

The Laconia School Board held a regular meeting at the Laconia High School Auditorium.

**PRESENT:** Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, Joe Cormier, Laura Dunn, Heather Lounsbury, 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, June 16<sup>th</sup> 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**

Board Member Hayward made a motion to amend the agenda to include a non-meeting to update the Board on negotiations, seconded by Board member Dunn. The vote was unanimous.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Board Member Johnson to amend the minutes to correct the typo in the Superintendent's Report from HB 3 to HB2, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous.

### **PRESENTATION**

Academic Coordinator Gail Bourn, Elm Street Principal Tara Beauchemin, and Woodland Heights Principal Dale Chennette presented on elementary professional development.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Rebecca Gardner of Blueberry Lane inquired about the non-negotiables regarding students with an IEP.
- Sally Schnieder of Outer Bridge Road talked her background in education, acceptance and respect for each other versus tolerance and stated that we are one race, the human ace.
- Richard Littlefield of Merrimack Street made a statement regarding mask mandate and not including the community in the decision.
- Kathleen Murphy of Oak Street talked about the Critical Race Theory and transgender issues.
- Steve Murphy of Oak Street expressed his gratitude to the district.
- Keith Noyes of Havenwood Drive thanked the Board for a tough year.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget & Personnel:** Board Member Cormier said this committee met on July 15<sup>th</sup> and discusses ESSER funds, prioritize facilities projects, ongoing LEA negotiations, non-union handbook and staffing.

**Facilities:** Board Member Murray said this committee met on July 12<sup>th</sup> and discussed ESSER updates, facilities updates, summer projects, Woodland Heights parking lot entrance update, Pleasant Street School's tiling projects.

**Policy:** Board Member Hayward reported that this committee is looking at policies JIC and JICD but are still waiting on guidance from the NH Schoolboard's association.

**Strategic Planning/Portrait of a Graduate:** Board Member Dunn reported this committee has not met.

**Diversity and Inclusion Task Force:** Board Member Hayward said this committee is looking at meeting at the end of August. Board member Hayward talked about the rise of offensive language and imagery in the community, the District's anti-discrimination plan, the need for more empathy in the community.

### **Board Member Input**

Board member Dunn talked about the new planters at Woodland Heights School and how esthetically pleasing they look and that she was able to meet the new principal at Woodland Heights School, Dale Chennette.

**BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR**

Board Chairperson Lounsbury reported the New Teacher Induction set for August 30<sup>th</sup> and the District Opening Day set for August 31<sup>st</sup>. She explained the tradition of both those days and that Board Members are invited to breakfast for New Teacher Induction and to the Opening Day.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Business Administrator Blouin reported on House Bill 2 and revisions to the budget that was sent to City Council in May. She talked about ESSER Projects and that the district will present and overall budget to the Department of Education.

Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported on summer learning labs, 109 credits will be recovered at Laconia High School this summer, summer conditioning for athletes, and the School Climate Transformation grant with the USDOE and Laconia's work with MTSS-B.

Superintendent Tucker reported on the summer cleaning, the Education Freedom Account, summer athletics, MTSS, Got Lunch Laconia, and gave a staffing update. He said that the Critical Race Theory is not being taught in the Laconia School District and said the mission of the School District is to ensure success with every student, every day in every way and that the district will support students and staff in preventing discrimination in our district. If parents have concerns they should contact their child's teacher or building administrator, Superintendent Tucker talked about his years in Laconia as both a teacher and Administrator and CRT has never been taught in Laconia.

**DISCUSSION**

- Rescind: Policies IHM & IHM-P Pupil Placement and Procedure: Board Member Hayward said these two policies are rolled into policy JG and JG-P. Board Member Johnson inquired about rescinding prior to a second read to policy JG and JG-P and Board member Hayward said the policy and procedure are not new they have a couple language changes.
- First Reading: Policy JG Assignment of Students Classes and Grade and Grade: Board Member Dunn said it does not have the adoption notes and for JG-P as well. In the first paragraph she noted dates conflicted with dates in the handbooks and Board Member Hayward clarified and stated the policy should be reflective and consistent with the language in the handbooks.
- First Reading: Policy JG-P Pupil Class Placement Procedure: This discussion was combined with discussion of Policy JG.
- Review: Policy JI Student Rights and Responsibilities Board Member Hayward said there are no changes to this policy, just a review.
- Adult Education Resignation: Superintendent Tucker talked about this resignation in his report and it is brought to the Board for formal acceptance.
- Woodland Heights Principal: Superintendent Tucker talked about this position being filled by Principal Dale Chenette in his report and is looking for formal acceptance from the Board.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Doug Teegarden of Gilford Ave. requested a copy of policy JI Student rights and Responsibilities. Board Chairperson Lounsbury said she will email him the link to the policy on the website.

**ACTION**

- Rescind: Policies IHM & IHM-P Pupil Placement and Procedure: Motion made by Board Member Murray to accept the rescindment of this policy and procedure, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.
- Adult Education Resignation: Motion made by Board Member Grenon to accept this resignation, seconded by Board Member Cormier. The vote was unanimous.

- Woodland Heights Principal: Motion made by Board Member Cormier to formally approve the hiring of this position, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Board Member Hayward to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous. The Board meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds  
Clerk