

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 20, 2019
MVSN CULINARY ARTS
HUOT CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER
26 DEWEY STREET**

The Laconia School Board held a work session on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 39 Harvard Street, SAU 30, Board Room. **PRESENT:** Aaron Hayward, Bob Champlin, Dawn Johnson, Heather Lounsbury, Barbara Luther, Malcolm Murray, Stacie Sirois, Superintendent Steve Tucker, Assistant Superintendent Amy Hinds, and Business Administrator Christine Blouin.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Malcolm Murray called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, August 16, 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 Stacie Sirois to amend the agenda to include Laconia Middle School grade 8 class size proposal under item # 6 and item #8. seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

Motion made by Stacie Sirois to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the minutes of August 6, 2019 as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. Barbara Luther and Stacie Sirois abstained. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Board Chairperson, Malcolm Murray, welcomed everyone to the work session and reported that the New Teacher Induction is scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2019 at Laconia Middle School. Superintendent Tucker reported that teachers return on Tuesday, August 27th for Opening Day and have a total of three in-service days and that the plan is to have the schedule sent out on August 21st. Superintendent Tucker said we will welcome students back on Tuesday, September 3rd. Malcolm Murray thanked Regina for coordinating the meal for the evening's work session. Aaron Hayward talked about the evaluation process for the leadership of the Laconia School Board. Aaron said the evaluation would allow the board to gather information and constructive feedback to recognize the board's strengths and challenges in order to grow. Malcolm Murray requested that the board leadership to be an item on the September 3rd agenda.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Dunn addressed the board saying she has children at Pleasant Street School, one in kindergarten, one in grade 1 and a 2-year old at home. Laura explained that she has resided in Ward 2 for the past 16 years and that she is the VIPSS president, she is involved with school banking, enrichments, fundraising and also coaches t-ball and soccer. Laura went on to say that she was made aware that no one has filed to be placed on the ballot for the Ward 2 School Board seat and that she plans to be a write in. Laura concluded by informing the board that she plans to write a letter in the Laconia Daily Sun with her intention to fill the vacant Ward 2 school board seat.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Instructional Coaches for the 19/20 School Year:** Bob Champlin reported that the Budget and Personnel Committee met at 3Pm on Friday August 16th and referred to the 2019-20 Instructional Coaches proposal. Bob talked about the 21 new teachers in the district this year and the proposal to hire Jim McCullum for grades 6-12 and Karolyn Wurster at the elementary level as instructional coaches.
- **Update on Strategic Plan:** Aaron reported on the strategic goals update and referred to the handout from April 4, 2018. The consensus from the April 4, 2018 final plan; less is more, omit what is already being accomplished, revise to a more precise version, have a student centered strategic plan, and to not include the minutia.
- **19/20 District Goals:** Aaron Hayward reported that the Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the 2 goals the Laconia School District Administrators came up with during their annual retreat; 1) Portrait of a Graduate to create a vision of a graduate: This goal will be part of the NEASC process, linked to 21st Century Learning at the Huot Technical Center, and it will paint a picture of what Laconia students can do. 2) Instruction: This goal will help to identify what teachers want in a quality lesson plan, help with structures and professional development.
- **Charging Policy:** Superintendent Tucker explained that he had a conversation with the Food Service Director and reported that the debt for unpaid food service counts were up \$25,000 for the 2018-2019 school year and with donations it went down to \$21,000. Steve referred to the memo from the USDA and talked about not shaming students who are in arrears with their accounts. Superintendent Tucker went on to report that the district needs a policy with a process in place for accounts that are overdue and guidance to know when to notify parents and take action. Christine Blouin said she can put a couple options together and Malcolm Murray interjected requesting Christine to send something positive and legal.
- **Grade 8 Class Size Proposal:** Bob Champlin reported that parents at Laconia Middle School have expressed their concerns about enrollment numbers in grade 6 and explained the need to come up with an effective plan to provide instruction that fits into the current budget. Superintendent Tucker reported on the following class size numbers at Laconia Middle School: Grade 6: 20-21 students Grade 7: 20-

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22 students and Grade 8: 24-25 students. The board discussed the option of adding an exploratory block in grade 8 for World Language. The position would be a 2/5 position and help to reduce overall class size numbers.

ACTION ITEMS

Instructional Coaches for the 19/20 School Year: Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the instructional coaches for the 219/2020 school year as presented, seconded by Stacie Sirois. The vote was unanimous.

19/20 District Goals: Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the 2019/2020 school year district goals as presented, seconded by Stacie Sirois. The vote was unanimous.

Grade 8 Class Sixe Proposal: Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the 2/5 teaching position at Laconia Middle School as presented, seconded by Barbara Luther. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Heather Lounsbury to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stacie Sirois. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk