

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at the Harvard Street, SAU Board Room. Present: Chris Guilmett, Mal Murray, Joe Cormier, Mike Persson, Scott Vachon, Stacie Sirois, Business Administrator Ed Emond, Assistant Superintendent Kirk Beitler, and Superintendent Terri Forsten. Absent: Beth Arsenaault.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Chris Guilmett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on August 29, 2014, at the SAU office and on the district's website, along with being sent to each of our schools, "The Citizen", "Daily Sun", Laconia Library, and City Hall, in accordance with RSA 91-A.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Scott Vachon to amend the agenda to place Budget Transfers under Discussion and Action, seconded by Mike Persson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mike Persson to table the minutes of July 15, 2014 pending revision, seconded by Scott Vachon. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

Project EXTRA Summer

Christine Gingerella, Project EXTRA! Director and Beth Vachon, Project EXTRA! Assistant Director presented an overview on the summer activities for Project EXTRA! Their vision for summer learning was to engage students in experiential learning opportunities to acquire knowledge and skills that enhance mastery of literacy and numeracy while fostering a love of lifelong learning. Over 200 students were enrolled in the elementary program with an average daily attendance of 117 students. Some of the programs involved learning about weather patterns, hatching chicks, how to make butter and ice cream and learning about different types of fish. At the middle school level there were over 300 students enrolled with a daily attendance of 261 students. At the high school level there were almost 60 students enrolled with a daily attendance of 38 students. Four students shared their yoga experiences in the Journey's program. They shared that they learned self-control and how to handle stress. Gina McGuire explained how yoga helps students cope with depression and stress for our students. The summer PE staff met for 20 hours prior to implementation of the program to plan the curriculum and used Understanding by Design to create lesson plans.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Under Facilities, Ed Emond updated the Board on the building renovations at Laconia High School with a short pictorial presentation.

Under Public Relations, Terri Forsten told the Board about the new staff induction activities which included a scavenger hunt around Laconia to familiarize them with the area and local businesses. She shared a short video that was made highlighting this activity.

Under Technology, Terri Forsten shared a short video on coding. It showed the value of teaching coding to students and how it is used every day in many occupations. We will look into offering coding to our student this year.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Personnel Committee: This committee met tonight and will be bringing forward budget transfers. This committee is proposing that contingency funds be used to share the cost with the city to repair the semi-circle at LHS. This committee will work on developing a preliminary budget planning timeline for 2015-16.

Facilities Committee: This committee has not met. Mal Murray reported that the outside stairs at Woodland Heights School are complete and they look very nice.

Policy Committee: This committee has not met.

Legislative Update: None

Board Member Input: None

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Board Chair Chris Guilmett read an email that was sent from Beth Arsenault. She stated that she will have to resign, effective immediately, from the board. Beth began serving on the School Board in November of 1998 and has served as an active member.

We have missed the deadline to have this on the primary ballot. We have conferred with the City Manager, Secretary of State and NHSBA and they have recommended that we advertise for this vacancy. We will advertise and accept letters of interest through September 23rd. The Budget and Personnel Committee will review and make recommendations and selected candidates will be interviewed in a public meeting to fill this vacancy through 2015.

Mike Persson appreciated the thoroughness of opinions researched.

Joe Cormier commented on how much work Beth has done on facilities upgrades and she will be sorely missed. He is sorry to hear that she is leaving and thanked her for all her years of service to the Board.

CALENDAR

Up with People	September 5 and 6	Laconia Middle School
Strategic Planning Committee	Tuesday, September 16, 2014	6:15 p.m. @ SAU Board Room
Laconia School Board	Tuesday, September 16, 2014	7:00 p.m. @ SAU Board Room

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Terri Forsten shared her opening day presentation to district staff with the Board. She also thanked host families for Up with People.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Allocate Contingency Funds – Scott Vachon asked that this be moved off the agenda under discussion and action.

Budget Transfers – Ed Emond presented the list of budget transfers in the amount of \$302,252 for discussion.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr Coggan stated that he thought the plan for budget and personnel to interview candidates for the Ward 2 seat was against past policy and he noted that the whole board has typically done that. Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be taking any action when they came out of non-public session. Chris Guilmett said that they would not be taking any action. Dick Coggon asked if there would be a non-meeting and Chris Guilmett told him there would not be a non-meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Budget Transfers – Mike Persson made a motion, seconded by Mal Murray to accept the budget transfers as presented. The vote was approved unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A: 3II(c)

A motion was made to go into Non-Public session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:311(c), at 8:45 p.m. by Scott Vachon, seconded by Stacie Sirois. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made to come out of Non-Public session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:311(c) at 9:29 p.m. by Mal Murray, seconded by Scott Vachon. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Mike Persson, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Beitler
Clerk