

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M.
HTC MVSDB DINING ROOM**

The Laconia School Board held a regular meeting, at the Huot Career and Technical Center on Wednesday, November 4, 2020.

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 6:30 P.M. The agenda was posted on Monday, November 2, 2020 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.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Ward 4 and Ward 5 elected Board members, Dawn Johnson and Nick Grenon respectively, read the oath and were sworn in by City Clerk, Cheryl Hebert.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Board Member Johnson to amend the minutes to reflect that the October 20th School Board Work Session was cancel and to exclude public comment as there was none. The motion was seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion made by Board Member Murray to elect Heather Lounsbury for a second term as Board Chairperson, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion made by Board Chairperson Lounsbury to nominate Aaron Hayward for a second term as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Board Member Dunn. The vote was unanimous. Motion made by Board Member Murray to elect Assistant Superintendent Hinds as the Board Clerk, seconded by Board Member Cormier. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

Laconia High School Athletic Director, Craig Kozens, and Laconia Middle School Athletic Director, Chrigus Boazeman presented on winter sports and extracurricular activities highlighting physical distancing precautions, working and abiding to other school's guidelines and guidelines put by the state and NHIAA.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Board Member Cormier reported that this committee met on October 26th and discussed the year to date budget, budget timeline, facilities projects, night shift custodial supervisor and health insurance rates.

Facilities/CIP: Board Member Murray reported on Mechanical Services, pumps at Elm Street School, the lock system at the SAU office.

Policy: Board Member Hayward reported that the Policy Committee met on October 28th to go over policy ACAC and the committee is hoping to bring that policy forward November 17th as well as other policies the committee is requesting to rescind.

Strategic Planning/Portrait of a Graduate: This committee has not met.

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force: Board Member Hayward reported that this committee will meet on November 16th.

Board Member Input

There was no Board Member input.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Lounsbury referred to Policy BCA Board Member Ethics and talked about the Superintendent's evaluation. Chairperson Lounsbury discussed and assigned Board Members to School Board committees.

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

School Board Meeting

6:30 PM at HTC MVSDB Dining Room at 6:30 PM

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Business Administrator Blouin reported on the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery Funds and its timeline as well as the Coronavirus Relief Fund, the CARES ACT. Superintendent Tucker talked about the 2020-21 school year calendar and holiday travel, including state travel guidelines and NH DOE requirements for elementary, middle and high school to meet required academic hours. Superintendent Tucker reported on Facility Use and the groups that traditionally use buildings at this time of year. Board Member Murray would like to have a Facilities meeting as soon as possible with the objective being facility use. Superintendent Tucker said he will schedule a Facilities meeting and bring the information to the Board. He continued to reported on the Office of Extended Learning, their enrollment numbers and their support for the remote learning division. Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported on current COVID-19 cases by county, cities in NH as of November 3rd and the level of impact on schools. Superintendent Tucker talked about the NH DHHS Decision Making Matrix and the four instructional modes of phasing in. Board Member Cormier

inquired about a contingency plan in the event of going full remote. Superintendent Tucker said DHHS would assist in making that recommendation and the district would refer to their guidance document that came out the week of October 28th. Board Member Cormier asked if teachers are ready in the event of transitioning to remote. Superintendent Tucker said staff is ready to go if we have to. Board Member Cormier asked about Google Classroom training and Professional Development, Superintendent Tucker said we had 91 staff members over the summer trained on Google Classroom and that we have people in-house that provide professional development.

DISCUSSION

SAU Security Upgrades: Board Member Grenon said the upgrades at SAU would adding security doors for the front and back of the building as well as a buzz in system. Board Chair person Lounsbury said it will be similar to the school's system.

Elm Street School Pumps: The Board discussed the pumps that need to be replaced at Elm Street School, the cost and lifetime. Board Member Johnson asked if we explored purchasing pumps for both Elm Street and Pleasant Street School to see if there's a savings. Business Administrator Blouin said she has not explored that option.

Winter Sports: There was no discussion.

2020-21 School Year Calendar: Board Member Hayward asked if other area schools are exploring amending their calendar due to holiday travel. Superintendent Tucker said some schools are in the process and some are not doing it. Board Member Dunn asked if a teacher decides to travel outside of New England would they be paid for their quarantine time. Business Administrator Blouin said no, for traveling outside of New England they would have to use their vacation or personal time if they have it. The Board discussed polling, quarantining, different scenarios around traveling out of New England and polling staff versus families. Board Member Murray said polling will give a message that it is ok to travel. Board Member Dunn asked why would the district go into remote learning for a select few who decide to travel. Board Member Grenon asked if students travel, can they come back to remote learning while in quarantine. Superintendent Tucker said no, they will not be matriculated in the remoted division and would get work from their teacher. Board Member Grenon talked about subs to cover classrooms for two weeks for staff who may travel outside of New England stating that he is not thinking of the side of the community but on the side of the district in order maintain classrooms from the personnel stand point. He continued saying he feels like we should poll staff versus community members, Board Member Johnson agreed. Board Chairperson Lounsbury suggested polling staff so principals can get a sense of where staff is and bring that information back to the Board.

Phase In Plan: Superintendent Tucker said with the guidance from Dr. Chan and the local data we can remain on course.

ACTION

SAU Security Upgrades: Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve the SAU upgrades as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

Elm Street School Pumps: Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve the Elm Street Pumps as presented with the possible technology that goes with it, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

Phase-In Plan: Motion made by Board Member Grenon to approve the Phase-In Plan as presented, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Drolet thanked the Board for the thoughtful discussion and her inquired about a remote day being counted as an instruction day and her concerns for teachers having to hide traveling outside of New England.

NONPUBLIC:

Motion made by Board Member Cormier to enter in to Nonpublic per RSA 91-A3, II (a) EAL Retirement, seconded by Board Member Johnson. Roll call vote was unanimous. The Board entered into nonpublic at 8:58 P.M.

Motion made by Board Member Cormier to return to public session, seconded by Board Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Public Session reconvened at 9:05 P.M.

Motion made Board Member Cormier to accept the EAL Early Retirement request, seconded by Board Member Murray. 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 9:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk