

# **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016**

## **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

Board Members Present: Frank Weeks, Adam Mini, Michael Hatch, Robert Carpenter via Skype

Administrators Present: Principal Carol Locke, 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 6:08 p.m.

### **PROOF OF POSTING:**

Superintendent Fauci confirmed the posting.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Superintendent Fauci asked to add some items to the agenda because several items came in after the Board packet was sent out. Superintendent Fauci asked to add:

Robert Carpenter's e-mail, which was sent to the entire Board.

The last day of school.

The eighth grade graduation date.

The half-time I.T. position.

Another position that may be needed.

Superintendent Fauci will also provide a forecast for the budget and potential projects.

The Memorandum Of Understanding provided and signed by the Town.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board received an e-mail from Jordyn Visser requesting funding assistance for the Robotics Team. Superintendent Fauci congratulated the Robotics team at GHS and he promised to bring the request for funding to the Board.

Robert Carpenter's e-mail is below:

Good Afternoon!

As many of you may know, both Ayden and Alec are on the robotics team, which is doing exceptionally well this year. In the four years that Ayden has been on the team this is the highest level that they have competed. Getting to CT, and with a strong chance to make it to St. Louis for the World Championship, is certainly a great accomplishment for the team.

In a typical season, they reach out to businesses that have either sponsored them in past seasons or they have not yet approached as well as submit grant applications to various entities. This has always provided enough funding for the team to compete within their district. With parental support and organization for meals for late nights and long weekends, they manage their resources carefully.

Unfortunately, the program does not have the ability to fund through ticket sales as the competitions are open to the public free of charge; there are no concession sales, and no Booster programs to support them, as some of the other activities have. They rely on sponsorship from the community, and as Frank mentioned, some funding through Gilford. While I understand Frank's concern over setting a precedent, I'm pretty sure other organizations have asked the district for support in one form or another over the years, so this request isn't a new concept for those who want our support.

This request, while it does support a team, it also supports the ingenuity, imagination, and perseverance that is so important to our students success beyond the classroom.

I can not vote on this with you as it directly affects my sons. As they progress, they will be able to build on the infectious enthusiasm that Adam can attest to, and probably fund their way to St. Louis. But it would be disappointing if the Gilmanton School was not part of that enthusiasm too I encourage you to consider this request and opportunity.

I will be Skyping in to the meeting on Tuesday and I look forward to talking with you all. I may not have the bandwidth to video in, but I will be there none the less.

Enjoy your weekend!

Kindly,

Robert Carpenter

A letter of resignation was received from a teacher today.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

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

Last week the GHS Board met, with Adam Mini, Malcolm MacLeod, and Frank Weeks in attendance.

Among the topics of discussion were the music festival, drama festival, and the robotics team. The Board talked a lot about the music festival, which went very well. GHS lost the last game of the hockey final. The Gilford High School Board discussed a tentative graduation date of June 12.

GHS is also talking to Health Trust about locking in rates.

The audit results were shared.

The summer program was discussed, to which Gilmanton will be invited as well. Principal Locke asked if the summer program is sponsored by the school.

High school enrollment is down 13 since the beginning of the year. Principal Anthony Sparazzo will provide more information in order to determine why the numbers are diminishing.

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

We interviewed for the computer education position today.

We gained three students today, so we are back up to 402. Last month we had 403 students. We did lose one 7th grader to home schooling.

The school play, Haphazardly Ever After, went very well.

Smarter Balance is going really well. Superintendent Fauci Commended Technology Administrator Matt Hogan and Vice Principal Deb Bergeron for all their hard work.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

Superintendent Fauci thanked Matt Hogan for taking the time to set up SKYPE.

Tomorrow, Superintendent Fauci has Lakes Region Superintendents' Meeting.

Superintendent Fauci has been working with Facilities Manager Dave Sykie to discuss summer projects here at the school. They have been looking at the type of work as well as the scope and sequence.

The administration is working on staffing for next year.

The audit was given to to Board for their review. Business Administrator Annmarie Gilligan expressed to Superintendent Fauci that she is happy to answer questions at the next meeting.

Insurance rates have come in, but they are currently trying to digest the numbers and compare the two companies.

Superintendent Fauci continues to have some residency issues, on which he continues to work. We may be down one student at the end of the month.

The last day of school is currently Tuesday, June 14th, with an eighth grade graduation date of Friday, June 10th.

MOU-when ***Paul*** came on board, he and Superintendent Fauci came together and spoke about ways to save the town money. They discussed using the school as an emergency shelter. Superintendent Fauci said it has been the most organized with the present chief, but it hasn't been necessary. The MOU outlines the following areas: Use of Facility, Shelter Management, Condition of Facility, Food Services, Custodial Services, Security, Signage and Publicity, Closing the Shelter, Reimbursement, Domestic Animals, and The Term of the Agreement.

Superintendent Fauci noted that we don't like anyone being in the kitchen without one of our staff present. The Board discussed the security, condition of the facilities, and a communication tree if the school is ever declared an emergency shelter. The section that is a little different is the reimbursement of the cost we will incur, such as custodial fees, food, fuel, etc... The Town has agreed to reimburse us. This is a signed document by the selectmen.

Superintendent Fauci summarized the MOU for Robert Carpenter.

Adam Mini asked if we should make an action item to change e-mail addresses from personal e-mail addresses to Google. He asked to cover that during the next meeting. Superintendent Fauci reminded the Board that we have Barrett Christina at the next meeting.

### **End of the Year Budget Projections**

We have \$303,000 we are projecting for unexpended funds as of the last day in March. Food service is running very much in the red, by approximately \$50,000, which brings our fund balance to approximately \$250,000. We are projecting our tuition to stay pretty much where it is, but our final bill has everything to do with Gilford. We do not get that bill until they finalize their budget. Based on what we see now, we are looking at approximately \$250,000. Knowing that the Board has historically asked about projects that need to be done, Superintendent Fauci met with Facilities Manager, Dave Sykie and administration to discuss priorities. The following are the determined needs:

Asbestos abatement in the K-2 wing, to include the Nurse's office, the hall where copy machines are, the front office, and the the five remaining classrooms. rough estimates bring us to \$95,000. Because of the cost, this project would go out to bid. If the abatement happens, the office staff will work out of the modulars. We currently have \$53,493 in the capital reserve, and \$15,000 that has yet to be deposited that was approved previously. That leaves \$26,561 in needed funds.

The next priority would be the 3-5 wing, including the double doors by library, down to the end of the hallway.

The cafeteria would be the remaining room. Adam Mini said he was under the impression that the Board would determine the most cost effective chunks. He said he would like to know the cost for each group of rooms before we deplete the capital reserve fund. Superintendent Fauci said it's premature to take action because we don't know the actual fund balance. Adam Mini asked Superintendent Fauci to bring the numbers forward given the map of remaining areas. Superintendent Fauci said he would do that. Board Chair Michael Hatch said no matter what we do, we are going to drain the account. He clarified that the asbestos will not harm anyone if it is kept waxed. He did say that if we have numbers to bring to the public, and show

that we are almost done, we might be more likely to get the money from the town.

Another project is addressing the rusted door frames in the cafeteria, which will cost about \$20,000.

The last project is to repair damage to the gym floor, which is also roughly a \$20,000 cost. Frank Weeks asked if the repair to the gym would necessitate landscaping to divert water. Superintendent Fauci said there is a drain, but he thinks the outside brick was mislaid, causing the leak and subsequent damage. Board Chair Michael Hatch said an interior brick was mis-sealed.

Total expenditures for all projects (K-2 abatement, door frames, and gym floor, equals \$66,561. He doesn't need action now. He just wants to give the Board something to think about.

