

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Board Chair Michael Hatch, Malcolm MacLeod, Robert Carpenter,
5 Adam Mini

6 Administrators Present: Superintendent Fauci, Principal Locke, Student Services Director Emily
7 Reese, Business Administrator Donna Clairmont

8 Others Present: Frank Gianni, Joanne Gianni, Frank Weeks, Amy Small, Elena Ball, Roger Ball,
9 Richard Bakos, Kristyn Fischev, Douglas Isleib, Debra Cornett other members of the public

10 **CALL TO ORDER:**

11 Board Chair Michael Hatch called the School Board Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

12 **PROOF OF POSTING:**

13 Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

14 **AGENDA**

15 A letter of resignation submitted by Rebecca Davis was added to the agenda.

16 Nominations were added to include Art Reardon for the IT position and Roya Snow for a
17 Paraprofessional position.

18 Superintendent Fauci requested to move the discussion about the oil tank replacement and health
19 trust contribution holiday as early as possible in the meeting.

20 On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously voted
21 to approve the agenda as amended.

22 **CORRESPONDENCE**

23 **E-mail from Elena Ball to Robert Carpenter and Board Chair Michael Hatch**

24 The e-mail was also sent to the school's attorney, whose response to which Board Chair Michael
25 Hatch read aloud to the attendees of this meeting. A member of the public attempted to ask a
26 question during the reading to ask a question, to which Board Chair Michael Hatch responded by
27 stating that this is the Board's meeting and he will have a chance to ask questions later during the
28 Public comment portion.

29 Upon completing the reading of the attorney's letter, Board Chair Michael Hatch offered the
30 public access to a copy of this letter through the SAU. An attachment may also be viewed in
31 these minutes.

32 **Letter of resignation from Karen Boutwell**

33 Karen Boutwell is resigning as the IT Administrator effective July 19. She expressed her
34 appreciation for the experiences she has had at the Gilmanton School, citing professional
35 advancement as the reason for her resignation.

36 **Letter of resignation from Lindsay Whitten**

37 Lindsay Whitten was a recently hired paraprofessional who chose to move onto another position.

38 **Letter of resignation from Bailey Bergeron**

39 Bailey Bergeron was working here as a paraprofessional, but has since received a teaching
40 position in another district and is resigning as a paraprofessional.

41 **Resignation of Rebecca Davis**

42 Rebecca Davis submitted her letter of resignation as the Art Teacher on July 8, 2013. She
43 thanked the Gilmanton School for the opportunity to be a member of the team this year, noting
44 personal life changes as her reason for moving on.

45 **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

46 **Fuel Oil Update:**

47 Superintendent Fauci received a call from Scott Isabelle, Business Administrator for Gilford
48 School District, quoting a fuel oil lock-in price of \$3.154 from Irving. Superintendent Fauci
49 respectfully requests the Board accept the bid since the e-mail poll of Board members indicated
50 unanimous acceptance of the bid price.

51 **Fuel Tank Replacement:**

52 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont stated they have been working with the architect
53 engineer on the fuel tank replacement plans. These plans were submitted to the Department of
54 Environmental Services (DES) and some questions were raised about the intricacies to which the
55 HL Turner Group had to respond to DES. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont asked HL
56 Turner and DES if it would be reasonable to have plans approved before the onset of any
57 inclement weather. However, we would be close if not entrenching on late October, when the
58 weather is uncertain. At this junction, the recommendation of the administration and facilities
59 manager is to delay the project until the spring.

60 **Health Trust**

61 Earlier in the year, LGC indicated to the previous Board that they had been going through some
62 litigation and as a result of the 2011 ruling, contribution holidays will be granted. Superintendent
63 Fauci and Business Administrator Donna Clairmont have had discussions with local districts
64 about how to handle the contributions to individuals no longer employed with the district. Most
65 surrounding districts are only returning the contribution holidays to existing employees.
66 However, Business Administrator Donna Clairmont and Superintendent Fauci both stated they
67 struggle with this because in good conscience, former employees are also entitled to their refund.
68 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont also questioned a legal suit if they don't give it to
69 former employees as well. Rough calculations according to Health Trust numbers indicate a

70 refund span of \$33-\$100 per refund. Malcolm MacLeod asked the difference in administrative
71 costs between returning the contribution to former employees vs. just returning it to current
72 employees. Superintendent Fauci said costs would be minimal. We would have to figure out who
73 would receive the reimbursement and where to mail their refund checks. Business Administrator
74 Donna Clairmont added that in larger districts, it would take more administrative time than it
75 would take us. Malcolm MacLeod added that they may have a large opportunity for error.

76 Superintendent Fauci requested Board Chair Michael Hatch to allow Business Administrator
77 Donna Clairmont to entertain questions from the audience before she must leave, as she is the
78 best prepared to address them. Board Chair Michael Hatch agreed to entertain public comment
79 pertaining solely to the response of the attorney and Elena Ball's correspondence.

80 Elena Ball asked to address two issues discussed. First, she asked to clarify the difference
81 between the terms HVAC and front-end system. Board Chair Michael Hatch stated they are the
82 same thing and the front-end is simply the brain of the system. The next issue she addressed is
83 the fuel oil. She noted that in the September minutes Renee Kordas tabled the discussion about
84 the HVAC system. She further noted that in the May Board minutes, Business Administrator
85 Donna Clairmont stated that surplus funds from the fund balance will be returned to the town.
86 Please see the May School Board Meeting Minutes for specific language. Mrs. Ball noted this
87 discussion occurred after she conducted her own research with the State, which is why she sent
88 her communication to the town. She also pointed out that in Board minutes Michael Hatch stated
89 he would like to see the front end system completed. She questioned how the project could be
90 finished if, the year before, it had not been started. In May 2013, the minutes Facilities Manager
91 Dave Sykie thanked the Board for the installation of the new front-end system. Board Chair
92 Michael Hatch pointed out that there may be some mis-wording. Elena Ball said that this project
93 is considered a capital improvement, for which we have no line item. Therefore, there would
94 need to be a new line item created, on which the taxpayers would need to vote before proceeding
95 with the project. She stated she wanted this project, in the form of a line item, to be brought
96 forward during the Deliberative Session, and expressed disappointment that it was not. She
97 referenced policy DEA, stating if you are going to start a new project that is not line item, it is
98 considered a capital improvement and needs to come before the public as a warrant item.

99 Mrs. Ball continued by addressing the fuel storage replacement tank noting that there has been
100 much discussion about the replacement. She cited the discussion item **Engineering Services –**
101 **Fuel Oil Tank** from the April 2013 Board Minutes adding that when she spoke with Matthew
102 Jones from the Department of Environmental Safety (DES) he stated that there is no law or
103 requirement by DES to replace the tank, that our tank meets DES standards, and that DES did
104 not notify Gilmanton of the need to replace it. She added that Facilities Manager Dave Sykie did
105 sent a letter stating that the piping needs to be replace by 2015, noting this is another capital
106 reserve project and needs to be presented and voted upon in the form of a warrant article. She
107 further stated there is no RSA authorizing the Board to use surplus funds which is why in her
108 letter she requested the money be returned to the townspeople. Mrs. Ball stated that after further
109 research she found that the engineering service HL Turner is three times the cost of what she
110 came up with. She found three sources and found bids for anywhere between \$5000 and \$6000
111 and questioned why the Board chose HL Turner.

112 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont addressed Mrs. Ball's concerns stating that in terms of
113 the definition of capital improvement project in the business administration world, it is generally

114 something over \$100,000 and is something that needs to be funded by a bond or a loan. She
115 added that the other source is we have a capital improvement plan for which we identify items
116 for which funds need to be set aside. Regarding the terms of the upgrade to the front end heating
117 system, the project was originally an upgrade to the brain of the heating system and was nowhere
118 near \$100,000. In fact, it was closer to \$20,000. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont stated
119 that the Board Minutes that this project was approved by the Board last year. Regarding the
120 September minutes, when the question came up at that point, we were talking about the MSR.
121 Additionally, we can't carry money over and we had a surplus last year over \$500,000. Business
122 Administrator Donna Clairmont added that Mrs. Ball is talking about two different fiscal years.
123 Mrs. Ball said that the school cannot spend any money from a previous fiscal year. She added
124 that the Board used the wording "to be in compliance with DES" but insists there is no wording
125 for compliance. She said according to Matthew Jones of the DES, our tank is 22 years old, is
126 double walled, and should last until 30 years unless someone notices its leaking. Mr. Jones
127 showed her Facility Manager Dave Sykie's letter, which notes that in October 2011 an inspection
128 was conducted, and as a result, Dave sent a letter to DES. In the letter, he stated it was his
129 understanding that the piping is single-walled, which is not in compliance and needs to be
130 replaced by Dec. 1, 2015. Mrs. Ball said that in the Town world, capital improvement it is
131 something not already listed in a line item that the town needs to pay for. Business Administrator
132 Donna Clairmont stated she respectfully disagrees in terms of the HVAC. As the attorney's letter
133 pointed out, we have a line item pertaining to maintenance and repairs. Our previous front-end
134 system was antiquated and we could no longer purchase replacement parts. In regard to repairs
135 and upgrades, that is not breaching into what would be termed a capital improvement project.
136 Elena Ball responded, stating she is talking about the replacement. Board Chair Michael Hatch
137 said that it has been a very slow upgrade because we didn't want to hit the taxpayers all at once.
138 She thanked the Board for the minutes being understandable and stated she reviewed the receipts
139 and contracts approved by the Board, and the issue is that the project is a new item. She added
140 that when something new is added to the town or the school it is called a capital improvement
141 according to the RSAs. She concluded by saying that if the townspeople stay quiet and are just
142 grateful for whatever is returned to them, then this would slide.

143 Richard Bakos stated that in both 2013 and 2014 budgets, the replacement of equipment is \$0.
144 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont clarified the project falls under building maintenance
145 and the fuel tank would not come out of the equipment line. Mr. Bakos stated we have a fuel
146 tank line, and Business Administrator Donna Clairmont reiterated that in school systems, capital
147 improvements are projects which exceed \$100,000. The Capital Plan Committee noted what they
148 would approve for an amount and the school works with the committee so money is put away.
149 Richard Bakos stated it goes before the budget committee and into warrant articles. He asked
150 what kind of items qualify as equipment to be replaced. Business Administrator Donna
151 Clairmont said gave the example of a lawnmower. Mr. Bakos asked how much we are putting in
152 for replacement of equipment to which Business Administrator Donna Clairmont responded that
153 we are putting in nothing. Mr. Bakos asked how much we are in the positive, to which Board
154 Chair Michael Hatch gave the amount of \$67,000. Mr. Bakos countered, stating we only had
155 \$33,000 in the budget and that it is a high percentage to be over. Board Chair Michael Hatch said
156 it is a transfer of funds and this is an equipment piece. Mr. Bakos brought up various statements
157 about looking into alternative oil and propane plans that had been discussed. However, Board
158 Chair Michael Hatch said those requests were raised by the budget committee and never went
159 further. Mr. Bakos said he is having a hard time understanding the moving of funds without a

160 warrant article and doesn't understand the \$100,000 threshold. Superintendent Fauci said none of
161 these projects were done without consulting with the DRA and the school's attorney, ensuring
162 our actions are appropriate. The attorney also confirmed this in the letter.

163 Elena Ball said she spoke with Shelly at the DRA and received different information than
164 Superintendent Fauci was stating. Mrs. Ball said they reviewed the minutes together and stated
165 that Shelly said there was no need for a warrant article because the voters are the agents.
166 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said the misinterpretation is that she instructed the
167 Board, but the Board was not named as an agent and therefore did not have the authority to vote.
168 With this knowledge, they were told that they had the option to bring the items to the voters with
169 a request to expend the funds, not to be named as agents. Business Administrator Donna
170 Clairmont wants it clarified for the public that in terms of HL Turner, she stated generally when
171 choosing engineers, the choice is based such factors as reputation and experience of other
172 districts. It was her way of requesting authorization from the Board.

173 Roger Ball stated he spent many years dealing with contracts at the federal level. He added that
174 the bidding process is excellent; Sealed, dated bids which are opened in public with contractors
175 welcomed at the opening. He stated that the way this was done was not a good way to go adding
176 that the Board skirted the process. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont disrespectfully
177 disagreed stating she never blew off the policies or how she approached this. She said she has
178 headed a number of projects in neighboring districts, ranging from \$150,000 to \$6 million,
179 reiterating that she does not blow off outlined procedures. When asked, she did confirm that for
180 the reasons noted above, three bids did not go out and HL Turner was chosen.

181 Jane Cormier, Representative from District 8, stated that several of her constituents e-mailed her
182 with concerns about these projects. She made the observation that everyone wants to do the right
183 thing and as a new person in politics, she has noticed that whenever the perception is out there
184 that a process is not disclosed totally, the public trust starts to ask questions. She stated this is not
185 necessarily a bad thing, but felt there is a lot of murkiness and asked if we are trying to change
186 the definition of what a new project is. She asked, "Why aren't taxpayers asking to have their
187 taxes returned to them and why as public servants, are we not trying to get them back to them?"
188 She added that bids are a big issue when starting to expend monies. She further stated that it is
189 not Donna's decision despite her experience. Bids should go out. There is a lot happening that
190 taxpayers could be upset about. Director of Student Services, Emily Reese stated that Business
191 Administrator Donna Clairmont did not make the decision and it is not to blame. Superintendent
192 Fauci added that Donna is very thorough. He further clarified that we have a history of returning
193 surplus monies to taxpayers and noted that we have been criticized for our fund balance in the
194 past. Ms. Cormier thanked him and stated she will check up on that.

195 Douglas Isleib asked what the determination was to change the double walled fuel tank. Board
196 Chair Michael Hatch said that his understanding was the tank was not double walled. Mr. Isleib
197 said that they are not insulting Donna. At the town hall, there was an issue at the Selectmen's
198 office regarding a project of \$5,000 which muddied the waters because they did not go to three
199 bidders.

200 Richard Bakos stated he has read the last two audited financials and both opinions by the
201 auditors are not clean. He asked when we will clean it up and why we would accept an unclean
202 auditor's report. Malcolm MacLeod stated he addressed this at the last meeting. Business

203 Administrator Donna Clairmont said the reports do not have any financial impact. Mr. Bakos
204 said it is the Board's responsibility to get a clean opinion, to which Board Chair Michael Hatch
205 responded that it will be cleaned up this year. The reason for the unclean report is a result of the
206 Gasby rule which has only been in place for two years. Prior to this rule we had a clean report.
207 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont added that there have been no material audit findings.
208 She added there have been small findings regarding foodservice deposits, but the issue is being
209 addressed and rectified.

210 **Board Member Reports**

211 **Principal's Report**

212 Principal Locke stated that the Extended Year Program began today.

213 Many staff members have been eager to get a head start on the school year. Therefore, staff who
214 are changing grade level have been in to meet with other teachers and to begin working on their
215 curriculum.

216 **Superintendent's Report**

217 Superintendent Fauci stated he attended the commissioner's meeting for NH Superintendents,
218 which focused of the waiver from the state to the NCLB Law. The state has granted the waiver,
219 which eliminates the punitive components, SINI/DINI. With the waiver, the state is focusing on
220 the bottom 5% of schools calling them Priority Schools and helping them achieve AYP. The next
221 5% above that are Focus Schools. The Gilmanton School is neither. Our scores have risen each
222 year. Every title I school, which we are, requires that 20% of teachers' and Principal's
223 evaluations tie into test scores. At the next teacher negotiations, language must be included to
224 meet this requirement. Principal Locke stated that if you assess a PE teacher, it is difficult to
225 determine how to affiliate them with which students. It is a challenge as administrators.
226 Superintendent Fauci stated that it is going to be different from district to district. In anticipation
227 of this a workshop will be held April 13-14 to address questions. Malcolm MacLeod asked if the
228 NCLB waiver benefits us in other ways and are there other things we can avoid? Principal Locke
229 stated we were not required to write a school improvement plan, but she sees the plan as a
230 positive. Title I funds no longer have to have a tutor assigned for SES services, which allow us
231 more funds within the title I grant. Unfortunately, professional development monies provided
232 under SINI/DINI are no longer available. Superintendent Fauci stated that in larger districts,
233 parents could choose to have their students go to other district schools that may have been
234 achieving at a higher level. However, this has never been an option for us.

235 **Authorization for the Superintendent to Hire Over the Summer**

236 Because we only meet once a month, Board Chair Michael Hatch asked that the Board allow
237 Superintendent Fauci the power to hire over the summer. The Board has never gone against the
238 Superintendent's recommendations. Robert Carpenter asked if the candidates come from
239 administration. Principal Locke said the teachers and an administrator interview at the first level,
240 with administration at the second level, then with Superintendent Fauci. He interviews, consults
241 with administration, and brings the best candidate to the Board. Malcolm MacLeod said he is not
242 sure he wants to skirt issues given tonight's discussion. Principal Locke cautioned that we run
243 the risk of losing candidates when in time constraints. Robert Carpenter asked how many

244 positions we are talking about. Superintendent Fauci said right now we only have one opening,
245 but we don't know what will happen over the summer. Adam Mini asked if quorum can be
246 achieved through e-mail, allowing the Board and administration the agility we need while still
247 abiding by the rules. Malcolm MacLeod suggested we schedule an additional meeting.

248 **Nomination of Courtney Knowles-Tutor**

249 Principal Locke stated that Courtney is a former student. She is very bright, is wonderful with
250 children, and already works as a substitute, so her familiarity with the school, students, and staff
251 will be helpful.

252 **Nomination of Susan Kirwan-Administrative Assistant**

253 Sue has worked as a para-educator for many years. She is efficient with paperwork, knows the
254 building, and is great with the students and with the public. She substituted for Stephanie Waite
255 when she was out for an extended time.

256 **Nomination of Amy Russell and Roya Snow-Paraeducators**

257 These positions are replacements for a retirement and a position change. Amy is great with
258 special needs population and will be in the Middle School.

259 Roya also has experience with a variety of needs. She will be in Grade 2.

260 **Nomination of Sherry Bickford- O'Connell-Paraeducator**

261 This position is to fill the vacancy left by Sue Kirwan's shift in position. She has a lot of
262 experience with special needs and middle school.

263 **Art Reardon-Technology Integration**

264 Superintendent Fauci stated he has worked with Art in the past when we transitioned to Karen
265 Boutwell and he has knowledge of the building and technology. Principal Locke, Superintendent
266 Fauci, and Student Services Director Emily Reese interviewed him. Superintendent Fauci said
267 his references were outstanding and he has not received recommendations as outstanding as
268 those he received for Mr. Reardon.

269 **2013-2014 Co-Curricular Nominations**

270 **7th and 8th Grade Girls' Basketball- Richard Bushnell**

271 Board Chair Michael Hatch read through the list of co-curricular nominations. All individuals
272 with the exception of Amanda Friend were already in the positions previously. Mrs. Friend will
273 be replacing Linda Zack as the Young Inventors coach.

274 **Proposed Student Handbook Changes**

275 On p. 7, language will be added to include a hands-off policy.

276 On p. 12, language will be added to the dress code. Sheer tops will not be allowed. Short shorts
277 will not be allowed, even with bike shorts/spandex shorts underneath.

278 Electronic Devices- Students in grades 5-8 were given a survey through the Guidance
279 Department about what they think is unfair about the rules. One of the things they would like to
280 do is to be able to play music during study hall. They felt if they can listen to music with their
281 headphones, they will be able to study better. Parameters have been set forth, such as not sharing
282 headphones. However parents need to know that we cannot monitor the content of the music, and
283 will be asked to sign a waiver agreeing to allow their child to listen to music. This is to make
284 students feel like they have input.

285 Language has also been added to clarify only a parent is allowed to discharge their child from a
286 field trip and take him/her home. Children may not be dismissed from a field trip to anyone other
287 than a parent.

288 Our administrative office assistant has been sending out party invitations and address labels, but
289 time does not allow for that any longer. Kristyn Fischev asked what the new policy will be.
290 Principal Locke stated that we may have to have room mothers.

291 **First Reading of the New Policies**

292 Policy ADD/EBB- These are not mandatory, but are recommended by the School Board
293 Association. They pertain to fire drills and procedures. Superintendent Fauci stated that we are in
294 compliance with most if not all of the recommended procedures.

295 Policy EBC- This policy requires us to make sure our crisis plans are in place. Our crisis plans
296 are in place.

297 Policy KFA

298 Policy BA-R1- These are a direct result of the conference for the Board's goal setting and the
299 evaluation of the School Board. A sample evaluation form is available for this.

300 Policy BA-R2- This policy pertains to self-evaluations of the Board members. This helps
301 members perform duties as a School Board member and is recommended by the NH School
302 Board Administration.

303 **Review of Existing Policies:**

304 Policy ECAF- To make sure we are in compliance.

305 Policy EEAA- We have surveillance equipment on the school grounds, and this policy makes
306 sure we are up to date. We do have to post additional signs so we are in compliance with signage
307 regulations.

308 Policy JRA-Makes reference to when a video recording should be used as part of a student's
309 record. It also addresses when to use the video to aide in discipline and addresses parents' access
310 to the video.

311 Policy BA- These are goals for the Board and the school.

312 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

313 Representative Jane Cormier asked to be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting to make a
314 presentation about the common core. She asked about going to Barnstead as well. Superintendent
315 Fauci asked that she submit the request via an e-mail.

316 Kristyn Fischev asked Principal Locke how long we have the Title I grant. Principal Locke said
317 we have to re-qualify each year. She also asked if when hiring teachers, we can hire more males.
318 Superintendent Fauci and Principal Locke stated that would be discriminatory and they cannot
319 hire someone based on their gender. Principal Locke noted that the trend in schools is that more
320 females teach in the lower grades and the number of male teachers increases in the higher grades.
321 Ms. Fischev also asked how 20% of teachers' evaluation can be tied to student performance.
322 Superintendent Fauci stated it's also includes principal's evaluations and noted that we have not
323 determined the specifics. We are grandfathered in because we have a negotiated contract and at
324 this time, the new evaluation procedures are unclear to most superintendents in the state. She
325 asked about the hands-off rule, asking if it is inappropriate to high-five each other. Principal
326 Locke said that is not inappropriate and the problem is not the high-fives, but rather
327 roughhousing and other contact not appropriate for a school setting. Ms. Fischev asked what the
328 video/audio surveillance is on the busses and the purpose of these systems. Superintendent Fauci
329 said we currently have some on some busses, but the systems are VHS and useless due to the
330 poor sound and picture quality. This school year, 2013-2014, busses will all have audio/video.
331 Superintendent Fauci explained the cameras are used to monitor student behavior because most
332 behaviors occur in areas in less monitored such as the cafeteria busses, playground, etc... She
333 asked if it is an extra expense and if it would be better to hire a mom/bus monitor. Malcom
334 MacLeod said the cameras are a cost of \$1000 and they are ours. Student Services Director
335 Emily Reese stated that our monitoring is just for safety. Principal Locke said there has been a
336 lot of bullying, but it is very difficult to determine a bullying incident if students are paying
337 attention to other things around them. Having video makes evidence more clear cut. Ms. Fischev
338 asked what the policy is for bus bullying. Superintendent Fauci said it is progressive and age
339 appropriate. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron deals with discipline on the busses. Director of Student
340 Services Emily Reese said that if there is bullying, then the consequences follow our bullying
341 policy. Superintendent Fauci sees the cameras as an extension of what happens at school. He is
342 not a proponent of big brother, but knowledge that a camera on board is a deterrent for negative
343 behavior.

344 Frank Weeks congratulated the school band for marching in the Fourth of July parade. He
345 recommends the school buy the band students shirts so they don't have to pay out of pocket. The
346 band had twirlers and had purchased their own shirts.

347 He asked if the Board had ever completed the Board evaluation. Superintendent Fauci said no.

348 Frank Weeks asked when a sports cut policy was endorsed by the Board. A parent asked him this
349 question after being told about such a policy by a coach. Principal Locke said some of the
350 numbers are dictated by the numbers that can be allowed on a court. However, we do not cut if at
351 all avoidable.

352 Mr. Weeks asked if Sue Kirwan's position is a new position. Superintendent Fauci stated that
353 due to privacy regarding personnel issues, he could not get into specifics. However, he
354 volunteered that we had a person undergoing medical concerns and had to leave. This put a
355 tremendous burden on our already overtaxed office staff. An IDEA grant was found and is

356 funding a position to handle the special education paperwork. Therefore, a position was made
357 available.

358 Elena Ball asked the Board to return the \$168,000 for the fuel tank. She asked what the Board is
359 going to do about the \$17,250 planned for HL Turner. Board Chair Michael Hatch said the
360 engineering has already been done and we have the plans. She asked about the comment by
361 Anne Kirby in the June Board minutes, asking why we don't take the \$250,000 from Special
362 Education to buy a modular. Mrs. Ball asked if that is an upcoming project. Board Chair Michael
363 Hatch pointed out that the Board did not take action on the comment. He did add that the SAU
364 building is for sale. Principal Locke explained the space issues and pointed out that Mrs. Kirby's
365 comment was intended to be facetious. Superintendent Fauci explained that we don't have
366 enough rooms, and some specialists are on a cart, but we are trying to do what we can until the
367 influx of people evens out. The trend has previously decreased but the numbers are rising again.
368 This prompted the demographic study by NESDEC which shows the NH population trend is
369 decreasing. However, the study indicates our population is on the rise. As we run out of space, it
370 helps to have information on which to base decisions. Principal Locke said that real estate
371 companies use the School Digger website to rate schools, on which we are 4th. As a result, many
372 families are choosing to move to Gilmanon because of the quality of education we provide.

373 Richard Bakos inquired about authority given to Superintendent Fauci to hire new staff, asking if
374 the Board has the authority to hold a special meeting. Board Chair Michael Hatch explained that
375 the Board has never gone against the superintendent's recommendations. He just thought it
376 would streamline the process. Mr. Bakos asked if relinquishing the final approval authority
377 would take the Board out of the loop and prevent them from sitting with applicant. Board Chair
378 Michael Hatch explained the Board has never sat with applicant.

379 Frank Weeks asked if the positions for which nominations were made are new positions. It was
380 confirmed they are not.

381 Debra Cornett gave the Board kudos for updating the policies and commended the band for their
382 performance. She encouraged the Board to follow policies to avoid negative feedback. She also
383 asked if we videotape outside. Superintendent Fauci said we presently have two outside cameras,
384 allowing us to see the playground and the parking lot and into the distance. He explained they
385 can be monitored offsite or onsite. Principal Locke said we had some damage in the back, so this
386 helps.

387 Board Chair Michael Hatch said that if the Board finds out Mrs. Ball's information is correct,
388 they will reconsider their previous decisions. Superintendent Fauci said the piping WILL have to
389 be replaced and Mrs. Ball cited the amount of piping. Superintendent Fauci contemplated that
390 while we have the excavators here, should we replace the tank rather than repeat the process in a
391 few years. Mrs. Ball asked what we will be done with the money in the meantime. Board Chair
392 Michael Hatch said nothing will be done for now. She reiterated that Matthew Jones is the DES
393 agent she spoke with and also reiterated previous points noted earlier in these minutes.

394 **ACTION ITEMS:**

395 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board**
396 **unanimously voted to approve resignation Karen Boutwell.**

397 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board**
398 **unanimously voted to approve resignation of Lindsay Whitten.**

399 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
400 **unanimously voted to approve resignation of Bailey Bergeron.**

401 Discussion regarding allowing Superintendent Fauci to hire with implied Board consent:
402 Malcom MacLeod prefers to arrange a special meeting. Principal Locke said it would be better to
403 have an earlier meeting rather than wait until later in the month. Superintendent Fauci said if
404 they interview an outstanding candidate who needs an immediate response, administration might
405 resort to email and make it part of the minutes. Superintendent Fauci suggested holding off until
406 we find out what will happen and he will request Board Chair Michael Hatch to hold another
407 meeting.

