

## **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC HEARING**

**6:00 P.M.-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

### **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

#### **Policy EEAA video and audio recording.**

Superintendent Fauci explained if we have audio or video recordings, we need to have a public forum, for which this meeting qualifies, and Board consent. Additionally, each time a teacher wants to record in their classroom, they have to send a letter home to parents. Frank Weeks asked about students recording each other. Principal Locke stated they cannot record unless we have permission. Superintendent Fauci said there are some exceptions. For instance, if a child is in a sporting event, permission to record is not needed. Robert Carpenter asked if the recordings are to be used for professional development. Principal Locke said it depends. We do have a third grade teacher who wants to record her lessons for a class. Superintendent Fauci added that some teachers might want to use recordings on their websites and Principal Locke noted that the flipped classroom approach also uses video recording as part of teaching. Frank Weeks asked what happens if a significant number of students do not have permission to be recorded. Principal Locke said we would have to look at situations case by case. Teachers may choose to engage students in an activity off-camera. Superintendent Fauci said that another exemption are our surveillance cameras. Malcolm McLeod noted these surveillance cameras are not present in classrooms. Superintendent Fauci stated that we do have signage and documentation in the handbooks notifying that surveillance cameras are in use. Malcolm McLeod asked for each letter to parents to state the specific purpose for recording, the duration for which students will be taped, and other relevant details.

If we use a video as part of a student discipline issue, parents have a right to view the video with an administrator present, after which time the video becomes part of the child's file. If the video does not reveal anything to aide in discipline, then the parent cannot view it.

The suggested changes will be a part of the policy.

**On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to accept police EEAA as amended.**

Malcolm McLeod asked if we can have a time frame for how long a video can be kept. Other members of the Board raised concern that it is difficult to limit the sharing of the video. Principal Locke said that she feels we can trust our teachers. Union Co-President Courtenay Phillips stated we have had many conversations about using common sense and being aware of privacy.

On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm McLeod, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the public hearing.

## **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2015**

### **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

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

Administrators Present: Principal Locke, Vice Principal Deb Bergeron, Director of Student Services Nancy Fournier, Superintendent Fauci, Business Administrator Annmarie Gilligan.

Others Present: GEA Union Co-Presidents Amy Small and Courtenay Phillips, Melissa Clarke, Michelle Heyman.

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Board Chair Michael Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

#### **PROOF OF POSTING:**

Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Under discussion items, we are adding the meeting minutes of December 2. These will also be added to action items.

The nomination and approval of Matt Hogan as the new Network Administrator will be added to action items.

A letter from Gilmanton resident, identified only as Shaun,, will be added to correspondence.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

An e-mail was sent to the Board by Michelle Heyman questioning our volunteer policy regarding sex offenders.

Board Chair Michael Hatch stated these issues are normally handled through administration. They typically review policies, discuss alternative policies, and bring the best ones forward. He suggested that Superintendent Fauci and Principal Locke take on this issue. Principal Locke confirmed she is in the process of looking into options and she has spoken with both past and present police chiefs. Frank Weeks asked if we pay for fingerprinting of volunteers. Superintendent Fauci explained that the district covers the cost for employees. However, volunteers who work in the building are working under the direction of the teacher and they are not allowed to be alone with children. If they were to be alone, they would be required to be fingerprinted. It has been brought up that on field trips, volunteers may be in a public place, but are not necessarily in the sight/direct supervision of staff. Board Chair Michael Hatch suggested making fingerprinting a fundraising thing because of the cost factor. The cost of a background check is \$23 and fingerprinting is \$49. Principal Locke stated they discussed possibly having volunteers paying for their own background checks, but added that any change to current practices would most likely start in the fall. This would allow parents to be notified in the summer letters. Superintendent Fauci said other districts have a “Lobby Guard”, which is a background check system through which a license is swiped and the sex offender database is searched. The initial cost for the system is between \$5000 and \$7000 with an annual subscription of \$1200. It only lets us know about the sex offender database, not other offenses. Principal Locke added that we have to make the decision about various offenses for which we would exclude parents. Superintendent Fauci is responsible for making judgement calls for employment. Robert Carpenter asked what impact this will have on our volunteers, questioning what happens if we lose volunteers. Principal Locke doubts that will happen. We try to have one adult per ten students and we often have so many volunteers that we have to implement a lottery to decide which parent will be allowed to go on a field trip. In the middle school, we don’t have parents chaperone. The policy is written here:

*School Volunteers*

*IJOC*

*The Gilmanton School District recognizes the need to develop a volunteer program to support the district's instructional programs and extracurricular activities. The spirit of donating service to the district will be accepted by the School Board. However, this service must be under the direct control of the district administrative staff and the superintendent of schools. the purpose of the volunteer program will be to :*

- *Assist employees in providing more individualization and enrichment of instruction.*
- *Building an understanding of school programs among interested citizens, thus stimulating widespread involvement in the total educational process.*
- *Strengthen school/community relations through positive participation.*

*A volunteer is a person who works on occasional or regular basis at school sites or other educational facilities to support the efforts of professional personnel. Such an adult volunteer worker will serve in that capacity without compensation or employee benefits.*

*Use of volunteers within the district is not to conflict with or replace any regularly authorized personnel.*

*Volunteers will work with students under the immediate supervision and direction of a certified person.*

*Volunteers are required to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the district.*

*Special projects will be minor in nature and must not require permits from the city or involve work that extends over two weeks without specific authorization from the superintendent/board.*

*A supervisor will be assigned to oversee the project/volunteer and to work with the principal to make certain that Board policy, specifications and safety regulations are met.*

*Each volunteer must sign in and out of the building on a volunteer log and obtain a visitor's pass.*

*Information concerning the nature of the volunteers role/responsibilities will be provided in a handbook.*

*An accurate and current list of active volunteers must be maintained by the principal or designee.*

*Principals, along with the volunteer program supervisor are responsible for the periodic evaluations of the school's' volunteer program. Input from teachers and others involved should be encouraged. Volunteers who have provided unsatisfactory services will be asked by the principal to discontinue services or will be utilized in another capacity.*

*Adopted: May 8, 1995*

*Revised: January 12, 2009*

*Reviewed: November 8, 2011*

Malcolm McLeod asked about the wording in the TITLE XV EDUCATION law Chapter 189:13-a Section 1 subsection b, which states, "A nonpublic school may elect to require a criminal history records check on selected applicants for employment or selected volunteers. A nonpublic school that elects to conduct a criminal history records check shall comply with the procedures and requirements set forth in this section." He asked if that wording applies to public schools as well. Superintendent Fauci said that our contracted people coming into our schools have had criminal records checks. Malcolm MacLeod referenced section VII, which reads, "The school administrative unit, school district, chartered public school or public academy shall not be required to complete a criminal history records check on volunteers, provided that the governing body of a school administrative unit, school district, chartered public school, or public academy shall adopt a policy designating certain categories of volunteers as "designated volunteers" who may be required to undergo a criminal history records check." He asked if there is a difference between a designated volunteer and a regular volunteer. Principal Locke said designated volunteers are people who come in on certain days/times. He suggested if we do choose to adopt or create a policy, we may have to decide who designated volunteers are.

A letter was sent to the Board regarding the one room school district owns on rt. 129 Superintendent Fauci stated that we still own this. In In his letter, Shaun's e-mail, he stated that he explained that hates to see the building fall into disrepair and is interested in purchasing and restoring it. Board Chair Michael Hatch asked if this is something we can give to the Historical Society. Superintendent Fauci said

with the Board's permission, we can open dialogue with the head of the Historical Society.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michelle Heyman stated she appreciates that the Board is looking into adopting or creating a policy in response to her letter. She stated that we are fortunate that field trip volunteers are not asked to pay field trip fees. However, other districts put the onus on the volunteers to have background checks and/or fingerprinting. She understands that field trips are more risky than when volunteers are here in the school. She provided a link to Alton's policy and is concerned that NH offender laws are very weak.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### **Board Member Report:**

Adam Mini reported that at the high school level, field hockey, volleyball, and soccer made it to the championships and NHIAA recognized them for sportsmanship.

The Superintendent recruitment deadline is January 9, 2016.

Adam Mini asked if we are using Performance Plus, which is a performance tracker, assessment builder, and curriculum connector. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron said that testing data is automatically uploaded. She actually notified Performance Plus of their reporting errors. We use our NWEA data to determine particular skill strengths and weaknesses.

