

LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
March 16, 2021 at 6PM.
26 DEWEY STREET

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 6:00 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, March 12, 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 Cormier to approve the agenda presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve minutes of March 2, 2021 as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The roll call vote was unanimous.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Board Member Cormier said the EAL contract was brought to the Laconia City Council and will be voted on at the next Council meeting. He said the Committee met and discussed proposed changes to substitute pay rate. The Committee proposes from \$75/day to \$100/day for substitute teachers, \$90/day for substitute Para educators and for nurses from \$135/day to proposed \$150/day. He said the Budget and Personnel Committee fully supports the pay rate changes for the aforementioned substitute staff. The committee also discussed one additional retirement request that is under discussion and action. they also reviewed grants.

Facilities/CIP: Board Member Murray said reported on three facility projects that will be in discussion and action. The projects are electrical at the SAU, tiling at Pleasant Street School, and fencing at the north end of the Laconia High School athletic field.

Policy: Board Member Hayward reported that the Policy Committee will met on March 3rd and discussed policies relating to personnel records and staff hiring.

Strategic Planning/Portrait of a Graduate: Board Member Dunn reported that this committee met on March 9th and went over chapters in the book, On Your Mark and looked at the PRIDE matrix and how to connect with the Portrait of a Graduate attributes. The next committee meeting will be April 13th at 3:15 PM.

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force: Board Member Hayward reported that this committee met on March 8th and discussed building level versus District communication and the continued need to meet the needs of every student.

Board Member Input

There was no Board Member input.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Lounsbury reported on the vaccination roll out for teachers and the need for support from available school board members starting March 19th at LRGH. Board Member Lounsbury reported on upcoming webinars and dates that will be offered through the NH School Board Association.

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

School Board Meeting

In-Person at Huot Technical Center

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Business Administrator Blouin reported on the teacher contract and hiring timeline and vacant positions, the proposed substitute rate changes, three proposed facilities projects totaling \$28,000 that would come from the general budget. Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported on COVID -19 data from cities and towns, school impact and that we have not had to pivot to remote learning since February. Superintendent Tucker reported on the new guidance for COVID-19, and talked about the data being favorable to go back to full face to face learning for students that are in the hybrid model of learning and stated there would continue to be a remote division. Business Administrator Blouin talked about the impact of bussing going back to full face to face learning and potential need for busses to do second runs. Superintendent Tucker continued to report on staff vaccination that will begin Friday, March 19th. He informed the

Board that his recommendation is to return to full on March 22nd while adhering to the State guidance and how the District will adapt as needed.

DISCUSSION:

Substitute Teacher Pay Rate: There was not conversation on this item as it was discussed in Board Committee Reports.

Facilities Projects: There was not conversation on this item as it was discussed in Board Committee reports and the Superintendent's report.

Retirement: Superintendent Tucker informed the Board that Deb Matsumoto and Greg Schneberger have submitted their letter of retirement effective June 30th 2021 and said the Board has to formally accept the resignations.

Instructional Mode: Superintendent Tucker said his recommendation is to return to full face to face learning starting on March 22nd for those in the hybrid mode of learning while maintaining the remote learning division.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Shawn Sinclair, Ward 4 of 44 fair Street requested Board member Johnson to resign from the Board due to her former social media posts.

Megan Daigneau, Ward 4 of 44 Fair Street echoed the previos comments and requested Board member Johnson to reign.

ACTION

Substitute Teacher Pay Rate: Motion made by Board Member Grenon to approve the substitute teacher pay rate as presented, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous.

Facilities Projects: Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve the facilities projects as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

Retirement: Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve the retirements as presented, seconded by Board member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

Instructional Mode: Motion made by Board member Grenon to approve the instructional mode of full face to face for students in the hybrid learning mode starting March 22nd 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 6:39 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk