

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **TUESDAY, APRIL 08, 2014**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Michael Hatch, Malcolm MacLeod, Adam Mini, Frank Weeks, Robert
5 Carpenter via Skype.

6 Administrators Present: Principal Locke, Superintendent Fauci, Business Administrator Donna
7 Clairmont, Vice Principal Bergeron

8 Others Present: Christine Johnson, Amy Small

9 **CALL TO ORDER:**

10 Due to the Skype conversation with Robert Carpenter, Superintendent Fauci was mandated to
11 confirm that everyone present could be heard and that Robert Carpenter could hear everyone at
12 the meeting. Mr. Carpenter confirmed that he will be present for the voting of the officers, but
13 will sign off following the vote. Roll Call vote is necessary in this circumstance.

14 The Superintendent runs the meeting until a board chair is determined, so Superintendent Fauci
15 called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

16 **PROOF OF POSTING:**

17 Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

18 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

19 Superintendent Fauci requested to add a letter submitted by Mary Reinhardt to the
20 correspondence portion of the meeting as well as to the action items.

21 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

22 Chairperson:

23 On a motion by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously elected
24 Michael Hatch as Board Chair.

25 At this time, newly re-elected Board Chair Michael Hatch took over running the meeting.

26 Vice Chairperson:

27 On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously
28 elected Malcolm MacLeod as Vice Chair.

29 School Board Clerk:

30 On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Michael Hatch, the Board unanimously
31 elected Robert Carpenter as School Board Clerk.

32 Two Manifest/Warrant Signers:

33 On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board
34 unanimously voted to elect Michael Hatch and Robert Carpenter as Manifest/Warrant Signers.

35 Gilford School Board Member Representative:

36 On a motion made by Michael Hatch, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board
37 unanimously elected Adam Mini as the Gilford School Board Member Representative.

38 **SIGNING OF THE GILMANTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT**

39 The Gilmanton Education Association Agreement was signed by Board Chair Michael Hatch as
40 well as by GEA Co-Presidents Christine Johnson and Amy Small.

41 **CORRESPONDENCE**

42 Mary Reinhardt submitted her letter of resignation. She has been with the district for nine years
43 and she will be sorely missed.

44 **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

45 **Board Member Reports**

46 **GHS School Board Meeting:**

47 The GHS Theater department won five awards in the recent drama festival, which is only
48 the fourth time this happened in the last 30 years. Out of the eight students in the cast, four were
49 from Gilmanton. They will be going to Vermont for another festival.

50 Students are starting to fundraise now for their trip to France because the cost is over
51 \$3000 per student.

52 A Presentation on Google sites, the uses, and advantages was given. Some examples of
53 the benefits include the opportunity to showcase students' academic careers, Google drive can be
54 used to teach curriculum around personalized instruction, and students can co-edit assignments
55 with teachers, which helps differentiate for the needs of various students.

56 There is a summer program in which we are eligible to participate. More information will
57 follow.

58 The High School Graduation date is June 14, 2014 at 10 a.m. at Meadowbrook

59 June 19, 2014 is the last day of school for GHS.

60 The IHBI policy was discussed, and Adam Mini asked if we have something similar.

61 GHS presented a comprehensive emergency preparedness plan. Board Chair Michael
62 Hatch explained that theirs is a bit more complicated, but it's because they have more buildings
63 and people to contact. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron gave Adam Mini a copy to look at. Network
64 Administrator Art Reardon will be asked to put the emergency plan into a shared folder on the

65 network so the Board members have access to it. Superintendent Fauci said that building safety
66 has been added as a reason to enter non-public session.

67 GHS Board also discussed AED-defibrillator protocol

68 **Principal's Report:**

69 **Current Enrollment-** Our school population is currently at 398 students, the same as my last
70 report. We have thirty-one students registered for next year's Kindergarten class; we gained three
71 students since March. Kindergarten screening will be on April 17 and 18, the two days prior to
72 April Vacation.

73 **Bicycle Workshop-**Please see the Press Release (below) and pictures related to our recent
74 bicycle workshop. Science Teacher Mary Fougere organized and participated in the program.

75 **Artist-In-Residence-** Our Artist-in-Residence Program has been going well. The seventh grade
76 core groups are excited to perform on Thursday and Friday. The program is called *Sticks and*
77 *Stones: Words Do Matter*, and the artists' focus is an anti-bullying message. The evening
78 performance will be on Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 PM, and the school performance will be
79 Friday afternoon, April 11 at 1:30 PM. Please feel free to join us!

80 **Early Release-** Tomorrow's Early Release will have two activities for staff members. Academic
81 teachers will be working to update their curriculum CORE maps, and the rest of the staff will be
82 having a teacher workshop with artists Jeff Erwin and Skip Brunette.

83 **Professional Development Update-** A group of ten staff members attended a workshop in
84 Boston on April 1 and 2, and we came back with some great ideas to continue our work on
85 common assessments. On Thursday and Friday of the same week, we sent another team of
86 teachers to the National Science Convention, also in Boston.

87 **Upcoming Field Trips/Events-** The sixth graders are heading to Enterprise City on Thursday,
88 April 10. This field trip is the culminating event of weeks of preparing the students for the life
89 skills associated with running a city. On the afternoon of April 18, students in Grades 6-8 are
90 planning to celebrate Earth Day by cleaning the sides of various roads in Gilmanton. In keeping
91 with this past winter, the event may have to be postponed until after vacation, depending on the
92 extent of melting we get before next Friday. On that same day, the third grade students and
93 families will be gathering at the school at 7 PM for the annual third grade Star Watch. Members
94 of the NH Astronomical Society will be here to present information about the night sky, and then
95 stargazing will begin out in our soccer field.

96 **Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Fauci stated he was part of the professional
97 development team that travelled to Boston for the Common Assessment training. He added that
98 it is always nice to have a group of people attend, rather than just one or two because it allows
99 for great conversation and excitement. The training affirmed some of the things we are doing,
100 validates our efforts, but also gives us a place to grow to. Superintendent Fauci said he wants to
101 see this as a springboard toward more common assessment.

102 The letter to the members of space needs committee was reviewed. It will be going out
103 tomorrow. Superintendent Fauci tried to schedule the first meeting on the same night as a school
104 board meeting, but will hold it at 5:00 PM. Adam Mini asked for a list of members.

105 The Joint Leadership meetings with Gilford have been postponed several times due to snow.
106 There is an upcoming meeting scheduled.

107 **Press Release:**

108 **GILMANTON STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ADVANCED BICYCLE**
109 **MECHANICS/BUILD-A-BIKE PROGRAM**

110 In March, The Gilmanton PTA and Gilmanton School sponsored Bicycle Safety Awareness
111 Week. As part of the event, all students from grades six through eight were invited to participate
112 in an Advanced Bicycle Maintenance Class hosted by volunteer bicycle mechanics from Port
113 City Makerspace volunteers, many of whom are professional bike mechanics working at local
114 shops. These teens were then able to take the bike home at the end of the class. This was a two
115 day workshop in which students learned the ins and outs of bicycle safety, maintenance and
116 repair.

117 Sixth grader Jeremy Wilson worked much of the time with mechanic Joss Reeves and PCM
118 cofounder, Ross Beane. “The experts worked with me to repair the bicycle, explained things well
119 and made sure I understood what we were doing. I like the fact that you could take a used bike
120 and turn it into a new one by using new parts. I think I can do this now by myself because they
121 taught me so well.”

122 Eighth grader, Sandor Gamache, had some experience with changing tires and in adjusting
123 brakes before taking the class. “Even though I knew some basic things, I learned a lot more
124 about derailleurs and shifters. This was a great program to learn how to fix your bike if you’re
125 out on the trail and have a problem. No one ever wants to have to walk their bike home!”

126 Special thanks go to Pedal Power Bike Shop, Portsmouth, NH, for the donation of materials and
127 expertise. Highland Mountain Bike Park sent a volunteer from their staff to help with the
128 program as well.

129 Port City Makerspace is a cooperative not-for-profit workshop space founded by people who
130 love to build and fix things. It is a community based shop that provides tools and workspace to
131 members for a low monthly fee. Currently, it has a strong focus in four disciplines; metal, wood,
132 electronics, and bicycles. But they are continually expanding, including the addition of an
133 automotive shop. The space, located on Islington Street in Portsmouth, is the ultimate
134 playground for folks who tinker, design, build, fabricate, prototype, make, and machine. For
135 more information about the Advanced Bicycle Mechanics/Build-A-Bike Program, or the mission
136 of Port City Makerspace, check them out online at: <http://www.portcitymakerspace.com>

137 **Asbestos Abatement Bids**

138 The cost is coming out of this year’s budget and calls for abatement in Kitchen area and two
139 classrooms.

140 Board Chair Michael Hatch said he has worked with Envirovantage and Dectan in the past.
141 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said that ECSI is also very qualified, and added that all
142 bidders provided references.
143 Adam Mini asked how much we have budgeted for the abatement, to which Business
144 Administrator Donna Clairmont answered that we have just over \$16,000, which comes from the
145 general fund. Adam Mini asked if there is a warrant article for abatement. Business
146 Administrator Donna Clairmont said there is a capital reserve fund. Frank Weeks noted there is a
147 large difference between the highest and lowest bids. Board Chair Michael Hatch said that is not
148 uncommon because the bids take travel into consideration. He also noted that all bidding
149 companies are licensed and qualified.
150 RPF associates, the company with whom we currently work to monitor our asbestos will come in
151 and take an air quality test to ensure safety. They also send data to the state.
152 Superintendent Fauci said the abatement won't begin until after school lets out and will end
153 before summer school begins. Board Chair Michael Hatch said 7-10 days is normal to complete
154 such a project. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont agreed that the areas are pretty small,
155 and the agreement is that there will be a 7 day turnaround.

156 **Vinyl Composite Tile (VCT) Replacement/Installation Bids**

157 The VCT needs to be replaced after the abatement. Board Chair Michael Hatch said the only
158 bidder with which he is not familiar is Lacasse Flooring.

159 **Fuel Tank Replacement Bids**

160 We sent out bids to four select companies and also advertised per our policy, seeking interested
161 bidders. We only had one bidder, Lakes Region Environmental Contractors, Inc. In our budget
162 for next year we have a warrant article for \$139,000 that was approved for the removal and
163 replacement of the fuel tank. The original bid came in at significantly more than that. The
164 administration requested that the bidder, architect, and facility manager meet and determine why
165 the estimate was so much higher. Suggestions were made to cut some of the cost. Superintendent
166 Fauci said that when Facilities Manager Dave Sykie met with the representative, he was able to
167 cut certain areas, and bring the total down to \$132,000.11. In the original bid, all parts were new.
168 However, the day tanks we have are fine, which saves a lot of labor costs because the piping that
169 goes underground is in-tact. It also saves on electricity and the representative also believes he
170 can save the catch basins and just pitch the tar so the water will flow away. We will also
171 eliminate the porta-potty and allow the use of the school restrooms. We will also work with the
172 town and see if we can acquire seed for the grass replacement. Adam Mini asked how the
173 financial mark was missed by so much since the original estimate came from the very company
174 who bid for the job. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont explained that was the reason for
175 the subsequent meetings. She added that the day tanks were not in the original estimate, which
176 accounts for \$10,000 as well as associated additional labor. Electrical was also not a part of the
177 original estimate because there was an assumption that the district would absorb the cost. Also
178 not included was the replacement of the asphalt, which is \$20,000. This does not include paving
179 around the circle of the Peace Garden, so it is essentially a patch for the areas that are disturbed.
180 Superintendent Fauci noted that there are areas around the Peace Garden that are cracked and

181 missing. He said it doesn't make sense to patch it now and have to do it again in a few years. To
182 do the rest from the tank down will be \$19,000. Adam Mini asked if the \$19,150 is from the
183 paving of the Peace Garden. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said that amount covers
184 from where the tank is now to the gym. Frank Weeks asked if we are talking about \$132,000 for
185 the tank and \$19,000 for the paving, for a total of \$147,000. Superintendent Fauci confirmed.
186 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said \$89,000 is what was appropriated through taxes
187 and capital reserve. The difference between the \$89,000 and either \$131,000 or \$147,000, which
188 includes paving, would have to come from the fund balance. We can encumber funds from what
189 is left over from this year because the project will begin before the end of the fiscal year.

190 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont provided the end of year projection, noting that
191 \$312,849 is the projected end of year fund expenditure balance, but does not account for Gilford
192 tuition. In the first half of the year we had 155 students GHS that we were billed for. As of April
193 1, we have 150 students. We have an additional \$83,000 savings from tuition to add to the
194 \$312,849. Gilford doesn't forecast any potential fund balance until late in the year. This amount
195 could be even more depending on Gilford's numbers.

196 Frank Weeks asked about the changes from the original bid, noting in particular loam and seed.
197 Superintendent Fauci said he thinks that is something we could do internally from our funds.

198 **2014-2015 Default Budget**

199 A big part of any decision making regarding the budget depends on what the numbers will be in
200 the lower grades. Therefore, Superintendent Fauci suggests postponing this discussion until the
201 May School Board meeting. He knows that there will be some savings, such as to the insurance,
202 which was quoted to be down 7.6%. While that savings won't affect everyone, there will still be
203 some savings to the support staff. He hopes that we will have some locked-in fuel numbers by
204 the May meeting, but he thinks the discussion regarding decisions is still premature. Next week,
205 there is an administrative meeting to discuss options. Adam Mini agreed that we should wait to
206 have the discussion to avoid jumping the gun and asked if there is a typical date that we know
207 our enrollment for the next year. Principal Locke said we have a good idea by the Kindergarten
208 screening, to which Superintendent Fauci added that those numbers typically increase before the
209 school year begins. Adam Mini agreed it is wise to be more conservative and avoid causing a
210 panic.

211 **Last Day of School**

212 The last day of school is projected to be Monday, June 16, 2014.

213 **8th Grade Graduation Date**

214 Principal Locke said the proposal is that the 8th grade graduation ceremony be held on
215 Wednesday, June 11 because the GHS award ceremony on Thursday, and Friday is the night
216 before the GHS graduation. Having our graduation on a Wednesday would ensure there is no
217 conflict for parents who need to attend these various events.

218 Frank Weeks asked if former Board member Renee Kordas could help present the
219 diplomas since her daughter is among the graduates. Principal Locke agreed.

220 **Nomination of Tarra Sorell- One-On-One Paraeducator**

221 We have an unexpected preschool student who has an IEP and requires a part time 1:1
222 paraeducator. She has been hired as a substitute pending Board approval. She has worked with
223 special needs students before. Frank Weeks asked if she has a degree. Superintendent Fauci said
224 she does not have a degree, but does have experience. He added that the student will be in
225 preschool for another year or two.

226 **February 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

227 No changes were proposed to the February 11, 2014 minutes.

228 **March 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

229 No changes were proposed to the March 26, 2014 minutes.

230 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

231 Amy Small asked for clarification about the default budget and the administrative meeting.
232 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont clarified that they are two different topics.

233 **ACTION ITEMS**

234 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board**
235 **unanimously voted to award the Asbestos Abatement Bid to ECSI in the amount of \$8450.**

236 **Business Administrator Donna Clairmont clarified that this comes out of this year's**
237 **budget.**

238 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously**
239 **voted to award the VCT Replacement/Installation Bid to Holmes Carpet Center, LLC in**
240 **the amount of \$6,354.15**

241 **Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said the administration recommends**
242 **Holmes Carpet Center because they have had great experience with them in the past.**

243 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously**
244 **voted to award the amended Fuel Tank Replacement Bid to Lakes Region Environmental**
245 **Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$151,161.00.**

246 **Adam Mini questioned patching or paving the entire area. Business**
247 **Administrator Donna Clairmont asked that the Board clarify that this includes the**
248 **amount of \$89,000 from the 2014-15 budget and \$62,161 from the 2013-14 fund**
249 **balance.**

250 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
251 **voted to approve the Last Day of School as June 16, 2014.**

252 **On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board**
253 **unanimously voted to approve the 8th Grade Graduation Date as June 11, 2014.**

254 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
255 **voted to approve the hiring of Tarra Sorell as a One-On-One Paraeducator.**

256 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board regrettably but**
257 **unanimously accepted the resignation of Mary Reinhardt.**

258 **On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously**
259 **voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2014.**

260 **On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Frank Weeks, with abstention from**
261 **Malcom MacLeod, the Board voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2014.**

262 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION-RSA 91-A :3 II (c) 7 :13**

263 **ADJOURNMENT**

264 **Respectfully submitted,**

265 **Robert Carpenter**

266 **School Board Clerk**