

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015, at the Harvard Street, SAU Board Room. Present: Barbara Luther, Mal Murray, Chris Guilmett, Stacie Sirois, Scott Vachon, Mike Persson, Heather Lounsbury, Business Administrator Ed Emond, Assistant Superintendent Kirk Beitler and Superintendent Phil McCormack.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Phil McCormack called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on November 13, 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.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairperson: Mal Murray nominated Stacie Sirois for Chairperson. Scott Vachon seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Stacie Sirois was elected unanimously.

Vice-Chairperson: Chris Guilmett nominated Mal Murray for Vice-Chairperson. Scott Vachon seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mal Murray was elected unanimously.

Clerk: Chris Guilmett nominated Kirk Beitler for Clerk. Mal Murray seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Kirk Beitler was elected unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Scott Vachon to amend and approve the agenda, adding Clerk under Election of Officers, seconded by Chris Guilmett. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mike Persson, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to approve the minutes of October 6, 2015. The vote was unanimous, with Heather Lounsbury abstaining.

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Mike Persson, to approve the minutes of October 20, 2015. The vote was unanimous, with Heather Lounsbury abstaining.

PRESENTATIONS

Assessment Data

Assistant Superintendent, Kirk Beitler, introduced Academic Coordinators of Teaching and Learning Gail Bourn Alison Bryant and Steve Tucker who gave a presentation on Academic Data in the Laconia School District. Alison Bryant began the presentation discussing the difference between Smarter Balanced and NWEA testing students in Grades 3-8 and Grade 11 took in the 2014-2015 School Year. Some differences she highlighted is Smarter Balanced is a much longer test and is summative and NWEA testing is much shorter and multiple choice. Gail Bourn, presented Smarter Balanced scores in both English/Language Arts and Math. She highlighted the scores in the claims or subcategories that Laconia excelled in. Steve Tucker presented NWEA data. He explained that Laconia has been using NWEA tests and data for a while and in almost all grade levels they scored above the norm. He explain that last year we changed to a common-core based NWEA test, which is harder than before and there was no dip in scores. He explained that grade 10 had the highest NWEA scores that LHS has seen. The last testing type students took in Laconia was the Science NECAP in Grades 4, 8, and 11. In all grades we scored just below the state average. Gail, Alison and Steve then discussed next steps and what Laconia is doing now to improve Smarted Balanced testing for this year. School Board members discussed their dissatisfaction with Smarter Balanced results and questioned what more we can be doing to raise the scores. Dr. McCormack spoke that the overall reaction from all was that no one felt the results were acceptable. We have been looking at our infrastructure and supports to assist students for the upcoming school year.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: This group has not met.

Facilities/CIP: This group has not met. Mal Murray explained they are still waiting for a report from Rist Frost Shumway on the High School

Policy: This group has not met.

Strategic Planning: This group has not met.

Board Member Input: Chris Guilmett welcomed Heather Lounsbury to the Laconia School Board.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

New Board Chair Stacie Sirois asked Board members to e-mail her committees they would like to work on. She will have the list ready for next meeting.

CALENDAR

Laconia School Board

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

7:00 @ SAU

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Enrollment Comparisons

Superintendent, Phil McCormack, updated the School Board with Regional Enrollment Data. He informed the School Board that 5 out of the 8 schools looked at showed a decrease in overall enrollment. Showing that Laconia's enrollment is on par with area districts.

SAT Update

Assistant Superintendent, Kirk Beitler, presented to the School Board that the accountability assessment students will be taking in 11th Grade will be the SAT's. He discussed that the College Board has an agreement with Kahn Academy where students may take practice tests for free. Students will

also be able to personalize their accounts and link their accounts is PSAT data. He also explained that this is a paper and pencil version of the test and is aligned with college and career ready standards. The State is picking up the tab for the test, except for the essay version. LHS Principal and ACTL decided it is important for students to take the essay part of the exam as well, and Laconia will pay for this portion of the exam. It was also explained that there is one day students may take the SAT's, with one make up exam being offered.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be taking any action after coming out of non-public and Stacie Sirois said there would be no action. Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be having a non-meeting and, if so, if they would be taking any action. Stacie Sirois said the Board would not be having a non-meeting. Mr. Coggon also asked who was on the Superintendent Search Committee. He was informed that committee is posted on the website.

ACTION ITEMS

None

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3II (c) Personnel

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Mike Persson, 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 8:23 PM.

Motion made to come out of Non Public Session by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Mal Murray. Roll call vote was unanimous. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:58 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

Motion made by Mike Persson, seconded by Scott Vachon to seal the non-public minutes, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board and render a proposed action ineffective. Roll call vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Mike Persson, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Beitler
Clerk