allow teachers some time off before summer learning begins. He concluded his report talking about the two-year grant awarded to HTC and how the District could build that into the general budget or Perkins Grant thereafter and the donation from Irwin motors that will purchase 17 baseball uniforms and 1 coaches uniform. He thanked the donors for their continued to support.

DISCUSSION:

First Read Policy GBCD Background Investigation and Criminal Records - Board Member Hayward reported that this policy has been revised to include who it applies to in terms and conditions.

First Read Policy GBJ Personnel Records - Board Member Hayward reported that there was a revision in adding language that reads "The District will not disclose any personally identifiable staff data or information to any persons outside of the District, except as may be required by law, including Health Insurance and Portability and Accountability Act (HIPA)".

First Read Policy GCF Professional Staff Hiring – Board Member Hayward reported that this is a new policy to the District.

First Read Policy GDB Employment of Non-Certified Personnel - Board Member Hayward reported that this policy is combined with Policy GDA and NHSBA GDB and will be new to the District.

Rescind Policy GDA Classified/Support Staff Positions – Board Member Hayward reported that this policy is up for rescinding as it has been combined with Policy GDB.

Woodland Heights Boiler – This item was discussed on the Budget and Personnel report.

Woodland Heights Basketball Hoops – This item was reported in both the Facilities and Budget and Personnel report.

LEA Nomination List – Superintendent Tucker handed out the list of teacher nominations to Board Members and stated this list has not been shared with anyone except Board Members.

Federal Stimulus

ESSER II – There was no discussing on this item.

ESSER III – There was no discussion on this item.

End of Year Proposal – Board Member Dunn said she was happy that there are many in-person events planned with safety measures in place, and that Laconia can make it work.

Donations

Huot Technical Center – There was no discussion on this item.

Laconia Middle School – There was no discussion on this item.

ACTL Resignation – Superintendent Tucker reported that Angel Burke worked faithfully in the Laconia School District for 5 years. Angel is taking a position in Mascoma and the District wishes her well.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION

Rescind Policy GDA Classified/Support Staff Positions – Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve rescinding this policy as presented, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

Woodland Heights Boiler – Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve the Woodland Heights Boiler for \$78,950 as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

Woodland Heights Basketball Hoops – Motion made by Board Member Grenon to approve the Woodland Heights basketball hoops repair as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

LEA Nomination List – Motion made by Board Member Johnson to approve the nomination list as presented, seconded by Board Member Cormier. The vote was unanimous.

Federal Stimulus (ESSER II) – Motion made by Board Member Murray to accept the ESSER II funds as presented, seconded by Board Member Cormier. The vote was unanimous.

End of year Proposal – Motion made by Board Member Johnson to approve the end of year proposal as presented, seconded by Board Member Cormier. The vote was unanimous.

Donations

Huot Technical Center – Motion made by Board Member Johnson to accept the grant as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

Laconia Middle School – Motion made by Board Member Grenon to accept this donation as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

ACTL Resignation – Motion made by Board Member Grenon to accept this resignation as presented, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Board Member Murray to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous. The Board meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk