

# **HOOKSETT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – September 15, 2020**

**Approved**

## **HOOKSETT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, September 15, 2020 – 6:00 pm David R. Cawley Middle School Media Center**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Denbow called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **PROOF OF POSTING**

William Rearick, Superintendent of Schools provided proof of posting.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Chair Phil Denbow, Jillian Godbout, Wayne Goertel, Lindsay Laliberte, Greg Martakos, Kara Salvas and Jim Sullivan

Staff: William Rearick, Superintendent, Marge Polak, Assistant Superintendent, Amy Ransom, Business Administrator, Principals Ben Loi, Matt Benson, and Steve HARRISES, and Dean Farmer, Maintenance Director Dean Farmer.

### **MINUTES**

#### **Approval of August 12, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

*W. Goertel motioned to approve the minutes of August 12, 2020 as presented. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

#### **Approval of August 18, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

*W. Goertel motioned to approve the minutes of August 12, 2020 as presented. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

#### **Amendments**

W. Goertel. Other schools are making this happen. It can be done quickly. I feel this is one of the best things we can do to mitigate symptomatic transmission. It would prevent sending students with new symptoms home on the shared bus and ensure they stay home the next day.

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47 who have **not** responded.

*Vote unanimously in favor.*

#### **Approval of August 25, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

*L. Laliberte motioned to approve the minutes of August 25, 2020. Seconded by W. Goertel.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

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### **STEWARDSHIP PLAN – Town of Hooksett Conservation Commission**

Swift Corwin, Forester from Peterborough working with (Jeffrey Littleton, Principal Ecologist with Moosehead Ecologist, LLC)

Looking at the Heads Pond area, the School Board has 78.4 acres as part of the parcel. The Conservation Commission controls the land. We looked at the land from the standpoint of management. I did a timber survey to figure out if there is any logging that should be done. We determined it is better to not do any logging. A lot of people use the Head's Pond path. We noted a concern because there are a lot of trails that go through the property and there are no rules regarding that. There are ATV's that go through the trails. We need to identify rules and who is in charge. There is no delineation out there with who owns the land and people don't know the rules. There is a new subdivision that abuts the property bringing in more traffic. We are not suggesting rules but we suggest you get together with Conservation Commission and develop rules. It is a beautiful piece of property that hasn't been logged in 25 years and it drains properly.

Cindy Robertson, Chair of the Conservation Commission: We asked that they prepare a Stewardship Plan for these properties. Map 14 Lot 2 is the School District land. The purpose of the plan is to identify and map out natural resources and endangered species that are there. As stewards of the land, we have a plan to follow. We would like the stewardship plan to cover all 4 parcels which include 2 private properties with Conservation Easements, a town piece and the School property. We want you as part of the process and comment on the plan.

W. Rearick: When you were here last, a question was while it is not being used, the school was in favor of proceeding however understand that at some point the School may want to use it or sell it. In speaking to our attorney, we agree for the property to be part of the trails until we decide to use it.

Cindy Robertson: This plan does not effect ownership and we are not there yet. This is just the plan. You are free to use this land as you see fit and this plan identifies areas of wetland and resources which is helpful. It doesn't effect ownership at all.

Swift Corwin: The objective is to identify what is there and the recommendation should be for the School Committee and the Conservation Commission to get together and decide how to put signage up and direct the use.

Cindy Robertson: We will have the public hearing in November and continue to work with Swift and continue to refine the plan and protecting the land.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No public input

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES- Bill Rearick**

At the end of August, I did the welcome back for staff via zoom and reviewed the work done over the summer to get the school ready. The plan is now being implemented.

The First day of school I visited all three schools. Everyone was wearing masks and social distancing and everyone seemed to be adapting. The majority of Kindergarteners were wearing

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masks. There were some issues with the buses on the first day and we worked to come up with solutions.

High School presentation to parents was last night via zoom.

The SAU Admin. meeting was Friday.

Yesterday I visited the schools again. The students are adapting very well.

A letter from Town Bicentennial Birthday Committee was received asking for students to participate.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Reports of Administrators\***

D. Farmer stated that they have had minimal problems with the reopening of school.

Ben Loi: There have been no issues with the New Morning Program. They are very self-sufficient; cleaning before and after.

D. Farmer reviewed the procedure which will be used for lunches in the gym and the cafeteria.

Ben Loi review the full day K class. Shannon Baldoumas is leading the class and doing outstanding

with the program. She is working with the all day K teacher in Candia to formulate ideas and get feedback. We have found that the students are tired but have the stamina for all day with some play-based activities. It has gone off very smoothly thanks to the teacher.

We had to create a grade span remote class. Working closely with the teacher, she has done an outstanding job delivering content in both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

L. Laliberte asked about the goal of getting all parent paperwork online.

D. Roma: The tool is an add on for power school. Last year Megan and I worked to make the forms work and we had to train the office staff on how to move it into Power school. The plan was to do the training in April but then Covid happened. It will exist this year. If we have new enrollments, it will be available.

L. Laliberte asked about condensing the athletic handbook.

M. Benson stated that it must be done every season but the plan is to put that handbook online.

P. Denbow observed that the ridership on the buses is currently low.

W. Rearick stated that this is being monitored and adjustments will be made throughout the year.

J. Godbout asked if the problems with zoom and the new chrome books have been resolved?

D. Roma: We saw this in the fall and it is happening nationwide with Chrome books. We are communicating with families to help alleviate it. It seemed to even out in the spring. There was a spike when school started and today the Tech department only received one call.

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J. Godbout: At the middle school there is a team that is down one teacher. With one reading specialist in the class, how are we addressing the needs of the students that need assistance?

M. Benson: There are two teams that are down one teacher due to remote learning. With the reading specialist, we have that teacher in the classroom to meet those needs. The Title I program will be starting soon. Students with IEP's continue to receive services.

G. Martakos asked if Mr. Roma had sufficient staff to address all the needs.

D. Roma stated that they have been working long hours and currently have an open part time Tech. Assistant position. Working with remote families is time consuming and they are asking staff for patience.

W. Rearick: We have discussed making the part time position a full time position.

There was a suggestion of looking for someone on a contract basis; possibly a college student.

D. Roma reported that there are enough computers for everyone including the remote students. There is a device for everyone to do testing.

M Benson and S. Harris all reported that the procedures and protocols for the bathroom have been working well.

B. Loi stated that it is challenging at Underhill with limited bathrooms and space and the needs of the younger children but they continue to work through it.

### Reports of Sub-Committees

#### FINANCE

##### Manifest Approvals

*G. Martakos motioned to approve the manifest for September 3, 2020 in the amount \$1,383,072.23. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

*G. Martakos motioned to approve the manifest for September 15, 2020 in the amount \$135,134.16. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

## **HOOKSETT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – September 15, 2020**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Opening of School Review**

L. Laliberte suggested with bad weather would we want to consider getting tents. Also, with the cold weather, we want to make sure all students have what they need for outdoor clothing.

#### **Bus Passes**

K. Salvas stated that there is a disconnect with the families that need a pass and how to get it. After they leave Hooksett and go to Pinkerton, they don't know how to get them. Could we have a Bright Arrow flashed to students to educate people on how to do it. Since the families are not paying for the pass, there should be an easy way to acquire it. There should be a more efficient way. A reminder that you need one, here is where you can get and what you need to do.

L. Laliberte: Would a school ID be sufficient and maybe we can eliminate the need for a bus pass.

W. Rearick stated that they can look into linking in with Pinkerton's data.

M. Benson stated that he believes the bus passes are not needed. The drivers know the students and it should not be an issue.

J. Sullivan stated that if we are removing the requirement for bus passes, then the policy should be changed.

#### **Use of Facilities**

To be discussed at the October meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Goals- updated**

M. Polak reported that the majority of the goals are goals discussed at the retreat particularly implementing re-entry plan, online and remote learning and technology. The rest was under budget and the request of the committee to receive it in electronic format. Dean is looking at the long term facility plan under CIP. The Pilot for all day K., mental health and wellness, and July 1<sup>st</sup> was the requirement for training of all staff. The majority of the staff were trained in February but it needs to be done annually. Carried over the mentor program with new staff this year. Technology – Minimum competency for staff and added explore hardware needs for long and short term remote learning.

Possibility of being a receiving school and communication as a goal. This is a draft and as we progress into the school year, we can consider additional goals.

W. Rearick: The budget will be completely electronic from the submission by the Principals to the final submission. There will not be any big books.

W. Goertel: I am excited about the electronic submission. I would like to discuss the time line; preferring more time for review based on my background with the Budget Committee.

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### **Budget Time line**

A Ransom: I need to know when you would like a budget work session in October.

I plan to meet with Hooksett Budget Committee on November 12 and 19<sup>th</sup>. I therefore need the budget changes by November 6<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to review on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, I will need to get them to you by October 16<sup>th</sup>.

W. Rearick: Last year it took the Board an hour to review the budget. This year, the budget will be essentially level funded; therefore it shouldn't take very long.

The Board will meet at 5:00 pm on October 20<sup>th</sup> prior to the regular meeting to review the budget.

**Website** – to be revisited in November

### **Communication High School Board/Community**

J. Godbout suggested using social media to summarize what was discussed and done at the School Board meetings. This could help to get more information in light of COVID.

### **Health and Safety MOU with HEA**

The Board reviewed and discussed the Memorandum of Agreement between the Hooksett School Board of NH School Administration and the Hooksett Education Association, NEA-NH.

*K. Salvas motioned to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Hooksett School Board of NH School Administration and the Hooksett Education Association, NEA-NH.*

*Seconded by G. Martakos.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Notification of Retirement – Anne Mulligan**

*J. Sullivan motioned to accept the retirement of Anne Mulligan with appreciation for her 25 years of service. Seconded by G. Martakos.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

#### **Co-Curricular Nomination**

Brandon Davini – Band Director

Kim Swaderski -Cross Country

*J. Sullivan motioned to approve the Co-curricular nominations as presented. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

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No public input.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*G. Martakos motioned to adjourn. Seconded by K. Salvas.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Hooksett School Board is Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 pm. at the David R. Cawley Middle School Media Center with a Budget Workshop to begin at 5:00 pm.

The SAU #15 Board will meet on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 and on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Both meetings will be remote via Zoom.