

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

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Joe Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on November 25, 2014, 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 Mike Persson to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mal Murray. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Persson asked to amend the minutes to reflect that he arrived late to the meeting and therefore was not present to vote on the agenda or minutes. Motion made by Mike Persson, seconded by Scott Vachon, to approve the minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

LHS Assistant Principal Dave Bartlett and LMS Assistant Principal Jim Corkum presented an overview of PBIS in our middle/high schools. They reviewed the basic principles of the program and how it is working in our schools. PBIS is a three tiered evidence-based school-wide discipline system. The goals of PBIS are to build a positive school district community, build pro-social behaviors in our students K-12, create consistent "protocol" and structure for responding to student needs and increase student achievement to make them college, career, and life ready. They showed examples of forms used and the matrix that is being created for students to have a visual of the program expectations. Data was also shared from the SWIS (School Wide Information System) program that is being used. Students in grades K-5 will be introduced to PBIS in the future so that when they transition to the higher grades they will be successful.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Under Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Assistant Superintendent Kirk Beitler gave the Board an overview of the Smarter Balanced Assessment that will replace the NECAP tests. This is an on-line assessment and the Board was given a sample test online. There was much discussion regarding the interface that is being used. Teachers are being encouraged to work with students to complete the practice tests so that students will be more familiar with the process when the time comes to take these tests. The NECAP testing will be completed in the spring of 2015 and will be replaced with the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Board members agreed that we need to strengthen our STEM education and should set higher standards for our students than the 3% proficient with distinction that is statewide.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: This group will meet on December 4th at 6:30 pm for a work session for middle, high, Huot and adult education for the 2015-16 budget.

Facilities/CIP: This group has not met.

Policy: This group has not met.

Strategic Planning: Mike Persson said that this committee will meet on December 3rd at 4:30 pm.

Board Member Input:

None

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Board Chair Joe Cormier proposed that the board look at some targeted trainings from NH School Board Association. We would look to do this in January and post it as a work session. Some of the topics will include goal setting, information on non-public meetings, roles and responsibilities of school board members and goal setting. Joe will contact NHSBA and report back to the board. He would also like to make the December 16th scheduled meeting a non-meeting to thank school staff.

CALENDAR

Strategic Planning Meeting	Wednesday, December 3, 2014	4:30 pm @ SAU
Better Together/Stand Up Laconia	Thursday, December 4, 2014	4:00 @ LMS
Budget and Personnel Meeting	Thursday, December 4, 2014	6:30 pm @ SAU

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Terri Forsten presented information on the STEM Taskforce that Governor Hassan has formed. The taskforce consists of business leaders, K-12 educators, educators from higher education and a parent. Terri informed the board of the need for STEM training and how it relates to occupations in New Hampshire. The task force focuses on getting students excited about STEM, empowering educators and defining what standards and requirements should be in place to accomplish this. She reviewed recommendations from the task force. She also reviewed next steps in Laconia including a workshop in January 2015 and institute in August 2015.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be having a non-meeting and, if so, if they would be taking any action. Joe Cormier said the Board would not be having a non-meeting. He also commended Dave Bartlett and Jim Corkum for their presentation on PBIS. He also asked if the air conditioner in the board room could be covered. Ed Emond assured him that this would happen.

Ed Pierce, Laconia Citizen, asked if the district could opt out of the Smarter Balanced assessment. Terri Forsten said that if we want to continue to participate in federal grants this is a requirement to receive these funds. Ed asked when the next regular school board meeting would be held. Joe Cormier said that the next meeting would be held on January 6, 2015.

Mike Persson asked what the status of the stolen high school truck was. Ed Emond attended a hearing last week and it is being continued until December 10th when we should know about getting the truck back. Mike asked about the snow removal and Ed said that they city takes care of most of it. The truck is used to supplement the plowing by taking care of walkways, parking lots, etc. Mike also asked who was paying the \$75/day impound fee and Ed reported that we are not being charged and are not responsible for the fee.

ACTION ITEMS

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Stacie Sirois, to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3II letter c to discuss a Personnel issue. Roll call vote was unanimous. The Board went into Non-Public Session at 8:41 PM.

Motion made to come out of Non Public Session by Mike Persson, seconded by Mal Murray. Roll call vote was unanimous. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:55 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Mike Persson, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Beitler
Clerk