

GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM

Board Members Present: Frank Weeks, Adam Mini, Malcolm McLeod, Robert Carpenter, Michael Hatch

Administrators Present: Vice Principal Deb Bergeron, Director of Student Services Nancy Fournier, Superintendent Fauci

Others Present: none

CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chair Michael Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PROOF OF POSTING:

Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Superintendent Fauci asked to add three petition articles under the Discussion portion of this meeting. No action needs to be taken, but these articles will need a public hearing. Superintendent Fauci stated he is not sure what the timeline is, but noted that the hearing time may fall outside the Board's regular meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

A Thank You Letter was sent from the Hospice of Southern Maine.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Board Member Report:

Robert Carpenter and Adam Mini stated that at the last Gilford Board meeting, the Board discussed working on expanding college credit offerings. Some current offerings include Chemistry, Chemistry Honors, and Spanish, among others. These courses are offered through SNHU and Lakes Region Community College.

Gilford recently held a financial aid night, and Candidates' Night will be held on January 16, 2016.

The Drama Department will be performing the Lion King on January 28-30. Ninety-nine students are in the cast and thirty are in the Backstage Technical Crew.

The Board discussed whether to Bond out for work on the Gilford Elementary School. The issue will be brought to the public and will not affect us.

Gilford High School will be completing an \$870,000 locker room renovation by 2020.

The homeland security report was presented, which identified operational gaps. This is free of charge.

Gilford Middle School surveyed students to see what climate is like. Robert Carpenter stated he thought we did something similar. He will send the packet to Superintendent Fauci.

Gilford is offering lots of professional development, much like a curriculum day. Superintendent Fauci said some of these offerings were discussed at the Gilford-Gilmanton meeting.

Last Friday was the deadline for Superintendent candidacy. There is no current job description on file. Therefore, the committee is using the State of NH Department Of Education's description in considering applicants. They will meet on January 20th to review resumes and set up interview questions. The committee wants to have a candidate by April. April Warren, Adam Mini, and Deb Wheeler are all committee representatives from Gilmanton out of thirteen total members.

Frank Weeks stated he was invited to a forum on addiction and the Heroin Epidemic and handed out an informational flyer to the Board.

Principal's Report:

Current Enrollment- We currently have 404 students at the Gilmanton School, up from 401 in December, Class sizes are as follows: K-50; 1-33; 2-42 (up from 41); 3- 51 (up from 50); 4-54 (up from 53); 5-45; 6-47; 7-38 (down from 39); ad 8-44 (up from 43).

SEADS- Our first SEADS day was Friday, January 8. This year we have 123 skiers, 23 gymnastic participants, 6 horseback riders, 32 rock climbers, 94 skaters, and 43 bowlers. 63 students stayed in school all day, and they participated in snowshoeing, cooking, computer challenges, and other activities in the morning. In

the afternoon, Larry Frates performed a magic show for a large assembly of K-8 students. Everyone had a great day!

Committee Work- Several committees have been working hard to update curriculum to meet new State and National Standards. The Science Committee is looking at a continuum of learning that addresses specific topics at each grade level as well as critical thinking skills used in scientific inquiry. Dr. Heather Driscoll is developing a CORE Map to address the Next Generation Science Standards, and she has met with both Science Chairperson Erin Hollingsworth and Middle School Science Teacher Jill Neilson. The Social Studies Committee is looking at our current curriculum guides with the goal of updating grade-level expectations. Language Arts committee members are working with their colleagues to ensure that teachers are building common vocabulary around our Six Traits Writing Program, Guided Reading, and Close Reading. Teachers are recognizing that our ten year old reading textbooks are being used less often in classrooms because the National Reading and Writing Standards are very different in 2016. The Math Committee continues to support the teachers as they teach the Envisions 2.0, and the Middle School Math Teachers are looking at a textbook pilot. The School Improvement Committee meets once each month and discusses committee work in the building in order to direct questions or concerns to the appropriate staff members. Parents are invited to attend the SIC Committee Meetings bring their own concerns or questions to the staff.

IStation Pilot- We have decided to initiate a free pilot program for IStation with K-1 teachers and Special Education Staff to help make a determination regarding its use in our building.

Malcolm McLeod asked for a better understanding of IStation. Superintendent Fauci explained that it is professional learning at its best. It is a computer based assessment program that groups students according to outcomes. Similarly, teachers currently group students according to skills, but it is time consuming. IStation is more streamlined. We decided to pilot the program in Kindergarten, First Grade, and in Special Education. If successful and if teachers choose to adopt it, we will expand the program. It is already in the budget, but the pilot is free. NWEA, which is a tool we currently use to assess skills, is administered once per year and also yields valuable data. IStation, however, is a progress monitoring tool that can be used on a more frequent basis. It has lots of animation and is highly motivating.

Professional Development Plan-Staff members and administration are working together to update our current Professional Development Plan and to restructure

our evaluation system to conform to State Standards. We are devoting team meetings to look at the State's recommended program to see how it fits our building.

The Board asked if we are congruent with the State. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron stated that our evaluation process is more observational and that the State is looking for a growth model. We are looking at the Charlotte Danielson model. It is very paperwork heavy. We will see how we can tweak it and make it our own. At one point, the State wanted to tie 20% of our evaluation into student test scores, but the Charlotte Danielson model seems more reasonable.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Fauci noted a Pink FAQ sheet which he would like to hand out to the public tomorrow night as well as Saturday morning. The sheet points out our standing compared to the State average in reference to demographics.

Superintendent Fauci noted there are two identified charter school students and three identified preschool students who are not listed on the sheet. However, Director of Student Services Nancy Fournier will verbally explain this information.

Robert Carpenter asked how we calculate the average cost per student for the high school, as the number on the sheet differs from the number in our budget. Superintendent Fauci said the state provided that information, but it doesn't account for all costs.

This Thursday, Superintendent Fauci is giving a presentation to the PTA about the budget. On the same day, Administration is going to participate in a phone conference about bomb threats and suggestions for handling them.

New Network Administrator Matt Hogan has had a very smooth transition. The first day on the job, our First Class network was down. He collaborated with Jay Moody to restore functions. Superintendent Fauci noted his appreciation for having Gilford's Brenda McGee and Jay Moody in the interim, we would have had a lot more difficulty restoring operation of First Class that day.

Adam Mini stated that he finds postings are done much more efficiently now that we are using Google. He asked if it would be worth having Matt Hogan come in to the next Board meeting to help the Board understand the change from using First Class to Google.

Superintendent Fauci discussed the memo in the Board packet from Business Administrator Annmarie Gilligan regarding the updated 2016-2017 school budget numbers. In the memo, she notes, "The enrollment page has increased by 1-8th

grade student that increases the freshman high school count by 1. This change has increased the budget by \$18,898.65 for a total FY17 budget of \$10,518,428 changing the budget increase to a 1.51% and a tax impact of \$0.356 per thousand.”

NHSBA Delegate Assembly Representative

Malcolm McLeod said he has attended two NHSBA Assemblies. He doesn't feel he has gotten a great deal out of them, but he is willing to attend again if the Board would like him to.

1st Reading:

Superintendent Fauci stated these policies govern how we operate, noting that he turns to these when a difficult decision needs to be made. He also noted that extracurricular and co-curricular activities are an extension of the school day.

- Policy EHA- Computer Security, E-Mail and internet Communications
This policy is currently in place and in the policy book. Changes include new Paragraph 13 and addition of RSA 189:68-a to Legal references. Changes are in response to new legislation, which creates RSA 189:68-a and establishes requirements relative to student online personal information.
- Policy IHCA- Summer Activities
We do not have this policy in place.
- Policy ILDA- Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research.
This sample policy is required by law, per RSA 186:11 IX-d, enacted by the NH Legislature, effective August 25, 2015
- Policy JCA- Change of School or Assignment
This policy is currently in place and in the policy book. Changes are made to paragraphs #4, #5, and #6 under “Conditions and Procedures for Reassignment” section. Changes are necessary due to legislative changes to RSA 193:3.
- Policy JLCD- Administering Medication to Students
This policy is currently in place and in the policy book. The only change is to Legal References, which now lists RSA 200:40-b. RSA 200:40b, effective July 2015, allows parents/guardians to authorize the school district to administer glucagon to a child/student in case of an emergency while at school or at a school-sponsored activity. The language of the policy did not necessitate any changes, as this sample policy already allows for the administration of medication to students during the school day.

2nd and Final Reading

- Policy JICI- Weapons on School Property
Superintendent Fauci explained that students face immediate 12 month expulsion for bringing guns or firearms onto school property. For other

weapons, expulsion may occur, but the decision is up to the Board. The Superintendent can make the decision to get a tutor to help educate students who have been expelled.

Robert Carpenter asked about adults and weapons. Superintendent Fauci explained that if someone is carrying a concealed weapon, and has a license to do so, he/she is within his/her rights. However, we can point out that the school has a no weapons policy and ask them to leave the property. If they do not comply, we can call the police for trespassing. We are waiting for NHSBA Attorney Barrett Christina to clarify.

Petition Warrant Articles

The following three new Petition Warrant Articles were presented to the Board prior to tonight's meeting.

Shall we adopt an ordinance defining and regulating conflicts of interest for local officers and employees, whether elected or appointed pursuant to RSA 31:39-a ***Prohibiting individuals from serving as members of the Gilmanton School Board while a spouse or immediate member of their family is employed by the Gilmanton School District.***

Shall we adopt an ordinance defining and regulating conflicts of interest for local officers and employees, whether elected or appointed pursuant to RSA 31:39-a ***Prohibiting individuals from serving as members of the Gilmanton Board of Selectmen or Budget Committee while employed by the Town of Gilmanton or the Gilmanton School District.***

Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2), as adopted by the Gilmanton School District on March 13, 2012, so that the official ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the official ballot is required by state law?

These Warrant Articles have been submitted and verified. Adam Mini asked if we can get a legal interpretation on this, which Superintendent Fauci agreed he would suggest getting legal counsel. He added that we have historically had members who had spouses who worked for the district. Robert Carpenter asked how this is a conflict of interest. Superintendent Fauci said if there is ambiguity, we may choose to have legal counsel attend meetings.

Robert Carpenter is technically an employee of the district, so it may impact him. He is not elected by the general public, but by the Board to the Budget committee. The Board agreed that these are definitely legal questions.

There is no action that needs to be taken on these articles. However, if there is consensus, Superintendent Fauci will fax these over to Barbara Loughman and get her opinion. The Board unanimously agreed to permit Superintendent Fauci to fax these to her.

Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2015

No changes.

Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2015

No changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously voted to not appoint a representative to the NHSBA Delegate Assembly.

On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Malcolm McLeod, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reading of Policies EHAA, IHCA ILDA, JCAA, and JLCD.

On a motion made by Malcolm McLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy JICI.

Robert Carpenter asked if we should wait on voting on this until Barrett gets back to us. Superintendent Fauci stated that we should have a policy in place immediately, noting that we can amend the wording in the future if needed.

On a motion made by Malcolm McLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously voted to approve the proposed amendment to the drafted 2016-2017 budget to the amount of \$18,898.65 for a total FY17 budget of \$10,518,428.

On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2015 as drafted.

On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm McLeod, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2015 as drafted.

DRAFT