

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

PRESENT: Heather Lounsbury Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, 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 Friday, October 15th 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 Cormier made the motion to approve the amended agenda to reflect the addition of LHS Interim Principal under Discussion and Action and to omit the Putnam Fund Donation from Discussion and Action, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Cormier to approve the minutes from October 5th as presented, seconded by Board Member Hayward. Board Chairperson Lounsbury abstained. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

Laconia Middle School's grade 6 team teachers; Mrs. Yousseff, Mrs. Siegler and Mrs. McCallum presented on grade 6 literacy highlighting district goals, transfer skills, essential questions, enduring understanding, and Goal, Role, Audience, Situation, Production/Project (GRASP). They also talked about English/Language Arts and Portrait of a Graduate competencies that are taught and assessed at the sixth grade level.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Board Member Cormier reported that this committee met today and discussed the part time custodial proposal, the Huot Technical Center's joint Plumbing & Heating and Building Trades Assistant, and the Laconia High School Interim Principal proposal.

Facilities: Board Member Murray said this committee has not met but plans to meet next week with Marinace Architect and Rist Frost Shumway Engineers.

Policy: Board Member Hayward reported that this Committee will meet on October 25th with focus on policy BEDH as discussed at the October 5th School Board meeting.

Board Member Input

Board Member Dunn reported on a Pumpkin donation that will be distributed to Pleasant Street School students this week, the LRSF contest for pumpkin display where Pleasant Street School won best display in the school category for their Sesame Street them, and lastly, she talked about the Bradley Kidder Conference on Monday, October 18th.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Lounsbury said Board Members Cormier and Murray as well as herself will not run in the November 2nd election. She recognized Board Members Cormier and Murray for the years of service and contributions to the community. Vice Board Chair Hayward recognized Board Chairperson Lounsbury for her years of service and contributions to the community. Superintendent Tucker gave Board Member Murray a lifetime admission pass to all Laconia athletic events.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Assistant Superintendent Hinds talked about Fall testing; Fast Bridge and NWEA. Teaching and Learning with the focus on Portrait of a Graduate skills, PLC's and grade level teams, Free and Reduced Lunch numbers and its impact on Adequacy Aid and Federal Grants. She noted districts are to revert to the eligibility they had in 20-21, or even 19-20. This means that all the students do not need a new application, as last year's eligibility is essentially good for 2 years. Assistant Superintendent Hinds reported that there is a bond to support the expansion of the Winnisquam Agricultural Center in Tilton. If the bond passes next March, the expansion is projected to be completed for opening in the 2024-25 school year. In addition to agricultural programs, they are looking to add precision manufacturing and cosmetology to their program of studies. Superintendent Tucker reported that he met with Director of the Chamber of Commerce, the Executive Director of the Belknap County Economic Development Council, the Huot Technical Center Director, the Huot Career Support Specialist, and to develop work groups of people from the business community to support the Portrait of a Graduate's Advisory Board. He also reported on the letter from NHSBA to the National School Boards Association that is in the Board packet. He said the Huot Technical Center's enrollment has increased this year in Plumbing and Heating and in the Building Trades programs. He reported on current COVID data and his recommendation is that the District stays the course with our current protocols for safety and health.

DISCUSSION

- **Second Read Policy ADB/GBEC: Drug Free Workplace (Also GBEC/ADB):** Board Member Hayward said this policy's language was updated to reflect drug education in the work place.
- **Second Read Policy ADC/GBED/JICG: Prohibition Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids In and On School Facilities (Also GBED/ADC/JICG & JICG/ADC/GBED)** Board Member Hayward said this policy was updated to include e-liquids and definitions for devices.
- **Second Read Policy JICD: Student Discipline and Due Process:** Board Member Hayward said this policy was updated to include new definitions of expulsion.
- **Custodial Proposal:** Superintendent Tucker said this is a part-time, night time proposal.
- **HTC Assistant Proposal:** Superintendent Tucker said this proposal is due to the expansion of numbers in plumbing & heating and the building trades programs. This position would be funded with Perkins Grant funds.
- **Stay in School Update:** Superintendent Tucker said he recommends that the District stays the course with the current safety protocols.
- **LHS Interim Principal:** Superintendent Tucker said the Board approved the support of the LHS Administration and as Principal Bennet continues to focus on his health, the proposal is to have Jim McCollum step into the interim Principal position with the rate as discussed. Principal Bennett will remain employed during this time.

General Public Comment on Discussion and Action Items

- There was no public comment.

ACTION

- **Second Read Policy ADB/GBEC: Drug Free Workplace (Also GBEC/ADB):** Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve this policy as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.
- **Second Read Policy ADC/GBED/JICG: Prohibition Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids in and On School Facilities (Also GBED/ADC/JICG & JICG/ADC/GBED):** Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve this policy as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

- **Second Read Policy JICD: Student Discipline and Due Process:** Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve this policy as presented, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.
- **Custodial Proposal:** Motion made by Board Member Murray to approve this proposal, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.
- **HTC Assistant Proposal:** Motion made by Board Member Cormier to approve this proposal as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.
- **Stay in School Update:** Motion made by Board Member Grenon to approve Superintendent's Tucker recommendation to stay the course with our current protocols, seconded by Board Member Murray. Board Members Dunn and Johnson opposed. The vote was 5-2.
- **LHS Interim Principal:** Motion made by Board Member Murray to accept Jim McCollum as the interim Principal of Laconia High School, seconded by Board Member Grenon. The vote was unanimous.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Board Member Cormier to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Murray. The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hinds
Clerk