

**LACONIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 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 Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

PRESENT: Aaron Hayward, Dawn Johnson, Heather Lounsbury, Joe Cormier, Laura Dunn, Malcolm Murray, Nick Grenon, Superintendent Steve Tucker, 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, September 25, 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.

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 Murray to approve minutes as presented, seconded by Board Member Cormier. Board Member Johnson abstained. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

Bon Champlin presented Facilities. Mr. Champlin highlighted cleaning with VitalOxide sanitation wipes that is used throughout the district, the facilities organizational chart, ventilation work with Rist, Frost, Shumway, classroom space and footage, challenges, considerations, and modifications.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: Board Member Cormier reported that this committee had not met.

Facilities/CIP: This committee has not met.

Policy: This committee has not met.

Strategic Planning/Portrait of a Graduate: Board Member Hayward who reported that this committee met on September 8th and discussed the district's vision statement, Portrait of a Graduate and overall Strategic Planning process next.

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force: Board Member Hayward reported that this committee is on hold.

Board Member Input

There was no Board Member input.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT /CALENDAR

Board Chairperson Lounsbury reported that the first November School Board meeting will be on Wednesday, November 4th due to elections on the 3rd, ward 5 and 2 School Board Members will be sworn in and committee assignments will be given and Board Leadership will be voted on.

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

School Board Meeting

6:30 PM at HTC MVSDB Dining Room

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Tucker presented on the reopening of schools' highlighting the increase of remote students and staffing. He talked about facilities and cleaning, Huot Technical Center, the survey data, the registration process for quarter 2, elementary in-person class counts, elementary remote enrollment and staffing, LMS in-person enrollment and class sizes, LMS remote enrollment and staffing with emphasis on large numbers in the remote division by class and challenges with staffing. He continued to talk about LMS explanatories and LHS remote numbers and noted the numbers of LHS enrollment is up. He talked about the Huot Technical Center going back to full on October 5th that will work for area schools but that there are considerations with transportation. Board Member Hayward inquired about lab rooms and if the area in those classes will accommodate students and Superintendent Tucker said some changes have been made to be sure they accommodate a specific course in the room. Board member Johnson noted that the last meeting Director Warrender mentioned HTC is ready to go in full face to face so why don't we go in full? Superintendent Tucker said it's not that simple due to area schools' hybrid schedules but we have worked with area school districts and feel they are now ready. Business Administrator Blouin reported on Rist, Frost Shumway work at LHS and SAU and recommendations to purchase air purifiers. She continued to report on concerns with transportation and the district's plan to offer additional runs, additional route changes and reassessing transportation with a survey and registration process for bus transportation. Board Member Cormier asked if additional runs would affect the timing of when students get to school, and Business Administrator Blouin said with the numbers we have right now, it will not affect the timings, but additional buses could put us in a situation where we would have to have a delay start. Board Member Dunn asked if the district looked at rerouting busses and Business Administrator Blouin said we would like to keep routes consistent for families. Board Member Dunn said a delay start could cause more students needing to take the bus. Superintendent Tucker continued to present on health and safety, NH Public Health guidelines daily self-screening, the

September 26th in-service day, the proposed October 1st - 8th new student registration for face to face or remote learning, staffing, reconsideration date for transfer in early January, October 19th - November 13th transition and phase in. Board Member Dunn said she does not want to mislead families and that the district is not looking for 80% of students to return in full on November 10th. Superintendent Tucker agreed. She also asked when groups would come back and how that would be decided. Superintendent Tucker said the administration team would look at staffing during that window of time. Board Member Johnson asked if the plan is to phase in red/white 5 days or both red/white and remote? Superintendent Tucker said red/white together, 5 days. Board Member Johnson asked about the option to live stream for remote students, Superintendent Tucker said there may be concerns about doing so. Superintendent Tucker continued to report on COVID data.

DISCUSSION

School Opening Update and Proposal: Board Member Dunn asked for clarification of having students back on October 19th. What consideration is the district making for students with an IEP, has the Admin. team talked about looking at students with an IEP and getting them back to full time? Superintendent Tucker said the district is looking at all students. Board Member Johnson said she does not understand why we cannot bring red/white students back into school now. Board Member Hayward said we have protocols in place that are working, we do not have protocols with an increase in numbers with the current structures and that the district needs more time. Board Member Grenon said on a high school level the idea of live streaming makes sense but not at lower levels. Board Member Hayward proposed an action item for the second meeting in October to be an updated proposal based on numbers and stated he would approve the timeline contingent on the data not yet received.

Unified Sports Donation: Board Chair Person Lounsbury said this donation was made in memory of Alex Evans.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Candace Knowlton of Morningside Drive she had three questions: Is the district is prepared for everybody to come back? If the spread of COVID is low in Belknap County, why do we have a remote option? If a parent tests positive for COVID both children will have to be quarantined for 14 days is there a plan for learning as they cannot test out?

Jeff Greeley of Birchwood Way asked the following questions: Who is in charge of remote learning? What are the challenges? Students wearing masks all day what does that look like? To regain days lost can we eliminate vacations?

Stacy Genest of Court Street asked about transportation, stating two of her children are eligible but one is not.

Erika Allen of Mile Hill expressed concerns about remote learning.

ACTION

School Reopening and Proposal: Motion made by Board Member Murray to accept the proposal as presented, seconded by Board Member Hayward. Board Member Dunn and Board Member Johnson opposed. The vote was 5-2 in favor of the proposal.

Unified Sports Donation: Motion made by Board Member Cormier to accept the donator as presented, seconded by Board Member Murray. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Board Member Murray to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Hayward. The vote was unanimous. The Board meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Tucker
Clerk