

LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
November 16, 2021 at 6:30 PM
SAU #30
39 Harvard Street

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

PRESENT: Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, Heather Drolet, Laura Dunn, Nick Grenon, Jennifer Anderson, Jennifer Ulrich, Superintendent Steve Tucker, Assistant Superintendent Hinds, and Business Administrator Christine Blouin.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairperson Hayward called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Friday, November 12th 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 the Electric Rate under Discussion and Action, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous. Board Chairperson Hayward added that there will be a non-meeting after the Board meeting to discuss LEA negotiations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Board Member Drolet to approve the minutes of November 6th as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS Motion made by Board Member Johnson to nominate Board Member Dunn as the Board chairperson, seconded by Board Member Ulrich. Board Members Grenon, Anderson, Hayward and Drolet opposed. The vote was 4-3.

Motion made by Board Member Grenon to nominate Board Member Hayward as the Board Chairperson, seconded by Board Member Drolet. Board Member Johnson opposed. The vote was 6-1.

Motion made by Board Member Grenon to nominate Board Member Dunn as the Vice Board Chairperson, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

Woodland Heights Principal, Dale Chenette reported on the preschool harvest festival, grade 1 weekly partner and Portrait of a Graduate skills, grade 2 math lessons, grade 3 explorer's math, grade 4 student play contraction bingo, and grade 5 DARE. Board Member Drolet inquired about DSARE being taught in all grade levels at Woodland Heights School and Principal Chenette said yes, it is. Grade 4 Teachers, Emily Boyle, and Haley Ryan presented with students Solomon Dix, Olive Dix, and Brianna Prescott, presented on Performance Tasks, Business Plan, Creaturepedia Animal Adaptations, and Trout in the Classroom.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Board Member Input:** Board Member Anderson congratulated the Laconia Interact Club taking the Turkey Plunge and raising around \$2,200 for the Salvation Army. Board Member Johnson reported on the Powered Puff Game at Laconia High School. Superintendent Tucker added that the Powder Puff Game has been a tradition since 1960. Board Member Johnson brought up an email to the School Board from Donna Green of the School District Governance Association of NH, the Board received and would like to bring up for discussion on the next meeting agenda. Board Chairperson Member Hayward said he will send a copy to new members and will leave that up to the Board to amend the agenda to add that as a discussion item.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Hayward discussed Committee assignments and asked Board Members to send him two committees each member would be interested in serving on. Board Chairperson Hayward talked about the Bradley Kidder conference and handed out material on minutes, nonpublic, non-meeting and background information on effective meetings. He talked about the proposal from Rist Frost Shumway and creating an Ad Hoc committee that includes himself, Board Members Grenon and Dunn to review the proposal and bring back that information back to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Business Administrator Blouin reported on the health care rate and the Holiday Premium. She reported on the electric rate proposal for the elementary schools. She said the total increase will be \$6,196 and asked for Board approval on the rate. Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported on Ms. Fisher's grade 3 class researching local government and the quarter 1 ending and report cards issued on November 22nd, the Veteran's Day celebrations, Tier I Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for keeping restrooms clean, the Powder Puff game, the Turkey Plunge and the new schoolboard member orientation. The Laconia Athletic Director, Craig Kozens proposed winter sports without masking while maintaining 6 feet apart on the bench and no mask for basketball players while on the court. He talked about adhering to school's COVID 19 rules during away games. Superintendent Tucker talked about the cooperative Hockey Team and the process of interviewing for a Hockey Coach this year. He reported on the Educational Freedom Accounts (EFA) through the NH Department of education, homeschool numbers to date, and the Portrait of a Graduate logos created by a Laconia High School student. Superintendent Tucker continued to report on the Partnership for Public Health COVID shot clinic for children ages 5-11 on December 2nd at Laconia Middle School from 4-7PM. He ended his report with the stay in school update with his recommendation to stay the course with the mask requirements.

DISCUSSION

- Stay in School Update: The Board talked about area school's requirements for masking, current quarantine requirements, reconsideration dates, and the DHHS guidance.
- Winter Sports: Board Member Dunn asked Coach Kozens various questions sports and various protocols.
- Electric Rate: There was no Board discussion on this item as it was presented in the Superintendent's report.

General Public Comment on Discussion and Action Items

- Oscar Toce of Ward 2 talked about the vaccine mishap in Virginia that mistakenly gave 120 children the incorrect dose and how he disagrees with any vaccine.
- Brianna Clark Patten talked about the policy when students have a fever prior to the COVID pandemic.

ACTION

- Stay in School Update: Motion made by Board Member Johnson to make mask wearing optional. There was not a second to her motion. Motion made by Board Member Grenon to stay the course with the mask requirements, seconded by Board Member Ulrich. Board Members Dunn and Johnson opposed. The vote was 5-2.
- Winter Sports: Motion made by Johnson to approve the Winter Sports proposal as presented, seconded by Board Member Anderson. Board Member Dunn opposed. The vote was 6-1.
- Electric Rate: Motion made by Board Member Grenon to give Business Administrator Blouin the authority to lock in other buildings for rates, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Brianna Clark Patten talked about vaccinated students versus non vaccinated students.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Board Member Genon to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Drolet. The vote was unanimous. The School Board meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk