

The Laconia School Board held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 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 7:00 PM. The agenda was posted on February 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.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Board Chair Joe Cormier asked to remove the non-public meeting from the agenda. Motion made by Chris Guilmett to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mike Persson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Chris Guilmett, seconded by Mal Murray, to approve the minutes of February 3, 2015 as presented. The vote unanimous.

PRESENTATION

ESS – Developing Community Connections

Elm Street School Principal Tara Beauchemin shared a presentation highlighting community connections with Elm Street students this school year. Students have been busy participating in Taste Test Tuesdays, ESSence of Giving, Thanksgiving Dinner and a Fun Run, just to name a few. Third grade teachers Kelly Bliss, Megan Vasconcellos and Andy Mercier introduced some of their students who participated in a project which is currently being featured at the Belknap Mill. Students shared models of mills that they designed and created. They read the historical fiction stories that they wrote describing their mills.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Facilities: Ed Emond updated the board on the RFP for the high school conditions assessment. Seven proposals were received and reviewed earlier tonight at the Facilities Meeting. Recommendations were made with Rist Frost Shumway and Frank Marinace being chosen to begin work to develop specific projects for LHS. Ed also said that new phone systems for ESS and PSS are being looked at that will tie into the LHS system. The system at LHS is the most up to date and this will also reduce costs as well. Each school will continue to have a land line for emergencies and also a fax line.

Ed also addressed the issue of snow on the school roofs. The facility managers have conducted tests to make sure that the weight load is safe. The tests showed that there is 16 lbs. per sq. foot and the lowest rating for the roofs is 45 lbs./sq. ft. to a maximum of 60 lbs./sq. ft.

Technology: Kirk Beitler shared with the Board details of the upcoming Spring Technology Conference that will be held on March 18th at Laconia Middle School. Some of the workshops will focus on Office 365, One Note, Brainpop and Twitter. SAU office staff also had a training session today on Office 365, with a follow up scheduled for March 5th.

Public/Administrative Input:

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Personnel: This group has not met.

Facilities/CIP: This group met tonight to review the RFP's and make recommendations.

Policy: This group will be bringing five policies forward tonight for a second reading and approval.

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: Joe Cormier told the Board that SB190 which provides funding for technical centers is looking to give tax deductions for businesses that work with these centers. Terri will offer a couple more updates in her report tonight.

Board Member Input: None

BOARD CHAIR REPORT/CALENDAR

Joe Cormier shared with the Board the continuing work with Re-Imagine Laconia. They will be hosting another community gathering on March 18th from 4-8 pm at the Winnepesaukee Expo Center. They will be reviewing the demographics of Laconia and the effects/outcomes that this has on our area.

CALENDAR

Better Together and Stand Up Laconia	Thursday, February 19, 2015	Laconia Middle School
School Board Meeting	Tuesday, March 3, 2015	7:00 pm @ SAU
Strategic Planning Meeting	Thursday, March 5, 2015	6:00 pm @ MVSB Café
Tamarack Institute – Collective Impact	Tuesday, March 10, 2015	Beane Conference Center
Re-Imagine Laconia Community Forum	Thursday, March 18, 2015	4:00 pm @ Winnepesaukee Expo Center
Spring Technology Conference	Thursday, March 18, 2015	3:30 pm @ Laconia Middle School

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Terri Forsten updated the Board on what is coming up at LHS in March. Spring assessments will begin for juniors with Smarter Balanced in English and Math and NECAP Science. She also spoke about STEM coordination, freshman and sophomore House and junior and senior Career Cluster Pathways. She spoke about a couple of legislative bills – SB228-FN-L – Adding adequacy funding and HB116 – bill to revise teacher tenure. She also updated the Board on the LHS auditorium. Lastly, she shared the Leader Evaluation tool and process with the Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2nd Reading of Policies: The following policies were presented for discussion for a 2nd 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.

GENERAL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Community member Sharon Pond wanted to know the process for choosing a firm from the RFP's that were submitted for the Laconia High School Conditions Assessment. Mal Murray explained the process.

Dick Coggon asked if the Board would be having a non-meeting. Joe Cormier said the Board would not be having a non-meeting. He also told the Board that there is no teacher tenure in New Hampshire. They do have a continuing contract.

Board member Mike Persson asked if there has been any work done on establishing a calendar of events for all of our schools. He also asked if we have a response plan when tragic events happen in our schools. Terri said that our Guidance Counselors have had training with NAMI to address what to do in the event of a crisis.

ACTION ITEMS

2nd Reading of Policies: Scott Vachon made a motion to adopt the following policies as presented: 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, seconded by Chris Guilmett and approved unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

None

PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Scott Vachon, seconded by Chris Guilmett, to adjourn. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Beitler
Clerk