#### **Principal's Report:**

**Current Enrollment-** We currently have 401 students at the Gilmanton School, up from 400 in November. We are also expecting two-three more children after the new year. Class sizes are as follows: K-50 (down from 51); 1-33; 2-41; 3-50; 4-53 (up from 52); 5-45; 6-47 (up from 46); 7-39; and 8-43.

**Middle School Chorus-** The Middle School Chorus traveled to Gilmanton's Senior center today to eat lunch with our local senior citizens. After lunch, they performed for the group.

**Blue Ribbon Celebrations-** Tomorrow morning we will start our Good Citizens Assembly with a video clip of our Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington DC. We have asked all the students to wear blue, and teachers will give each student a blue

ribbon. At the end of the assembly we will all go out to the soccer field, and we will get a group picture. Class pictures with our Blue Ribbon Costumes will be taken throughout the day. The evening presentation of the Blue Ribbon will be in the cafeteria at 6, and we will have our plaque and blue rocks on display. Parents will have an opportunity to take their children's pictures with the Blue Ribbon Costumes.

**Holiday Concert-** Middle School Band and Chorus members will be performing tomorrow night at 6:30 in the gymnasium. Please feel free to join us!

**December Early Release-** Early release this month is Wednesday, December 16. The staff will gather for lunch at 1:15, and then at 2 PM we have various activities throughout the building. One highlight will be our Tech Helpers running workshops in Google Docs and Google Websites.

**Holiday Dinner-** The fifth grade is hosting a holiday luncheon on Thursday, December 17 at 1 PM. Again, please join us if you can!

**Upcoming Events:**

December 11: Grinch Day

December 21: Pajama Day

December 22: Holiday Parties at 2 PM

**Superintendent's Report:**

Thursday we have a meeting with the Gilford administration. Curriculum, budget items, and snow days are on the agenda.

Superintendent Fauci stated he is still working with residency issues. Adam Mini asked if we are using the affidavit. Superintendent Fauci explained we are using it for people who move in, but not for existing residents.

The snow guards have been put in place on the modular. There is some paving around the skirting of the modular that has settled, but that will be addressed in the springtime. The company is aware of the settling and of their responsibility. Superintendent Fauci said it is better to have the pavement finish settling rather

than repair it prematurely. We are still monitoring electricity costs. We are holding some payment until the scope of the work is done to our satisfaction.

### **Policy EEAA- Video and Audio Recording on school Property**

Action was taken during the public hearing.

### **School Volunteers**

Please see discussion earlier in this meeting.

### **Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2015**

Clarify lines 181-183

correct spelling on lines 69 and 234

### **Matt Hogan**

All three candidates for the network administrator position were interviewed by Superintendent Fauci and Adam Mini. Both agreed that Matt Hogan was the best. His salary will be \$47,000 and he is prepared to start December 28 pending Board approval. This is during vacation, which will allow him to get to know the building. Superintendent Fauci has put him in touch with Jay and Brenda to aide in the transition. Superintendent Fauci has also talked to Matt about coming in before school lets out so he can meet the staff. Adam Mini stated that it was nice to see the candidates and to experience their energy level. He noted that he felt Matt Hogan was the most technical and also would fit the best. Superintendent Fauci added that he is very talented and creative. He worked in Japan, he is musically inclined and works for the Discovery Center and does a lot of video production. It will take him some time to get acclimated. However, with Jay's, Brenda's, and the administration's assistance, he will transition smoothly. Frank Weeks asked if he has dealt with children before. Superintendent Fauci explained that he taught music in Japan and he has worked in the children's hospital as well as at the Discovery Center. Superintendent Fauci further explained that Mr. Hogan shared some of his goals and priorities. Superintendent Fauci thanked Adam Mini for his expertise.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

none

### **ACTION ITEMS**

On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Malcolm McLeod, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2015 as amended.

On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously voted to approve the meeting minutes of December 2. as amended.

On a motion made by Malcolm McLeod, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to nominate Matt Hogan as Network Administrator. The Board designated The Board appointed Adam Mini as the Board representative for the Gilford High School Superintendent search committee.

Non-public at 7:12 p.m.