### **Proposed High School Options Committee**

The Board discussed the makeup of a high school options committee at the last meeting and Superintendent Fauci reviewed the proposed participants, which would include:

- 2 members of the Gilmanton School Board
- 2 School Administrators
- 1 Teacher
- 1 Budget Committee Representative
- 2 School Parents
- 2 Members of the Community At Large
- 1 Member of the Board of Selectmen
- 1 Member of the Planning Board CIP Committee

Robert Carpenter suggested having an odd number of members. The Board suggested adding a teacher, for a total of 13 members. Superintendent Fauci said if the Board agrees on the makeup of the committee, we should begin talking about

when to start this. Adam Mini suggested asking that the teachers on the committee to also be residents. Superintendent Fauci suggested reaching out to the various bodies and see how long it takes to get names of interested parties. We can also put a letter in the paper for members of the community at large. We can start the process and bring back the names. Adam Mini suggested starting sooner than later to show good faith. Superintendent Fauci stated that if he gets more than the minimum number of names, he will bring the names to the Board. Robert Carpenter suggested taking the next couple months to look at surrounding districts and compile an informational packet that outlines the educational landscape and what we already have, and what we like and dislike. Superintendent Fauci said he sees that very thing happening, but after the committee is formed. He thinks it would be better if the research is directed by the committee. Superintendent Fauci likened the process to that of the space needs committee. He hesitates in compiling such a packet because he doesn't want to appear biased in its presentation. Robert Carpenter countered with suggesting we list area high schools and their locations. Superintendent Fauci said that he did contact the Gilford superintendent to let him know we were considering this committee.

## **Staff**

Since we have begun looking for a part time I.T. person, some needs have developed in the nursing department, and the need for a part time nurse has come to the forefront. Superintendent Fauci told her he could not support addressing the need unless he had the data to present. School Nurse Katie Noyes presented Superintendent Fauci with the data from her scheduled and unscheduled visits, which includes 25 scheduled visits per day, not counting ins and outs, phone calls, and other policy mandated tasks. Superintendent Fauci took that data and spoke with Network Administrator Matt Hogan, who stated he doesn't feel he needed a half time I.T. person. He feels he could manage with someone one day per week. Superintendent Fauci asked our Mrs. Noyes if she would benefit from someone coming in for 8 hours per week, which she agreed would work. The part time nurse would be here 2 hours per day, 4 days per week, during the busiest time, which is between 11-1. Superintendent Fauci asked the Board to review this information and e-mail him with questions so he can get any answers he may not know. Superintendent Fauci reiterated that the need has come to the forefront. Superintendent Fauci said that if the Board wants to take action today, we can move forward on it. However, the Board can take the month to review. This position would be for next year. Superintendent Fauci said we do have someone currently interested in the position. She is currently substituting for us and Frank

weeks asked if we should try to get her for 5 days a week. Superintendent Fauci is unsure if she would want 5 days per week.

### **Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2016**

none

Frank Weeks asked if there was any follow up about the MOU about snow days. Superintendent Fauci said it might be nice to talk to the incoming superintendent.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to approve the establishment of a high school options meeting with the addition of another teacher in order to give the committee an odd number of members.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to accept the MOU signed by the Town.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to see the last day of school as June 44, 2016.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to set the graduation date for June 10, 2016.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to accept the resignation of Jill Neilson.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, and with abstention by Robert Carpenter, the Board voted to approve the March 15, 2016 meeting minutes as written.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Board Chair Michael Hatch, the Board motioned to appropriate \$500 to the robotics team.**

**Robert Carpenter must abstain from discussion. Frank Weeks stated that it could set a precedent, noting that the drama department is not funded, so they must raise money to go to festivals through their fundraising intake. He also noted that for other activities, students must pay to participate. He added that through our tuition, we do have money going into the robotics team. Adam Mini said that they have done well enough to place and at least half are Gilmanton students. Also, many of them are homeschooled, so we don't contribute. Board Chair Michael Hatch said that when Principal Locke went before the budget committee asking for money for a school organization, they were very much against it, and he does not want to get into that position.**

**Final vote: Mini yes**

**Weeks and Hatch no**

**Robert Carpenter abstained**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to switch the part time IT person to one day per week and add a nurse for eight hours per week.**

**Superintendent Fauci stated that he has asked our substitute nurse if she would be amiable to five days a week instead of four, but she was not sure. Frank Weeks asked what the cost would be. Superintendent Fauci did not have the number clear, but it is in the scope of what is reasonable. Superintendent Fauci believes the cost would be about \$30/hr.**

**On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to amend the offer to have a part time nurse for five days a week, two hours a day if she accepts.**

**On a motion by Frank Weeks, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Frank Weeks, Clerk**