408 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcom MacLeod, the Board**
409 **unanimously voted to approve hiring Courtney Knowles as a paraprofessional.**

410 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Malcom MacLeod, the Board unanimously**
411 **voted to approve the hiring of Susan Kirwan as Administrative Assistant.**

412 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
413 **unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Amy Russel as a paraprofessional.**

414 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board unanimously**
415 **voted to approve the hiring of Sherry Bickford-O'Connell as a paraprofessional.**

416 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
417 **voted to approve 2013-2014 co-curricular nominations.**

418 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
419 **unanimously voted to approve the changes to the student handbook.**

420 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
421 **unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of the new Recommended Policies.**

422 Discussion-Malcom MacLeod asked if we have a first reading, second reading, then approve the
423 policies. Board Chair Michael Hatch confirmed that process as correct. Malcom MacLeod asked
424 if we have time to make adjustments, which was confirmed.

425 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board**
426 **unanimously voted to approve the Review of Existing Policies.**

427 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
428 **voted to accept the fuel oil bid of \$3.158 cents/gallon.**

429 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
430 **unanimously voted to approve to include both current and former employees in the Health**
431 **Trust Contribution Holiday reimbursement.**

432 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, with Adam Mini**
433 **abstaining, the Board voted to approve the June 11, 2013 meeting minutes as amended.**

434 Changes to the minutes: Delete Frank Weeks, listed as Board Member
435 Delete Adam Mini from Board Members in attendance
436 Correct the spelling of Malcolm MacLeod's name

437 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
438 **voted to approve the hiring of Art Reardon as IT Administrator.**

439 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
440 **voted to approve the hiring of Roya Snow as a paraprofessional.**

441 **On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
442 **unanimously voted to accept the resignation of Rebecca Davis as the Art teacher.**

443 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION-RSA 91-A :3 II (c) 8 :21 PM**

444 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, by roll call vote, the**
445 **Board went in to non-public session at 8:21 P.M.**

446 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board came out of**
447 **non-public session at 8:40 P.M**

448 **ADJOURNMENT**

449 **It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 8:41 P.M.**

450 **Respectfully submitted,**



451 **Renee Kordas,**

452 **School Clerk**

Hi Elena:

I will have John add your email to me on the July 9th Board agenda under correspondence.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Hatch <mhatch@gilmanton.k12.nh.us>
To: matchahatch <matchahatch@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 5:42 am
Subject: Fwd: new heating system for Gilmanton School

Dear Chairman Hatch,

It has come to my attention that the Gilmanton School Board has voted and approved the expenditure of taxpayer funds from the Gilmanton School budget for the use of installing a new heating system for the Gilmanton School.

Last year when this same issue was brought up at a school board meeting a taxpayer questioned the use of "unexpended funds" for the purpose of installing this new system and I sent an email to then Chairman Kordas asking these questions:

1. What non-lapsing fund, approved by the voters, for this money, are you putting towards this project?
2. Are you having a meeting to allow the voters to approve of the spending?
3. Have you given the town at least 7 days notice of a meeting to discuss this expenditure?
4. Has the DRA approved your plan and can I have a copy of their letters?

I believe if you read the RSA 32 section of our State law and the contributing statutes you will be able to answer these questions and realize that the law does not permit the spending of tax dollars on projects that have not been approved by the taxpayers by using money that is now surplus to the budget.

At this time I am requesting that the Board members stop the project until all of the above have been satisfied. I have been in contact with Shelley Gerlarneau from the DRA who has satisfied this request by stating that money from an existing budget may be moved from an existing line item to another line item without notification to the public. However, when a NEW project is entertained by the Board, it must come before the town in the form of a Warrant Article for the town to discuss and then vote upon.

Also, in your last minutes there were two (2) motions made to "set aside" money for an upcoming installment of a new fuel tank; one for \$22,000 and the other for \$46,000. There is no RSA allowing school boards to use budget or surplus funds as a "set aside". That is what Capitol Reserve Funds or Expendable Trust Funds are for. Therefore, I am requesting that \$68,000 be returned to the unexpended funds from last year's budget and a request/Warrant Article be made to set aside these funds or a request to add to an existing fund be made at the next Deliberative Session.

In the past, when I have sent communications to you it has been your policy to respond by email. At this time I would ask that you not continue this policy but, instead, present this and all communications to the School Board for discussion as is stated by RSA.

Sincerely,

Elena Ball
334 Mountain Road
Gilmanton Iron Works, NH 03837
603-364-2187