

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Renee Kordas, Michael Hatch, Adam Mini and Robert Carpenter.
5 Malcolm MacLeod was absent.

6 Administrators Present: Superintendent Fauci, Principal Carol Locke, Vice Principal Deb
7 Bergeron

8 Others Present: Rachel Hatch

9 **CALL TO ORDER:**

10 Superintendent Fauci called the School Board Meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

11 **PROOF OF POSTING:**

12 Proof of posting was verified as being duly posted by Superintendent Fauci and
13 Rachel Hatch.

14 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

15 It was the consensus of the board to approve the agenda as drafted.

16 **SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS:**

- 17 • Two Year Term- Malcolm MacLeod
18 • Three Year Terms- Robert Carpenter and Adam Mini
19 Rachel Hatch performed the swearing in of Robert Carpenter and Adam Mini.

20 Superintendent Fauci explained that tonight's meeting is a reorganization meeting. Since one
21 Board member is not present, the Board can wait and have a reorganization meeting, during
22 which Board members are elected to the positions of Board Chair, Vice Chair, etc...at the next
23 meeting or reorganize tonight. The Board agreed to have the reorganization meeting next month.
24 Renee Kordas will act as Board Chair for this meeting. She explained the format of the Board
25 meetings to the new members.

26 **CORRESPONDENCE**

27 There is no correspondence.

28 **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

29 **Board Member Reports**

30 **Excerpts from the Gilford School Board Meeting: March 4, 2013** (Frank Weeks reporting)

- 31 1. High School IEPs and Student Portfolios: The students IEPs and portfolios will now be
32 virtual and there will eventually be no paper copies.
- 33 2. Kindergarten-Grade 1 Grouping: There is a proposal to have some Kindergarten/Grade 1
34 heterogeneous grouping in which students from these two levels would be in the same
35 classes.
- 36 3. Twelve Angry Jurors: The school play “12 Angry Jurors” will be performed on Thursday,
37 March 21 through Saturday, March 23 at 7 p.m. Many Gilmanton students are in the cast.
- 38 4. First annual Gilford Meadows Golf Tournament: This tournament will be on Saturday,
39 March 18 at the Pheasant Ridge Country Club, and the fundraising will be used to
40 develop the athletic fields at the Meadows Complex.
- 41 5. Health Fair: There will be a health fair on Friday, March 28 from 9-1:30 in the school
42 gymnasium to showcase services dealing with physical/mental health.
- 43 6. Administrative Waivers: Entry cost for administrators and their guest will be waived as
44 “it is the policy of the Gilford School Board to encourage administrative attendance at
45 school functions.”
- 46 Superintendent Fauci asked the Gilmanton Board representatives address this at
47 the next Gilford Board meeting, and suggest that the same courtesy be extended to
48 Gilmanton Administration.
- 49 7. 2012 NECAP Testing Analysis: Some conclusions: There is an apparent disparity
50 between reading scores and written work even though these are usually correlated;
51 writing proficiency appears to have decreased from prior years; concerns remain in
52 constructed response areas in math and writing and student engagement in the NECAPS
53 continues to be a concern. Note: These results do not include Gilmanton students as the
54 analysis Grade 8 (2009) students who are now in grade 11 (2012)
- 55 8. Graduation Day: June 9 at 2 p.m. at Meadowbrook.
- 56 9. New Gilford School Board Member: Allen Demko is the newly elected School Board
57 member.

58 Superintendent Fauci stated that Gilford’s School Board is going to meet again before our
59 next Board meeting. Therefore, we need to choose a representative to attend the meeting.
60 Mike Hatch and Adam Mini both volunteered to attend. Superintendent Fauci noted that
61 representatives can only vote on high school issues and stated that Gilmanton has two votes
62 on the Board. Board Chair Renee Kordas reiterated that attendance of both representatives is
63 imperative so we can utilize both of those votes.

64 **Principal’s Report**

65 **Current Enrollment-** Our school population is currently at 410 students, up from last month’s
66 408. Kindergarten registrations are up to thirty-two students, but we also have ten possible
67 retentions from this year’s kindergarten. These numbers are consistent with last year’s figures at
68 this time of year. Typically we gain more students as kindergarten screening draws near.
69 Kindergarten screening is on April 18 and 19 this year. The two days before April vacation.

70 **Box Top News!-** One of our PTA parents entered a sweepstakes sponsored by Market Basket
71 and General Mills and won 5000 box tops for the Gilmanton School. Those box tops translate to
72 a \$500 check. The school appreciates Cathie Austin and the PTA for all their efforts on our
73 behalf!

74 **Artist in Residence-** Our visiting artist this year is a puppeteer. His residency is the third year in
75 the three-year theme of recycling. He has been working with all of our students, but his core
76 group is sixth grade. The sixth graders have made puppets from recycled goods, have been
77 researching the city of Pompeii to build a script for a show, and they will be performing a puppet
78 show at 1:30 PM on March 27. The public is welcome to attend. (This residency is being funded
79 through a grant from the State of NH, money from the PTA, and funds voted through our current
80 budget.)

81 **Professional Development for Staff-** We have had several recent professional development
82 activities occurring at our school and offsite. UNH Consultant Louise Wroblewski has been
83 working with our staff to improve our reading instruction. She has been booked to spend seven
84 days in our building, so she meets with staff, models reading lessons in the classrooms, and
85 provides workshops in Guided Reading and linking the National Standards to our reading goals.
86 She presented a workshop on our last Early Release on March 13, and she will present another
87 workshop on the afternoon of April 17. Her services are paid through our Title One Grant.

88 Raelyn and Brian Cottrell also offered CPR training on the afternoon of March 13, and the AIR
89 Puppeteer worked with a group of teachers that same afternoon. Tomorrow during our full-day
90 workshop day we have Suicide Prevention Training for Grades 5-8 staff members and reading
91 assessment training for teachers in Grades K-4. The Suicide Prevention Training is in response to
92 the Risk Assessment Survey administered at the beginning of the school year.

93 Five teachers travelled to Boston to attend the Orton Gillingham training, which is a multi-
94 sensory approach to teaching reading.

95 **Superintendent's Report**

96 Superintendent Fauci officially welcomed new School Board members on behalf of the
97 administration and staff.

98 Superintendent Fauci gave a Power Point Presentation to depict the 2013 NECAP scores. Board
99 Chair Renee Kordas asked if these are the official scores. Superintendent Fauci explained that we
100 have not been notified if we made AYP, but these are the raw scores which depict which students
101 scored in each of the ranges of Substantially Below Proficient, Partially Proficient, Proficient,
102 and Proficient with Distinction.

103 Index Target: In 2005-2006 the baseline was that 82% of our students scored in the ranges of
104 Proficient or Proficient with Distinction in Reading and 76% scored Proficient or Proficient with
105 Distinction in Math. By 2013-2014, the goal was for all students to be Proficient. Each year, the
106 target percent of students to score in the proficient range increases.

107 The following table shows the percent of students scoring in the Proficient/Proficient with
108 Distinction Range on the 2012 NECAP test. State scores are noted in red:

109	Grade	Reading	Math	Writing
110	The Gilmanton School	89%	89%	63%
111	Beginning of Grade 3:	92% 78%	97% 74%	

112	Beginning of Grade 4:	92%	78%	98%	77%	
113	Beginning of Grade 5:	83%	77%	75%	74%	74%
114	Beginning of Grade 6:	88%	79%	96%	74%	
115	Beginning of Grade 7:	87%	77%	91%	69%	
116	Beginning of Grade 8:	87%	82%	82%	68%	74%

117 Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if the new test will involve Writing. Superintendent Fauci
118 stated that next year the test will look the same as this year but it will change in 2014 in order to
119 assess the common core standards. This means that all states will teach the same standards rather
120 than having different standards from state to state, which will help students who move between
121 states. The new tests will be computer based and will have animation, which is why we are
122 starting to work on our broadband now. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron added there will be more
123 open ended questions, which will require more analysis and higher level thinking.
124 Superintendent Fauci stated there are a lot of unknowns at this point. Vice Principal Deb
125 Bergeron said there are some schools currently piloting the new test, using a paper-pencil version
126 to validate the questions.

127 Superintendent Fauci stated that the goal of 100% of students achieving at the proficient levels is
128 unrealistic. Principal Carol Locke stated that some kids have disabilities, which does impact the
129 scores and Robert Carpenter added that some kids just don't like to test.

130 Superintendent Fauci stated that we do have data that shows if children are on the cusp of one of
131 the achievement levels. He added that if we move a student from Partially Proficient to
132 Proficient, we get points credited to our score. However, if they move from Proficient to
133 Proficient with Distinction, we get no credit because it is not viewed as progress. Mike Hatch
134 asked if there is information that shows if students are from other districts. Principal Carol Locke
135 stated that the scores for students who move to Gilmanton count for the sending district that year,
136 not us.

137 Superintendent Fauci provided additional graphs, using pie charts to depict the score distribution
138 for Math and Reading at each grade, 3-8.

139 Board Chair Renee Kordas noted that the scores in grade 5 differ by only one point from the
140 State average, where the other grades scored much higher than the State. Principal Carol Locke
141 stated that the reality is that it is a large class and there are many needs in that class.

142 Superintendent Fauci did note that even with these scores, we may not make AYP because the
143 State does not look at the overall scores. Rather, they examine score from cohorts such as the
144 Special Education cohort. If a particular cohort does not make AYP, the school as a whole does
145 not make AYP.

146 Principal Carol Locke explained that some students are eligible for alternative portfolios. Erika
147 Langlais briefly explained the criteria for qualifying for an alternative portfolio. She explained
148 that a team must convene to decide if a student meets several criteria set forth by the State in
149 order to qualify. For instance, a student must have significant communication needs and his/her

150 cognitive disability must significantly impact his/her ability to be successful on the NECAP
151 assessment despite implementation of all possible accommodations. Only a small percentage of
152 students qualify each year. Superintendent Fauci added that the portfolios are video based, rather
153 than paper and pencil assessments. Additionally, the State does not encourage these because they
154 are expensive to evaluate. John added that Mrs. Langlais is a scorer for the Alternative Portfolio
155 and can explain the process if anyone is interested.

156 Superintendent Fauci encouraged the Board to visit and examine the www.schooligger.com
157 website, which lists Gilmanton as 4th in the State for Grades 3 and 4 and 10th in the State for
158 grades 7 and 8. This website outlines the progress of our test scores over time.

159 We are currently working with Gilford's joint leadership committee on implementing digital
160 portfolios, digital learning, and personalization of learning. They are trying to have students'
161 work saved on a system that they can take with them so that teachers can view previous work
162 samples rather than just their grades. Gilmanton currently has a server on which students save
163 their work. He stated that he was shocked at how little this costs, and feels that it would be in our
164 best interest to begin implementing these initiatives now.

165 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont, Dave Sykie, and Superintendent Fauci are
166 investigating mandatory improvements to the oil tank. The walls need to be double walled and
167 the pipes need to be double lined by December 2015. An engineer will examine the tank and will
168 provide estimated costs for the engineering updates by the next Board meeting. There is not
169 currently enough money in the capital reserve fund, so Superintendent Fauci stated he will be
170 asking the Board whether they want to use some money from the fund balance to cover the
171 difference or build it into the next year's budget. If the regulations are not complied with, the
172 fine is \$2,000 per day. Dave Sykie had suggested possibly moving the tank closer to the school
173 to reduce the length of pipe, thereby reducing the cost of the pipe. However, Mike Hatch added
174 that the cost will be greater to move the tank, doubling the excavation costs. Superintendent
175 Fauci will also have a capital reserve amount and fund balance amount at the next meeting so the
176 Board can make an informed decision.

177 The Librarian position has been posted. There are currently two applicants and only one has a
178 master's degree. It is a critical shortage area, and a master's degree is required for a Librarian/
179 Media Generalist. Without an accredited Librarian, a school cannot maintain accreditation.
180 Board Chair Renee Kordas asked what a Media Specialist entails. Principal Carol Locke stated
181 that the candidate needs to know about teaching students how to use such technology as Smart
182 Boards, iPads, computers, and other forms of technology to perform research and other school
183 assignments. Robert Carpenter asked that if we have our accreditation for 5 years, with three
184 years left, can we require a new hire to earn their certification within the next three years.
185 Superintendent Fauci explained that we can, but we would need to get a condition of
186 employment, adding that it is easier to hire someone who is already certified.

187 There was also a resignation of a custodian, so that position was posted. There are some
188 applicants, and Dave Sykie will review the applications with Principal Carol Locke.

189 There is also a teacher position and a paraprofessional position in the budget, but we are waiting
190 to determine if we have 45 Kindergarten students enrolled for the 2013-2014 school year. This
191 would allow three classes of 15 students. If this is the route we need to take, Superintendent

192 Fauci would like to advertise for this position as soon as possible in order to get the best
193 candidates.

194 Board Chair Renee Kordas explained to new Board members that if a new teacher is hired, the
195 middle school will be impacted because Anne Kirby will travel from classroom to classroom,
196 much the way the Spanish and Art teachers are travelling now. Furthermore, the Learning Lab
197 will be moved into Anne's room, and the open room will be used as a Kindergarten classroom.

198 **Building Security**

199 One Source Security provided a quote of \$2390 for 10 panic buttons, which can be
200 mobile/wireless lanyards. Mike Hatch asked if we have to take action. Superintendent Fauci
201 stated that if the Board wants us to move forward, then yes.

202 In our lockdown drill, one of the weaknesses in the procedures was that one of the wings has
203 locks which teachers have to lock with a key from the hallway. Some teachers have to lock two
204 rooms from the hallway because unlocked interior connecting doors may leave some classrooms
205 vulnerable. After receiving teacher feedback, many said that going out into the hallway is not
206 conducive to safety. The doors in one wing currently do have push buttons, so those locks will
207 not be replaced.

208 Bob's Lock and Key originally quoted \$1300 to change a component of some of the locks.
209 However, the quote changed after learning that the original quote was not feasible. Two
210 proposals were offered: Handles could be changed so they lock from the inside with the same
211 key that locks the outside. The advantage with this option is that the door can be locked from the
212 inside. The other option is to change the knobs in all doors except the ones with the push buttons.
213 This option costs \$12,100. Board Chair Renee Kordas stated she doesn't like the idea of keys
214 because the keys don't always work, or some may have difficulty locking the door with a key
215 when they get nervous. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron said that she also thinks of the possibility of
216 incapacitated teachers. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if the Board can advise Superintendent
217 Fauci to get another quote. Mike Hatch cautioned against getting too many quotes because some
218 companies may refuse to provide services if they give quotes repeatedly and are not chosen. He
219 supported Superintendent Fauci's assessment that the price is reasonable. Board Chair Renee
220 Kordas said they will take action for the estimate from Bob's Lock and Key and on the purchase
221 of the panic buttons in Action Items.

222 **Proposed 2013-2014 School Calendar**

223 Administration used Gilford's calendar as a template for our own. Gilford has delayed openings
224 on one day per month, so we have more freedom with early release dates. Teacher workshops are
225 on 8/26-27 and students begin on 8/28. Each month will have an early release with the exception
226 of January due to the many holidays/days off that month. SEADS days will start on the second
227 Friday in January since students are only in school for two days after returning from Holiday
228 Vacation. There is a teacher workshop in March to replace the usual workshop after students are
229 dismissed for summer vacation in June. Principal Locke reasoned that it is counterproductive to
230 have workshops in June due to end of school clean-up. Additionally, teachers are more focused
231 and able to immediately implement things learned at workshops held in March. Teachers are
232 contracted to work 185 days and Para-educators work 183 days. Some Para-educators work

233 during the teacher workshop day in October, so they do not have to work on the workshop day in
234 March. This will again be the case next year. Board Chair Renee Kordas expressed concerned
235 about October because there is a disruption one day a week for three weeks. Principal Carol
236 Locke explained there is an NEA workshop day in October which many staff choose to attend
237 due to the varied offerings and nominal cost of \$25. Therefore, it is counted as one of the
238 teacher's 185 days. This is also why having two half days for parent teacher conferences allows
239 for less disruption. Robert Carpenter asked if early release days should be eliminated from
240 months in which vacations are scheduled. Principal Carol Locke stated it has been discussed, but
241 it allows for 2 or 3 solid hours of professional development. It is actually cost effective for the
242 district, because if a teacher goes out of district, workshops can cost a couple hundred dollars.
243 We also use staff in house to provide professional development and we also bring in presenters
244 to save money, such as the AIMSWEB training which will be conducted by Liz Brulotte and
245 Vice Principal Deb Bergeron.

246 **NHSBA 2013 School Board Orientation and Chair Workshops**

247 This is for new Board members and Board Chair Renee Kordas encouraged new members to
248 attend to learn the details about being a Board member. Superintendent Fauci thanked Rachel
249 Hatch for processing new members and stated that if the new members choose to attend, they can
250 either register themselves or they can ask Rachel to register them.

251 **February 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

252 Board Chair Renee Kordas explained the process of reviewing and approving the Board minutes.
253 A suggestion was made to review line 22 to see if something was missing from the sentence.
254 Additionally, the spelling for Barbara Loughman must be corrected.

255 **February 12, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

256 Adam Mini asked if the amount on line 447 is the correct amount. The amount should be
257 \$1040.00

258 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

259 Rachel Hatch asked who the new warrant signers will be. There will be two manifests ready for
260 signature tomorrow afternoon. Mike Hatch and Robert Carpenter agreed to sign the manifests.
261 Superintendent Fauci encouraged them to call first because of server issues.

262 Rachel Hatch stated that as a resident, she encouraged the Board to seriously consider
263 implementing as many safety precautions as possible within the budget.

264 On a personal note, she stated she was not a proponent of SB2. At the polls, there were 770
265 voters and 92 absentee votes. The school budget passed by more than 100 votes. She said that the
266 Board and Administration are doing a great job. She stated that the next year will be
267 economically challenging, but encouraged the Board and Administration to remember that the
268 children are what is important. The ballots overwhelmingly show that the voters support what the
269 Board is doing. She reiterated that it will get difficult in the next year, but encouraged the Board
270 members not to veer from what they know are the best decisions. She thanked the Board as a
271 citizen, as a former selectman, and as an employee.

272 **ACTION ITEMS:**

273 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously**
274 **voted to approve the 2013-2014 School calendar.**

275 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously**
276 **voted to approve the Feb. 6 minutes as amended.**

277 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously voted**
278 **to accept the Feb. 12 minutes as amended.**

279 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously voted**
280 **to accept the bid price of \$2490 for the additional panic buttons.**

281 Robert Carpenter asked if the one wireless receiver will be able to catch the signal on both inside
282 and outside the building. Principal Carol Locke stated that Karen Boutwell had the parameters
283 given by administration and used those guidelines to get the estimates.

284 Board Chair Renee Kordas asked how Principal Carol Locke will know if Karen Stockwell
285 presses the panic button in the Gym. Principal Carol Locke said she did not know exactly how it
286 works, but she will find that information. Superintendent Fauci stated he believes there is
287 communication between the lanyards. Mike Hatch stated that the receiver will be located in the
288 main office, so if someone presses a button, the receiver must somehow respond to let the office
289 know.

290 **On a motion made by Mike Hatch, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously**
291 **voted to unanimously approve \$12,100 for lock replacement.**

292 Mike Hatch said he supports this because if a teacher is incapacitated, a student would have a
293 harder time locking the door with a key. Superintendent Fauci clarified that this amount is from
294 this year's budget. Robert Carpenter asked if the buttons could easily be locked by brushing
295 against them. Superintendent Fauci explained that the button needs to be pressed purposefully in
296 order to lock the door.

297 Adam Mini stated that he doesn't feel this is a competitive price. He asked if we can approve this
298 amount, but spend less if we get a better price elsewhere. Superintendent Fauci stated that he
299 feels it is a good price, but he would feel more comfortable getting one more comparison quote.
300 Board Chair Renee Kordas clarified that we approve \$12,100 then we can determine with which
301 company it is spent.

302 Mike Hatch encouraged the new Board members to ask questions about acronyms and any other
303 items that are unclear. Board Chair Renee Kordas also reiterated the importance of
304 confidentiality and of supporting other Board members publicly even if you disagree in a
305 meeting. She also encouraged them to direct questions from the public to the Board Chair, who is
306 the representative of the Board. She added that when e-mails are sent, they are considered public
307 and all e-mails must be in the minutes. She stated that this happens rarely.

308 **ADJOURNMENT**

309 **On a motion made by Board Chair Renee Kordas, seconded by Mike Hatch, the Board**
310 **unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:50 PM.**

311 Respectfully,

312 Renee Kordas,

313 School Board Clerk