

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 4, 2019 2019
SAU OFFICE, 39 HARVARD STREET**

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 39 Harvard Street, SAU 30, Board Room. **PRESENT:** Bob Champlin, Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, Heather Lounsbury, Malcolm Murray, Stacie Sirois, Superintendent Dr. Brendan Minnihan, Assistant Superintendent Amy Hinds, and Business Administrator, Christine Blouin. **Absent:** Barbara Luther

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Malcolm Murray called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, May 31, 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 amend the agenda to agenda item # 9 general public comment to follow agenda item # 4, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous. Motion made by Dawn Johnson 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 May 21, 2019 as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

LHS Attendance Proposal Update: Laconia High School Principal, Michael Fredericksen, and Assistant Principal, Dave Bartlett, updated the Board on the parent survey results regarding senior attendance requirements to participate in the graduation ceremony. Mr. Fredericksen said the tiered diploma concept has been approved by the Board. The survey results indicated that 68% of families surveyed are in favor of ensuring all seniors have 3 classes per day each semester during their senior year and 66% families surveyed are in favor of seniors only being allowed 1 block off per day, each semester. Mr. Bartlett informed the Board of the emails from families he received after sending the survey in support of the proposal and talked about the Graduation Attendance Committee (GAC), who monitor attendance. The Graduation Attendance Committee propose that all students who exceed the 18-absence limit will have the opportunity to appeal their situation to the committee, and that students with a documented plan (504/IEP/Health Plan) would be exempt from the attendance policy as well as students with a school related function, bereavement, religious holidays, college visits, court appointments, in-house meetings, and illness substantiated by doctor. Mr. Murray asked when a decision needed to be made and Mr. Bartlett said in time to place the new policy in the student handbook. Mr. Bartlett added that 95 % of seniors for the 19/20 school year are already scheduled for 3 courses. Mr. Fredericksen said, if the proposed attendance policy is approved, he would like to send notification to parents as well. Stacie Sirois asked if they surveyed surrounding districts and Mr. Fredericksen said yes and that some districts pull credits for excessive absences. Mrs. Sirois asked how much administrative time will the proposed policy take to track and Mr. Bartlett said he can add it to the GAC Monday morning attendance meetings or stay after hours to track it. Dr. Minnihan asked them to come back on June 18th to follow up with the Board.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Aaron Jones of Holman Street, Mr. Jones said he knows the Board has worked hard to have competitive contracts for teachers and that he was speaking on behalf of LMS students. Mr. Jones talked about LMS offering project based learning, enrichment math classes and genius hour. Mr. Jones said the current grade 6 team consist of 8 teachers who deal with discipline in a proactive way and that grade 6 is potentially facing the loss of a teacher to the grade 7 team. Mr. Jones went on to state that the long term projection numbers for enrollment continue to go up and that Laconia Middle School needs to hire an additional teacher in grade 7 to keep the grade 6 team as it is. Mr. Murray asked if there are others who would wish to speak. Amy Lovisek of Shore Drive spoke to the Board stating she is a parent of a grade 5 student going into grade 6 next year. Mrs. Lovisek said the grade 5 class is unique and can be difficult and would strongly love to see the grade the 6 teams remain the same. Catherine Tokarz of Ward 6 spoke to the Board asking them to keep the grade 6 teams as they are in order to offer students a well-rounded education. Keith Noyes of Havenwood Drive spoke to the Board saying he mirrors what Amy, Aaron and Catherine said and stated that when you cut a teaching position the ramifications are huge and the Board should strongly think about what that means to the upcoming grade 6 class. Mr. Murray thanked those who spoke for their input and said they have been heard and that the Board will take their input into consideration.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Bob Champlin reported that the Budget and Personnel Committee will meet on June 13th at 3:30 PM.

Facilities/CIP: The Facilities Committee will meet prior to the June 18th School Board meeting.

Policy: The Policy Committee will schedule to meet next week.

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

Legislative Update: Dr. Minnihan reported on SB 196 regarding non-academic surveys administered by a public school and SB 140 regarding the Learn Everywhere proposal.

Board Member Input: There was no Board member input.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Mr. Murray reported that the POW/MIA flags are in and that Mr. Downing asked to postpone the installment until September in order to have more public figures in attendance and that Dr. Bryant approved the request. Mr. Murray went on to report that Laconia High School graduation is Friday, June 7th and the Board members should plan to meet at Mr. Kozens office at 5:45 PM.

Budget & Personnel
School Board Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2019
Tuesday, June 18, 2019

SAU at 3:30 PM
SAU at 6:30 PM

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Minnihhan reported on a grievance Level C and said he will reach out to the district's attorney and the union attorney to see their availability. Mr. Murray said pick a date and see who is available and Bob Champlin added there will need to be a quorum.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Summer Board Meeting Schedule:** Mr. Murray said in the past there was one meeting in July and one meeting in August and that he would like wait to make a decision with Mr. Tucker's input as he will be Dr. Minnihhan's successor as of July 1st.
- **Request for Superintendent to Hire Certified Staff During Summer:** Dr. Minnihhan reported that in the past he notified the Board via email of the new staff member and was able to hire without waiting a month's time for the next meeting.
- **Nomination/Election of Staff:** Dr. Minnihhan handed out an amended version of the nomination list for the Board to consider.
- **Resignation of Staff:** Dr. Minnihhan referred to the handout in the Board packet and discussed the resignations.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Summer Board Meeting Schedule:** Motion made by Stacie Sirois to table the summer Board meeting schedule, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.
- **Request for Superintendent to Hire Certified Staff During Summer:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to authorize the Superintendent to hire certified staff during summer with prior notification to the Board as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.
- **Nomination/Election of Staff:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to approve the nomination/election of staff as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.
- **Resignation of Staff:** Motion made by Dawn Johnson to accept the resignation of staff as presented, seconded by Heather Lounsbury. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Stacie Sirois to adjourn, seconded by Dawn Johnson. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk