

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2015, at the Harvard Street, SAU Board Room. Present: Chris Guilmett, Mal Murray, Stacie Sirois, Barbara Luther, Mike Persson, Scott Vachon, Joe Cormier, Business Administrator Ed Emond, Assistant Superintendent Kirk Beitler and Superintendent Terri Forsten.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Joe Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The agenda was posted on January 30, 2015, at the SAU office and on the district's website, along with being sent to each of our schools, "The Citizen", Laconia Library, and City Hall, in accordance with RSA 91-A.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Chris Guilmett to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Scott Vachon. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Scott Vachon, to approve the minutes as presented. The vote unanimous.

PRESENTATION

PSS Jobs Program and Friday Festivities

PSS Principal Dave Levesque outlined the jobs program at Pleasant Street School for the board. There are 16 jobs that students may apply for and is available to students in grades 3 – 5. Some jobs are before or after school while some are during the school day. Students fill out an application, go through the interview process and are hired. They submit weekly time sheets for their jobs. Some of the jobs include library assistant, lunch bag monitor, bulletin board creator and others. Student workers introduced themselves and told the board what jobs they do. Principal Levesque explained about Friday Festivities. Many students from PSS participate in the ski program which takes them out of the building on Friday. Friday Festivities were created to offer something to students that stay at the school. This program is offered to all students grades K-5 and is designed to offer enrichment opportunities to students while integrating learning. Some of the activities offered are STEM, Dance Party, Hand Knitting, Sign Language and Word Games. Students shared their experiences while being involved in these activities.

Academic Excellence Program at Laconia Middle School

AEP Teacher Joe Sampson introduced the Academic Excellence Program to the board. AEP offers one on one access for students to their teachers for extra help, opportunities to set goals and re-assess them quarterly, access to every assignment before their day begins as well as access to computers and a printer for all academic work. They are also offered access to every textbook and novel used at LMS, access to school supplies, clothing and personal items and an opportunity to study with peers and a teacher for tests and quizzes. They are offered a direct connection with guidance and AEP staff for behavioral and emotional support. Joe explained that he has daily communication with every single core academic teacher in the building, consistent communication with parents by phone and e-mail, weekly academic and behavioral data tracking, mediation between staff and students in order to overcome disagreements and behavioral issues in class and counseling for students' emotional and behavioral needs. The program offers students a place where they can get organized, stay on top of assignments and get help with school work. This program is for students who need a plan for effective test, paper, and project preparation and who may have had a difficult time managing their behavior in the building and need a person to talk with about how to make better choices. The goal for each student is to offer them organization strategies, a place to complete their school work, time management skills, realistic goal setting, positive behavior strategies, peer support and self-evaluation. Two students shared their experiences in the program and how it has helped them.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Facilities: Ed Emond updated the board on the RFP for the high school conditions assessment. Six firms were given a tour of the facilities. This committee will meet next Tuesday to review the proposals.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment: Kirk Beitler presented an overview of the HP Stream which is being looked at to provide to students. It is similar to the Chromebook and comes with Windows 8.1 installed and supports Microsoft Products. Features include an 11.6 inch screen, 2 GB of memory, and a 32 GB of Hard drive. It is wireless, has an 8 hour battery life, weighs 2.74 pounds and includes a webcam with microphone. It can be used by students for reading text, writing, and research and includes Office 365. The cost is \$199.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: This group met on Monday, February 26th for more preparation on the 15-16 budget. Super Saturday is set for February 7th from 8 – 10 am here at the SAU.

Facilities/CIP: This group will meet Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 pm to review the RFP's.

Policy: This group will be bringing five policies forward at tonight for a first reading.

Strategic Planning: This committee will be meeting on March 5th to continue discussion on the action items that were discussed with the large group.

Legislative Update: None

Board Member Input: Mike Persson shared the LHS will hold their second coffeehouse at Pitman's Freight Room on February 4th from 6 – 8 pm.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

None

CALENDAR

Super Saturday	Saturday, February 7, 2015	8:00 am @ SAU
Facilities Committee	Tuesday, February 10, 2015	6:30 pm @ SAU
School Board Meeting	Tuesday, February 17, 2015	7:00 pm @ SAU
Strategic Planning Meeting	Thursday, March 5, 2015	6:00 pm @ MVSB Café

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Terri Forsten was going to present information from the Legislative Update conference that she was attending on Monday but this was rescheduled due to weather. She asked board members what they would like to see for future presentations. Board members asked about a homeless presentation from Mollie Greeley, Changes in the Grading Policy at LHS, Understanding by Design and future legislative updates. These will be scheduled for upcoming meetings.

She also discussed the snow days so far and how they relate to the tentative last day of school. Currently we have had two snow days and are scheduled for June 16th to be the last day for students and June 17th for staff. High school graduation has not been determined yet.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1st Reading of Policies: The following policies were presented for discussion for a 1st Reading: BEDH: Public Participation at School Board Meetings, GCO: Teacher Performance and Evaluation System, GCE: Professional Staff Recruiting, KBA: Title I Parent Involvement in Education, KE: Public Complaints.

Budget Transfers: Ed Emond presented the list of budget transfers for discussion.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Coggon asked if the non-public meeting held immediately before this meeting was posted. Terri Forsten stated that it was posted separately. He also asked if the Board would be having a non-meeting. Joe Cormier said the Board would not be having a non-meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Budget Transfers: A motion was made by Mal Murray, seconded by Stacie Sirois to accept the budget transfers as presented. The vote was unanimous.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

None

PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Chris Guilmet, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Beitler
Clerk